

PRESS RELEASE:

April 20, 2009

For immediate release:

Through April 26, 2009

For more information:

Laura C. Lieberman,
770/949-2787

**SOUTHEASTERN INDEPENDENT FILMS
SCREENED FRIDAY ON O'NEAL PLAZA**

Douglasville, Georgia – The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County is pleased to present the Southern Arts Federation's second annual "Short Circuit Traveling Film Festival," showcasing a selection of eight short films by young filmmakers living and working in the Southeast, on Friday, April 24th, 8 p.m. on O'Neal Plaza in historic downtown Douglasville. Juried for their artistic merit by a panel of media arts professionals, these engaging short films are touring the U.S. and Canada this year through the Southern Arts Federation. Viewers are advised that adult themes, images and perspectives are explored by the independent filmmakers in this fascinating array of different approaches to their media. The screening is free and open to the general public. Viewers should bring their own seating for this special event. A second screening will be offered on Saturday, April 25th, 8 p.m., at Tributary at New Manchester off Riverside Drive; for more information, contact Rosa Trenkamp, 678.213.2547.

The Southern Arts Federation jurors selected animation, fiction, experimental and documentary films for the touring festival. Documentaries are a genuine strength of the festival including the utterly charming *I Always Do My Collars First: A Film About Ironing*, directed by Conni Castille and Allison Bohl, of Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. Their short documentary follows four dynamic Cajun women in Southwestern Louisiana as they go about their daily lives, demonstrating how ironing is part of their regular routine, social identity and essential character. Another excellent documentary, made by Atlanta filmmakers Rebecca Parrish and Brooke Bassin, is *Crossin' All the Boundaries*, which presents interviews of Mississippi voters three weeks before the 2008 presidential primaries, examining national political issues that cut across boundaries of race and class in Clarksdale, Mississippi, a small Southern town on the Mississippi Delta.

The animation, *Our World*, produced and created by Savannah-based Larry Lauria, includes stories told by animators from Georgia, Texas, France and Germany. In the experimental category, Dave Greber of New Orleans pictures a phantasmagorical tour of post-Katrina Mardi Gras festivities in his *Carnival Picaresque*; and the American psyche is considered in a fast-paced video collage, *Torn Asunder* by Bob Barancik from St. Petersburg, Florida. The festival offerings presented in Douglasville in the fiction category include Miami filmmaker Joel Rodriguez’s *Undocumented* which narrates how an immigrant family’s preparation for their daughter’s *quinceañera* results in the father’s illegal status being discovered; *February Stars*, by Sean Heyboer of Winter Park, a simple but compelling story of a young deaf man on his way home to care for his severely ill grandmother when a chance encounter promises to change the course of his life; and Atlantan Greg Thompson’s mysterious *Swimming to the Moon*, which places a burnt-out rock star and a successful music journalist balanced precariously on a roof.

Working in partnership with the nine state arts agencies of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee, the Southern Arts Federation (SAF) is a not-for-profit regional arts organization that has been making a positive difference in the arts throughout the South since 1975. SAF creates partnerships and collaborations; assists in the professional development of artists, arts organizations and arts professionals; presents, promotes and produces Southern arts and cultural programming; and advocates for the arts and arts education with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, foundations, corporations, individuals and its member states.

The mission of the Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County is to nurture, guide and stimulate the enjoyment of and participation in the arts among Douglas County residents by providing an atmosphere conducive to the arts, broadening the spectrum of quality exhibits and performances available to the community, and fostering individual interactions with the arts through a wide range of satellite organizations. The Cultural Arts Council and its programs are supported by its members, sponsors, the City of Douglasville, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, and Georgia Council for the Arts through appropriations from the State General Assembly. The GCA is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes a great nation deserves great art.

The Cultural Arts Center is located at 8652 Campbellton Street in historic downtown Douglasville, Georgia, located about 20 miles from Atlanta and just off I-20 (exit 36). Hours of operation are Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, please call 770/949-2787 or visit our web site --- www.artsdouglas.org.

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CALENDAR LISTINGS: FILM SCREENINGS

TITLE: THE SHORT CIRCUIT TRAVELING FILM FESTIVAL
Presented by the Southern Arts Federation

PLACE: O'Neal Plaza
Price Avenue and Church Street
Historic Downtown Douglasville

DATE: Friday, April 24th, 2009

TIME: 8 p.m.

COST: Free and open to the public
(Viewers should bring their own seating.)

CONTACT: Laura C. Lieberman, 770-949-2787

Directions from Atlanta: Take I-20 west 18 miles past I-285 to the Chapel Hills exit (Exit 36); stay right off the exit following signs for Campbellton Street; stay on Campbellton through one stop light and 5 stop signs; at the second light, turn left on Church Street, drive two blocks, and turn right on Price Avenue taking an immediate right into free public parking. O'Neal Plaza is located across Church Street with seating in front of the stage on the right.

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CALENDAR LISTINGS: FILM SCREENINGS

TITLE: THE SHORT CIRCUIT TRAVELING FILM FESTIVAL
Presented by the Southern Arts Federation

PLACE: Tributary at New Manchester of Riverside

DATE: Saturday, April 25th, 2009

TIME: 8 p.m.

COST: Free and open to the public
(Viewers should bring their own seating.)

CONTACT: Rosa Trenkamp, 678.213.2547.