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Three Spectacular Locations will Host the Black Hills Film Festival May 14-16 Celebrate with Festival Organizers on Oscar® Awards Night March 7, 2010

Hill City, SD –Three spectacular locations will host the monumental Black Hills Film Festival inaugural event May 14, 15 and 16, 2010: Hill City, Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse Memorials. Filmgoers will enjoy independent and classic films from South Dakota and around the world at this three-day, three-location event.

Hill City will host a press event Friday afternoon, May 14 with celebrity guests, a student Film Festival Friday evening, and will screen independent films all day Saturday and Sunday. Parties and receptions at Hill City restaurants, pubs and galleries will entertain all weekend. Prairie Berry Winery will host the award ceremony and ticketed VIP party Friday night.

Crazy Horse Memorial welcomes actors and filmmakers on Friday for educational workshops hosted by South Dakota filmmakers and other notable guests. Native American filmmakers and films will be showcased on Saturday. Festival pass holders are admitted **Free** to the Memorial.

Mount Rushmore National Memorial celebrates the 50th anniversary of Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest* with two screenings on Saturday, May 15. This classic American film features climactic scenes shot at Mount Rushmore and is listed by the American Film Institute as the fourth most thrilling film created in America in the past 100 years. The film stars Cary Grant, Eva Marie Saint, James Mason and Martin Landau.

If you're a movie fan or love watching the stars come out, don't miss the **Oscar® Party**, Sunday, March 7 from 4 pm to 10 pm at Slate Creek Grille in Hill City. Festival organizers have planned an all-evening affair to watch the 82nd Academy Awards® program which begins at 6 pm. "Red Carpet" viewing begins at 4 pm. Slate Creek Grille is offering a special menu for the evening, and you can win prizes if you're dressed "the best" (or the worst), or come as you are and have fun with film trivia contests. The Oscar Party is hosted by the Black Hills Film Festival.

More details are available online at www.blackhillsfilmfestival.org. For more information please contact Chris VanNess at 605-574-4671.

The Black Hills Film Festival is a South Dakota non-profit organization operating in partnership with the Hill City Arts Council, a 501(c)3 organization. The South Dakota Film Office, a component of the South Dakota Department of Tourism and State Development, has sponsored the event and is in full support of the inaugural festival and its activities. The Black Hills Film Festival is also sponsored by Heart of the Hills Economic Development Corporation, Prairie Berry Winery and Krull's Market.