

IMAX[®]

T H E A T E R

INDIANA STATE MUSEUM

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CONTACT: Christy Randolph, christy@hetcom.com, 317.262.8080 or Dave Brown, dbrown@imax.com, 317.233.4845

Indianapolis IMAX[®] Theater to host first Really Big Short Film Festival

52 entries received; Three winners announced

INDIANAPOLIS - The IMAX Theater in the Indiana State Museum will present its first Really Big Short Film Festival on Feb. 23 and 24. The festival, a celebration and exhibition of original work by local filmmakers, is presented in conjunction with the Fourth Annual Indiana Art Fair at the Indiana State Museum.

The theater received more than 50 submissions from filmmakers across the state. Today, theater staff announced the top three festival entries (in no particular order): "Happiness," by Duncan Alney (Indianapolis), "Evidence of Life," by Steve Marra (Indianapolis), and "In the Blue," by Sarah Mynett & Kehaulani Haydon (Indianapolis). An awards ceremony will take place on Friday, Feb. 23. The first-place film director will receive \$500, second will receive \$300, and third will receive \$200.

The film festival is a part of the theater's efforts to support Indiana filmmakers. In the past year, the IMAX Theater in the Indiana State Museum has screened works by local filmmakers Gary Wood ("Open Mic'rs") and Dan Hall ("Central State: Asylum for the Insane"). The theater's exhibition of these independent films were so successful that the theater sold out four screenings of the films with a total of 1,616 paid admissions.

"We feel strongly about supporting Indiana filmmakers, and we're happy to provide a means for these artists to share their work," said Dave Brown, IMAX theater director. "IMAX's motto is to 'think big.' This film festival is about encouraging artists to think big, bringing their work to the really big screen, and exposing audiences to talented artists that live in their community."

To be considered for the festival, films had to be 30 minutes or less and the film's director had to live and work in Indiana during the time of the submission. The theater received 52 submissions from entrants living in Indianapolis, South Bend, Peru and other Indiana locations.

IMAX will premiere the three winning films on Feb. 23 at the "Friday Night Picture Show" from 5:30 to 9 p.m. The event will combine the Indiana State Museum's Indiana Art Fair and the

Really Big Short Film Festival. While more than 80 Indiana artists show and sell their work on three levels of the museum, the film festival will kick off with an awards ceremony for the top films at 7:30 p.m., followed by film screenings. Admission to the Friday Night Picture show is \$5 for the Really Big Short Film Festival and \$5 for the Art Fair, or \$8 for a combo ticket.

On Saturday, Feb. 24, IMAX will display the top twelve films submitted for the festival, starting with an opportunity to meet the film directors at 1:30 p.m., and followed by a family-friendly block of festival films at 2 p.m., a block of films at 3:20 and 4:40 p.m. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$6 for children. The Indiana Art Fair will take place on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free for museum members and \$7 for non-members. A combo ticket to attend both the Really Big Short Film Festival and the Indiana Art Fair will be \$12.50 for adults, \$11 for seniors and \$8 for children.

Judges for the Really Big Short Film Festival include Bonnie Britton (Indianapolis Star film critic), Chuck Lofton (WTHR), Gary Wood (director of “Open Mic’rs”), Dan Hall (director of “Central State: Asylum for the Insane”), Jane Rulon (former director of the Indiana Film Commission), Leslie Lorange (new media manager at the Indiana State Museum) and Bob Whitt (executive director of White River State Park).

**IMAX Theater in the Indiana State Museum
650 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis
317.233.IMAX (4629)**

For information on tickets and show times, please call 233.IMAX (4629) or visit the Web site at www.ImaxIndy.com.

About the IMAX Theater in the Indiana State Museum

At Central Indiana's only IMAX Theater, patrons experience the movies like never before. The 416-seat theater shows 3D and 2D movies on a six-story screen. Using film that is 10 times the size of normal films, images of unsurpassed size, clarity and impact, enhanced by a superb specially designed six-channel, multi-speaker, 12,000-watt sound system, are projected onto the screen and make you feel as though you're in the movie, not just watching it. The IMAX Theater can be found on the Internet at www.ImaxIndy.com.

About White River State Park

Located in the southwest quadrant of downtown Indianapolis, White River State Park is home to the Indianapolis Zoo, White River Gardens, the Indiana State Museum, the IMAX Theater, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, the NCAA Hall of Champions, Victory Field and the Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial. White River State Park has more to do than you ever knew.

About IMAX Corporation

Founded in 1967, IMAX Corporation is one of the world's leading entertainment technology companies and the newest distribution window for Hollywood films. IMAX delivers the world's best cinematic presentations using proprietary IMAX, IMAX 3D, and IMAX DMR® technology. IMAX DMR (digital remastering) makes it possible for virtually any 35mm film to be transformed into the unparalleled image and sound quality of The IMAX Experience. The IMAX brand is recognized throughout the world for extraordinary and immersive entertainment experiences. As of March 31, 2006, there were 266 IMAX theaters operating in 36 countries.

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Images are available by contacting Christy Randolph at 317.262.8080 or christy@hetcom.com.