

PRESS RELEASE:

April 9, 2010

For immediate release:

Through April 16, 2010

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 third annual "Short Circuit Traveling Film Festival," showcasing a selection of twelve short films by young filmmakers living and working in the Southeast, on Friday, April 16th, 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.

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 charming *Raised on Rice and Gravy*, co-directed by Conni Castille and Allison Bohl, of Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. Their short documentary explores personalities and traditions in the heart of French Louisiana, where age-old customs of family kitchens overflow into local restaurants, making public and communal what was once private and domestic. Another excellent documentary, made by Marietta-based filmmaker Scott Balzer, is *The Farm Team*, which presents a first-hand look at the challenges of being on the grounds crew for a minor league baseball team in Mobile, Alabama, the rainiest city in the United States, examining three hard-working guys who not only love of baseball, but also the field the game is played on.

The animation, *Monster Movie*, produced and created by Savannah-based Stephen Hammond, will make you wonder what it will take scare desensitized children. In the experimental category, David Montgomery of Fernandina Beach, Florida, uses a flatbed scanner to capture detailed imagery of natural objects in his film *Pollenating*, a less than painterly ode to Georgia O'Keefe.

The festival offerings presented in Douglasville in the fiction category include Nashville filmmaker Wes Edward's *Falling to the Top*, a quirky short which was recently nominated for Best Short Film at the Charlotte Film Festival in addition to winning first place in the Indie Producer online film festival and the Audience Choice award at Nashville's Kamera Sutra film competition in October 2009. This highly art directed, gothic comic book style film follows a hapless twenty-something man as he tries to pull his life together and risks it all for one shot at securing a position at a high-ranking job.

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 supported in part by the City of Douglasville, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, the Georgia Council for the Arts, Southern Arts Federation, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and 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. and Sundays, 1p.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 16th, 2010

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.

THE CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL OF DOUGLASVILLE/DOUGLAS COUNTY

*8652 Campbellton Street
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