



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
**2010 FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
MEDIA RELEASE**

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**RHODE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL HOSTS OFFICIAL
OSCAR NIGHT® AMERICA PARTY AT THE HISTORIC
VETERANS MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM**
Program to Salute Regional Stars of the Film Community;
Tickets on Sale Now!

PROVIDENCE, RI (February 23, 2010) – The excitement and glamour of Hollywood's biggest night is coming to the Veterans Memorial Auditorium Arts & Cultural Center. This year's event will be held in the Rhode Island's capital city, on Sunday, March 7th as **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF) hosts Providence **Oscar Night® America** party. Guests are invited to experience the thrill of the 82nd Academy Awards® and celebrate the stars of the region's film industry.

Oscar Night® America benefits Flickers/RIIFF, which is dedicated to the advancement of understanding and cultural exchange among the peoples of Rhode Island and New England through the medium of film. The celebration in Providence is one of 51 official Oscar viewing parties in cities across the country and is the only official **Oscar Night® America** party in Rhode Island.

The benefit event will be held in the historic **VMA Arts & Cultural Center**, 1 Avenue of the Arts in Providence. Arrivals and party begin at 6:30 p.m. with the advanced telecast of the award ceremony. As Oscar co-hosts **Steve Martin** and **Alec Baldwin** take the stage in Los Angeles at Hollywood's Kodak Theatre, Rhode Islanders will be able to join **John Deluca** and **Allison Alexander** of **ABC6** for the creative black-tie event. All attendees to the event will be treated like celebrities, walking into the theatre on a red carpet that would be found at world cinematic premieres. This grand entrance will be covered live by ABC 6; official sponsor for **Providence Oscar Night® America**.

The Honorary Chairs for the evening are **Lincoln** and **Stephanie Chafee**.

Members of the **Oscar Night® America** Committee include **Eva Anderson; Lawrence J. Andrade; Ann Burke; Demetria Carr; Michael Drywa, Esq.; Amanda Heinsen; Ton Huiskes; Marcia Hutchinson; Michelle Lancellotti; George T. Marshall; Barry Martin; Duncan Putney; Deb Rich; Evelyn Sweeney; and Ron Tippe**.

A local highlight of the evening will be a focus that will honor some of the Stars in the Film Arts Community:

Hon. David N. Cicilline, Mayor of Providence/Arts Advocate, was born in the South Side of Providence and then moved with his family to Narragansett, Rhode Island. He graduated Brown University magna cum laude and went on to earn a J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center. He served as a public defender in Washington, D.C. before returning home to open a practice in criminal defense and civil rights law. Activity in Providence's 25 neighborhoods has reawakened under his mayorship. Mayor Cicilline's vision for a robust after-school system to rival those of wealthy suburban communities is on its way to becoming a reality. The two year-old Arts in the Park neighborhood program is already considered a national model.

Chad Detwiller, production designer, has worked in production on movies such as Outside Providence, Hachiko: A Dog's Story, The Education of Charlie Banks and the TV shows Brotherhood and Providence.

Steven Feinberg, attended UCLA and the USC Film School. He has sold screenplays and pitches to 20th Century Fox, Warner Brothers, Miramax, Village Roadshow, Columbia-Tri Star, Universal, and more. He co-produced and co-wrote FORTRESS (1993) and co-wrote the sequel's story, FORTRESS 2. Since April, 2004, when he became the Director of the Rhode Island Film & Television Office, he has brought to the state \$30 million worth of production, including the Showtime series BROTHERHOOD, creating 150 full-time jobs for local crew and hundreds more for actors and extras. www.rifilm.com

Molly Maginnis, costume designer, was born in Washington, DC to a father who was a lawyer and a mother who was a concert pianist and teacher. She has been a Costume Designer since her first play in 1970. She has designed for stage, ballet, opera, film and television. She has designed over 40 films, most notably: BROADCAST NEWS, SISTER ACT, AS GOOD AS IT GETS, THE BUCKET LIST, LUCAS, MISS FIRECRACKER, COME SEE THE PARADISE, ROLE MODELS and most recently, THE LITTLE FOCKERS. She designed SHOWBOAT on Broadway and has designed in NYC and at regional theatres and opera houses throughout the country. She received her BFA from Washington University in St. Louis and her MFA at Carnegie-Mellon University. She has taught at Carnegie-Mellon University and University of California at San Diego.

Anne Mulhall, casting for film, television, voice-overs, live performance and historic reenactments. Her long list of credits include "Hachiko: A Dog's Story" starring Richard Gere and Joan Allen, "27 Dresses" starring Kathryn Heigl, "Dan In Real Life" starring Steve Carell and Julliette Binoche, Walt Disney's "Underdog" starring Jim Belushi, and three seasons of the Peabody award-winning Showtime television series, "Brotherhood."

