Entertainment production professionals from all over the state representing film commissions, private industry, associations, educational institutions and labor organizations will come together in The Palm Beaches from June 25-27 for Film Florida’s Annual Meeting. The itinerary includes a Welcome Reception, committee and Board of Directors meetings at host hotel The Brazilian Court Palm Beach and a special twilight tour of Lion Country Safari to showcase one of County’s many unique film-friendly locations. While most events are exclusive to members, local industry professionals are encouraged to attend a special panel discussion on Tuesday, June 26 at 3pm at Ko-Mar Productions, which will be dedicated to launching the County’s first tourism TV channel, The Palm Beaches TV. To RSVP to this event, email info@pbfilm.com.

As a not-for-profit trade association, Film Florida has been recognized internationally as a leader in marketing Florida as a premier entertainment production center, using innovative efforts to educate decision-makers to help create sustainable long-term public policies that focus on ensuring lasting success for this high-skill, high-wage industry. By joining as a member, participants have the opportunity to play an active part in solidifying Florida’s position as a major production destination. Bring your voice to the table and become a member today by visiting filmflorida.org.

The Palm Beaches go wild in a new episode of Jack Hanna’s Into the Wild. Known as “America’s favorite zookeeper”, Jack Hanna has been featured in countless television appearances on talk shows and news programs since the early eighties. Jack Hanna’s beloved television series takes audiences on a journey around the world exploring some of the most endangered and exciting species on the planet. TV crews captured a unique pelican release as well as a sea turtle release in conjunction with Loggerhead Marinelife Center at Juno Beach Park, documenting the return of these rehabilitated animals to their natural habitats. Filming also took place at local non-profit Mr. Jojo’s Dog Rescue. Filled with action, funny moments, and plenty of educational material, Jack Hanna’s Into The Wild recently won a Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Travel and Adventure Program. Learn more at jackhanna.com.
Since the beginning of the movie industry, films have romanticized Florida's exotic scenery and remarkable flora and fauna. Tarzan swung through the Florida jungles, swimming champion Esther Williams frolicked on the beaches, and The Creature from the Black Lagoon lurked in the state's dark and mysterious springs. Crafty movie marketers designed colorful, eye-catching posters to draw people into these uniquely Florida films. As an independent art form, these posters are now woven into the Sunshine State's cultural tapestry. Throughout the months of June and July, The Historical Society of Palm Beach will honor this legacy by presenting an exhibition called Beaches, Creatures and Cowboys: Florida Movie Posters. The posters and lobby cards in this fascinating exhibit depict some of Florida's most famous films from the early 1920s to the present. See more at hspbc.org/exhibitions.

Embracing local history, Channel 20, Palm Beach County’s government access channel, is now airing Hooked On The Palm Beaches. Created by local producer Jeff Aderman (AA Video) to highlight the diverse fishing opportunities in the County and to entice visitors to The Palm Beaches. “Hooked on The Palm Beaches is a perfect fit to the PBC TV programming lineup because it’s our opinion that everyone, whether they are a visitor or a resident, enjoys an offshore adventure. You get that when you watch this program on PBC TV.” said Lester Williams, PBC TV Channel 20 Station Manager. Tune into the first episode as host James Currie fishes off the coast to reel in a swordfish. This episode, which is one of six, will begin airing on Ch.20 this month; Mondays at 2pm, Tuesdays at 2pm, Wednesday at 3pm, Saturdays at 3:30pm and Sundays at 9:30am. For more info, visit discover.pbcgov.org/Pages/CH20Live.aspx.

Documentary filmmakers Patrick Brennan and Ivete Lucas continue to capture stories from Pahokee to share with a worldwide audience. Previous short docs like The Send-Off and The Rabbit Hunt have been honored at prestige festivals from Sundance to Berlin, and their latest story landed them on the French Riviera. Skip Day, which follows Pahokee High School seniors who drive 50 miles east to spend the day on Riviera Beach in celebration of the “skip day” tradition before graduation, was accepted to the Cannes Film Festival and won the Illy Short Film Award at Quinzaine des Réalisateurs. Two of the featured characters from Pahokee traveled with the filmmakers to walk the red carpet, exposed to some of the most world-renowned international filmmakers on the planet. “It was an incredible experience and we were so honored to be recognized,” said Brennan. See more from their Cannes extravaganza at facebook.com/SkipDayFilm.

