



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
2009 RHODE ISLAND
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
MEDIA RELEASE

For Details, Photographs or Videos about RIIFF News Releases,
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SHORT AND SWEET!
RIIFF's Academy Award Night Preview Party
All the Oscar glitz at a price you can afford!

PROVIDENCE, RI (01/22/09) – You hear the whirl of the camera. You see the flash of the bulb. The crowd starts to buzz. Style and arts converge on **Sunday, February 22, 2009**, when the **Rhode Island International Film Festival** presents its annual **SHORT AND SWEET! Academy Award Preview Party** at The Peerless Building, 235 Westminster Street, Providence, between 4 and 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 person; food, film and refreshments are included.

Walk the red carpet past the paparazzi. Celebrate the Oscars with RIIFF, filmmakers, special guests, and film lovers. The Preview Party will be screening the nominated films that have hailed from RIIFF, along with some new arrivals that could be next year's nominees.

According to **Demetria J. Carr, RIIFF's Managing Director**, "There are over 7,000 film festivals world wide. Of these, only 63 have qualifying status with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. RIIFF is the only film festival in New England with this special status. That puts us in a special position to be involved first-hand with some of the exceptional work that is nominated.

"This year, three films that had their premieres at the Festival are up for awards," she added. "We'll be screening those films!"

RIIFF's SHORT AND SWEET! Academy Awards Preview Party has been designed to not only kick off this year's Academy Awards, it also provides an event that will not break the bank of attendees. Organizers are referring to the afternoon as "All the Oscar glitz at a price you can afford!"

In addition to the screenings, there will be door prizes from various Downcity Providence merchants, catering by Aspire, music by DJ Madame B. as well as passes for the 13th annual Rhode Island International Film Festival, which launches August 4-9, 2009.

Sponsors for this event include *American Trophy, Aspire Restaurant, CW28TV, Design Within Reach, UFO Hefeweizen, Jones Moving and Storage, MergingArts Production, the Providence Phoenix, Shop DOWncity, Oop!* and the *Tazza Caffe*.

For tickets RSVP at 401.861.4445; book online at <http://www.film-festival.org/MembersEVENTSa.php>, or simply purchase at the door on Sunday, February 22nd

THE WHO, WHAT AND WHERE OF IT:

WHAT: Short and Sweet! RIFF's Academy Award Night Preview Party!

WHEN: Sunday, February 22nd, Time: 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: The Peerless Building, 235 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903. For more information, please call 401.861-4445

WHO: The Rhode Island International Film Festival and the Flickers Arts Collaborative.

HOW MUCH: \$20; includes food, film and refreshments.

WHY: To provide an opportunity to meet film fans and local filmmakers in a friendly, laid-back atmosphere and celebrate the Academy Awards at a price local audiences can afford.

ABOUT THE RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The **Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** discovers and empowers filmmakers. Held in Providence, and locations throughout the state of Rhode Island, RIFF is one of only a handful of festivals worldwide that is a qualifying event for the Academy Awards (i.e. "Oscars"). RIFF incorporates gala celebrations, premiere screenings, VIP guests, industry seminars, educational programs, and award ceremonies into a weeklong extravaganza. Cited as one of the "Best International and Short Film Festivals in the United States," RIFF is New England's largest film festival, screening a record 200 films. Its innovative programming, cultivated industry ties, and loyal audiences have made the Festival a strategic and desirable platform for film premieres, drawing hundreds of independent filmmakers from around the globe. This year's Festival takes place August 4-9, 2009.

For more information, write RIFF, PO Box 162, Newport, RI 02840. Telephone: 401-861-4445, e-mail: info@film-festival.org, website: www.RIFilmFest.org.

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