Chris Sparling is a writer/director originally from Providence, RI. His company, Scarred Heel Productions, produced the NetFlix- and HBO-released feature film An Uzi at the Alamo, the award-winning dramatic short film Balance. He also wrote the screenplay for the upcoming feature film Buried, starring Ryan Reynolds, which is being produced by The Safran Company. It was just picked up for distribution by Lions Gate at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival. In addition to associate producing the feature-length documentary One Fast Move or I'm Gone: Kerouac's Big Sur, Chris has also produced and directed a number of television and commercial productions for clients including Pepsi, Starbucks,

Snuggle, Kimberly Clark, Dannon, Dove, and Target. He has also served as an adjunct professor of screenwriting at Boston University, Emerson College, and Holyoke Community College.

David Spear, composer, conductor and pianist, graduated from UCLA where he was awarded the Henry Mancini Scholarship. He began his career orchestrating many film scores for Elmer Bernstein including "Animal House," "Airplane," "Ghostbusters," and "Heavy Metal." After his Broadway debut as Music Director of "Merlin, the Magical Musical," Spear composed scores for three Academy Award Nominated Films: "Rainbow War," "The Courage to Care" and "Ballet Robotique." He also wrote the music for the Emmy Award winning documentary, "Surviving Everest" for National Geographic. He has led the London Symphony, the Royal Philharmonic, the Vancouver Symphony and the Munich Philharmonic in recordings of his own works. Last season he conducted the Indianapolis Symphony in the world premiere of "The Langston Hughes Project" featuring Ice-T and the Ron McCurdy Quartet. Professor Spear has served on the faculties of Berklee College of Music and the USC Thornton School of Music where he was awarded the Casden Institute Faculty Research Grant to re-score Samuel Goldwyn's 1922 Classic Yiddish Silent Film "Hungry Hearts" in collaboration with his students. The new score and restored print premiered at the 2007 New York Jewish Film Festival at Lincoln Center. He is currently Music Associate Professor at New York University.

Sprague Theobald, documentarian, has always had an affinity for the sea. From his 3 year stint on the America's Cup yacht Intrepid to his private voyages from Alaska through the Panama Canal and into the Caribbean, Sprague has over 40,000 deep water miles under his belt. He has produced a long list of award winning films and documentaries with a focus on education, history and maritime expedition including "Welcome to Nordhavn" "52 Harrison Lane" "The Lost Transports of 1778", "Searching For Steinbeck" and EMMY Award Winning, "The 25th Defense" a 48-minute documentary on The America's Cup Races. His most recent work, now in post production, is Braving the Northwest Passage.

Individual tickets are \$55. For tickets and information, please contact Demetria J. Carr at 401-861-4445 or demetriac@film-festival.org. Corporate tables and sponsorships are available. Visit www.film-festival.org/OscarNightAmericaTKTS.php

"Our Oscar Night® America party is a grand event this year and one of the highlights this year is sure to be our silent auction, where we will be auctioning off some fantastic items from local artists along with Hollywood memorabilia and collectible treasures," says Flickers/RIIFF managing director Ron Tippe.

Guests will enjoy a taste of the Academy Awards as they make their way down the red carpet, relishing delicious catering from Temple Restaurant while watching all the action unfold from Hollywood on large TV screens.

Prime table seats include the official Oscar Night® America program book, Official Oscar Night® America poster (one per table) and silent auction preferred check out. Copies of the 82nd Academy Award® commemorative poster will be available for purchase as well.

ABC Television and the Academy are cooperating for the 17th year with local charities throughout the United States to support official Oscar Night® viewing parties. Last year, Oscar Night® America parties raised over \$3 million for charities across America, all of it remaining in local communities.

The 82nd Academy Awards® honoring the best in film will be held on Sunday, March 7, 2010 at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood and will be broadcast here in Rhode Island on the ABC affiliate WLNE, ABC 6.

ABOUT THE FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF), now in its 14th year, has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema; earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top 12 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is also a qualifying festival for the Short Film Academy Award through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. There are 65 film festivals worldwide which share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. The next Festival will take place **August 10-15, 2010**. For more information about the festival, please visit www.rifilmfest.org.

ABOUT THE ACADEMY

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is the world's preeminent movie-related organization, with a membership of more than 6,000 of the most accomplished men and women working in cinema. In addition to the annual Academy Awards—in which the members vote to select the nominees and winners—the Academy presents a diverse year-round slate of public programs, exhibitions and events; provides financial support to a wide range of other movie-related organizations and endeavors; acts as a neutral advocate in the advancement of motion picture technology; and, through its Margaret Herrick Library and Academy Film Archive, collects, preserves, restores and provides access to movies and items related to their history. Through these and other activities the Academy serves students, historians, the entertainment industry and people everywhere who love movies.

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