The Kennedy Bunkers, a documentary produced by Mad V Studios out of Pawtucket, RI, covers the complete history of properties created for the purpose of protecting President John F. Kennedy and a call to action for their revival as museums. As Director Michael Viveiros explained, “These properties remain as time capsules echoing an era of trials now foreign to today’s generation.” Viveiros recently hired local Palm Beach County crew to film the Maritime Museum in West Palm Beach and the property surrounding The Kennedy Bunker on Peanut Island, as well as an interview with Port of Palm Beach Executive Director Manuel Almira. “We were pleased to have the representative from the Port have a personal connection with the property,” said Viveiros. Check out some of this unique local history and where to find artifacts by visiting the Maritime Museum website at pbmm.info.

The Palm Beaches TV offers streaming content 24/7 featuring the best destinations, attractions and experiences in Palm Beach County. It is the first ever Palm Beach County Tourist Development Council channel that connects visitors and locals to what they can do, see and explore in The Palm Beaches. Visitors can watch in-room at our launch partner sites including The Best Western Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., The Marriott Singer Island Resort & Spa, PGA National Resort & Spa, The DoubleTree by Hilton & Executive Meeting Center, and on screen at The Brazilian Court. Owned and operated by Olympusat, Inc, the channel is also available anytime, any place on Roku and by visiting ThePalmBeaches.TV. Watch it. Share it. Live it. ThePalmBeaches.TV.
BRIFT FINDS A NEW HOME

The Burt Reynolds Institute for Film and Theater (BRIFT) found its new home in North Palm Beach. Located in the Village Shoppes of North Palm Beach, BRIFT provides an intimate space for students to hone their acting, writing, and filmmaking skills. The new space, which is only open when classes are in session or when a production is being mounted, also features a black box theater that showcases original material written by emerging playwrights. All stage productions are followed by a Q&A session where audience members are encouraged to share their thoughts. Managing Director Donna Carbone believes the feedback will help authors improve their work, noting that they “value input from a discerning audience.” Mr. Reynolds has taught classes at the Institute and is currently promoting his newest film The Last Movie Star. For more information on classes, visit burtreynoldsinstitute.org.

PRODUCTION REVIEW SHOW WINS TELLY

The 2018 edition of The Palm Beaches Production Review Show has officially won a Bronze Telly Award in the General-Charitable/Not-for-profit category in the 39th Annual Telly Awards. Winners were announced on May 22 to the delight of the content creators. “We are proud to be able to present the program as it reveals to our residents the impressive amount of productions and endeavors that are constantly underway in our area,” said show editor Joseph Piccione.

The Palm Beaches Production Review Show is a series that recaps some of the notable television, movie, commercial and photography productions that have taken place in the Palm Beach County for the previous year. The show is produced by the Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission in partnership with PBCTV Channel 20. Check out the show on demand today at thepalmbeaches.tv/vod.

FROM PRO GOLFER TO EXEC PRODUCER

Palm Beach County resident and pro golfer Rickie Fowler is the Executive Producer for a new documentary series airing on the Golf Channel. Driven is a four-part series that gives viewers a thrilling behind-the-scenes look into the golf program at Fowler’s alma mater, Oklahoma State University (OSU). The show captures part of OSU’s 2017-18 season both on and off the golf course. NBC Sports is also showcasing Driven across its other networks, with encore presentations airing on NBC Sports Network. Meanwhile, the series finale is set to broadcast on NBC on Saturday, June 16.

Fowler decided to make The Palm Beaches his home shortly after turning pro in 2009. In addition to hitting the links, he is keen on water sports like fishing, paddle boarding and jet skiing. When asked about “must-do” things in The Palm Beaches, Fowler recommends dinner at The Woods Jupiter in Harborside Place. See more about Driven at golfchannel.com.

