



MOVIE EXPERTS SHARE BEHIND THE SCENES EXPERIENCES DURING FILMMAKER FRIDAY AT BLACK HILLS FILM FESTIVAL

Hill City, S.D. – There’s more to do than watch independent films at the Black Hills Film Festival, May 14 through 16. In Hill City and at Crazy Horse Memorial, filmmakers and the public have an opportunity to meet and hear from experts from the world of film, including special effects artists, a composer, a Hollywood actor, producers and directors.

Beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, May 14 at Crazy Horse Memorial, the Festival launches a day-long conversation with the film industry. Producer Sean Covel, who grew up in Edgemont, will discuss making the business side of film work for new filmmakers. Covel produced the 2004 hit “Napoleon Dynamite,” which went on to become one of the most profitable independent films in history. Hollywood actor Gary Graham, known for his work in *Star Trek: Enterprise* and *J.A.G.* will conduct an acting workshop throughout the day. Viki Psihoyos will present behind the scenes stories from the making of the 2009 Academy Award winning film, *The Cove*. From the renowned George Lucas’ Industrial Light & Magic and Kerner Optical, two special effects artists will present the state of the art for digital effects and model building for major motion pictures. South Dakota filmmakers will also share their lessons learned in the world and business of film.

Festival organizer Chris VanNess says “This is an incredible line up of presenters for our first year as a Festival. We are so pleased to be able to give filmmakers and the public this unique opportunity to learn the inside scoop and see what goes on behind the scenes in the movie making business.”

After 3:30 pm in the Hill City High School Commons, the public is invited to see some of the film technology used today. Everyone is welcome to visit with the film production personnel and watch as a “set” is built in the Commons area that will host press interviews with special guests later in the afternoon.

Admission to the events at Crazy Horse on Friday requires the advance purchase of a Filmmaker, VIP or Student Festival Pass and includes lunch. For more information go to www.blackhillsfilmfestival.org or call 605-574-2810.

Sponsored by

Heart of the Hills Economic Development Corporation, Prairie Berry Winery, Krull’s Market, the South Dakota Department of Tourism & State Development’s Film Office.

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.