INTERNATIONAL CLIENTS AT KO-MAR

Recently KO-MAR Productions, Inc. completed four weeks of taping interviews in their studio with Dr. Cloïtare Rapaille for a series called The Culture Code. Dr. Rapaille, a cultural anthropologist, is an expert on why certain cultures behave the way they do. Each of the thirteen shows will profile a different country. KO-MAR supplied full facilities, including three Sony F7 cameras and crew of eight for the 20-day shoot. Producers Fher Franco and Jan Suter are based in Mexico City and retained KO-MAR for the production along with their partner, TV Azteca. Dr. Rapaille lives most of the year in The Palm Beaches. Post-production is taking place in Mexico City with a target completion date of fourth quarter 2018. For more info, please visit ko-mar.com.

INSIDE A PHOTOGRAPHER’S WILD WORLD

Delray Beach resident Laura C. Williams has one of the most enviable jobs in the business as a world-renowned wildlife photographer. From magazines like National Wildlife to National Geographic, Williams’ ability to capture everything from albatrosses to pumas has led to a lifestyle of travel and wonder with the click of a shutter. Still, Williams explained that the perception is not always reality when working with exotic wildlife. “Even after investing an incredible amount of time and energy, there’s no guarantee of success. Wildlife photography subjects are rarely cooperative!” she said. In the midst of traveling the world for her profession, Williams fell in love with Delray during a visit in 2012 and made the beach her permanent home. Some of her recent work has now culminated into an exciting new book release, Wildlife in Wild Lands. Looking back on the start of her career, Williams shared, “The truth is, I never intended to become a professional photographer. I was simply doing what I love to do.” See more of her work online at lcwphoto.com.
LOCATION SPOTLIGHT
ANYWHERE, USA

The Film Commission often gets requests for locations that could be anywhere in the USA. Not the easiest thing to do in south Florida where the palm trees and tropical landscaping are hard to avoid. We have you covered with these options and more!

Established in the 1980s, the Abacoa neighborhood has hills in Jupiter that help it convey an “Anywhere, USA” location. There are a few cabbage palms to avoid, but the wider paved walking trails make it a great option for a lifestyle backdrop for pushing strollers or a couple walking. Since it is one of the more established neighborhoods in the region, the mature trees cover the roadway and provide lots of shade to filter out the bright sun, allowing for a longer shooting day.

For golfing sequences that do not have palm trees, The Squire Course at the PGA National Resort and Spa is a terrific option. The club will allow a complete buyout of the course so filming can be completely private. A large stand of cedar trees offers a bright green backdrop in the spring and summer, while offering a bit of fall color in September and October. Their meticulously maintained greens are an ideal backdrop for high-end golf products and celebrity endorsements. For more, visit pbfilm.com.

EDUCATION CORNER
VISIONARIES CREATE NEW COLLEGE

A perfect match is made for aspiring filmmakers! Keiser University and G-Star Studios have joined to create the College of Cinematic Arts Keiser University. With classes to be held at G-Star Studios and Keiser’s flagship campus, Palm Beach County continues to be propelled into the upper echelon of filmmaking education. “This degree brings a new dimension to the Keiser University, as it is the first ‘arts oriented’ program to be offered by the institution,” commented Dr. Arthur Keiser, Co-Founder/Chancellor of Keiser University.

With the outstanding record of G-Star in providing quality film program graduates and educating future film industry personnel, the Cinematic Arts Degree makes for an excellent match with the career, technical, business and professional applications of the Keiser University programs of study. The college offers both Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Arts degrees in an integrated format that allows AA graduates to continue to earn their BA while employed at one of several industry-related positions. Plans call for the new degree to be available in the 2018-2019 academic year at the Flagship Campus of Keiser University in West Palm Beach and the G-Star School of the Arts in Palm Springs. Learn more at keiseruniversity.edu/cinematic-arts-ba.

Co-Editors: Phyllis Man & Christy Andreoni, Assistant Editors: Kelly King & Hilary Webber, Contributors: Chris Cobb, Alberto Jordat, Ian Saylor, Lauren Tobin

To be included in this newsletter please email candreoni@pbfilm.com or call 561.233.1000

PALM BEACH COUNTY FILM & TELEVISION COMMISSION

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