

Welcome to the **Missouri Film News**, a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Missouri Division of Tourism in support of the Missouri Film Office. Here you'll get the latest updates on film and digital production in Missouri and learn about creative media events happening across our state.



Join the conversation!

From the Division of Tourism Director:

Like it or love it, reality TV means business. And, it can be good for small business; check out this article from USA Today, [Reality TV's new stars: Small businesses](#). The St. Louis shot Oprah Network series [Welcome to Sweetie Pie's](#), which features a popular St. Louis eatery and its founding family, is referenced. Also in the article, Jai Manselle, founder of Manselle Media, a brand development and PR company with clients in the entertainment industry, says, "The shows are essentially a free weekly national commercial for a small business."

He echoes sentiments expressed at the recently completed Public Relations Society of America conference in Memphis, Tenn. During a session on leveraging film and television for media coverage and tourist dollars, panelists discussed their experiences with film and television series. One of the takeaways from the session was consumers enjoy reality TV and their enjoyment can translate to travel – which means a direct and positive impact on local sales and hotel bookings.

Missouri has made some headway in the reality TV genre in recent years. In addition to [Welcome to Sweetie Pie's](#) now filming for season 3, a new St. Louis set show [Resale Royalty premiered](#) this month on the Style Channel and [Branson Pawn](#) is now in production for the Discovery Channel. Other reality shows set in Missouri include [Sold!](#), a 2012 History Channel special shot at the Lake of the Ozarks, and [Truck Stop Missouri](#), shot at the Midway Truck Stop west of Columbia that aired for two seasons on Travel Channel.

Is your destination ready for prime-time?
-Katie Steele Danner

Do you have production news or photos from set to share?
E-mail us at mofilm@ded.mo.gov.



Production News

A new reality show shot for several days in St. Louis filming behind the scenes at the **WWE Extreme Rules event ... a TLC Network docu-series** shot around the state ... **Welcome to Sweetie Pie's** is in production for season 3 in and around St. Louis ... a **Japanese travel TV** show shot in St. Louis and Hannibal ... a **Travel Channel** show shot in Springfield ... a **national pet PSA** was filmed in House Springs ... a **New York production company** shot in Jefferson City ... **German students** will be in Missouri this summer filming a documentary feature about cyclists who travel the Trans American Route.

Company Spotlight

BranitFX, Kansas City

Bruce Branit studied industrial design at the University of Kansas before he started designing in 3D and digital effects in Los Angeles. Out west he worked on Star Trek: Voyager, Deep Space Nine and Sliders. In 2000, he gained recognition for his, jumbo-jet emergency landing on the 405, 3-minute short film titled [405](#). Back in Kansas City, Bruce founded BranitFX in 2004 to continue doing high-end TV and film work outside of Hollywood. Today he has a successful boutique digital effects studio in the Crossroads Arts District of Kansas City. He and his staff keep busy on commercial work for McDonalds, Pioneer Seed, and Gatorade, among others, in addition to a steady stream of entertainment work including many years work for J.J. Abram's production company Bad Robot TV series such as Revolution, Fringe and Lost. Now, with the addition of Google Fiber significantly increasing Internet speeds in Kansas City, BranitFX can do more, faster! <http://branitfx.com/>



Bruce Branit center with staff l to r: Eric Bacus, Linden Stirk, Aileen Murray

Missouri News

St. Louis filmmaker Eric Cloughley's short film [Solitaire](#) was a part of the 2013 Cannes Film Festival's Short Film Corner ... Chip Gubera, director and professor at the University of Missouri won Best Feature Film for his [Joplin, Missouri; A Tornado Story](#) documentary at the second annual Cornfed Film Fest in Macomb, Ill ... Kansas City filmmaker Patrick Rea's storm horror film [Nailbiter](#) is now available at a Redbox kiosk neat you ... "[Epilogue](#)," the Web series developed by students in the department of media, journalism and film at Missouri State University, received second place in the series category of the 34th College Television Awards.

Check out the impressive [2013 Animation REEL](#) from The Kansas City Art Institute's School of Design and Electronic Arts program. Software applications being used by [animation](#) majors include Adobe Creative Suite 6, Maya and Dragonframe.

The annual conference of International Christian Visual Media (iCVM) takes place in St. Louis June 18-21, at the Airport Hilton. The iCVM membership family includes media organizations and media missionaries, as well as individual video producers, independent writers, directors, actors and even some individuals who are simply interested in supporting Christian films and filmmakers. More info at [www.icvm.com](#)

[CinemaKC](#) presents the world premiere of "Nighty Night," a short horror film by Todd Norris, on Thursday, June 6, at the Screenland Crown Center, 2450 Grand Blvd in Kansas City. There is a pre-screening mixer at 6:30 p.m. in the theater lobby "Nighty Night" is the eerie and suspenseful story of a little boy's search for his lost teddy bear. Included in the program are six other short films.

The [Media Communications Association of St. Louis](#) is hosting a "Learn to Earn Fait" at their next monthly meeting Wednesday, June 12. Local colleges, universities, performance and visual art schools representatives will talk about which courses they offer, and why their courses are necessary for career advancement. Networking at 6:30 p.m. at IWATCH Radio located at 11972 Dorsett Road in St. Louis.

The Independent Filmmakers Coalition of Kansas City will hold their annual One Night Stand competition on Saturday, June 15. Participating teams will meet at 9 a.m. at the Westport Coffee House to receive a theme, line of dialogue and prop. They have until 7:30 p.m. that evening to shoot, edit and turn in a playable DVD. You can still sign up to [participate](#).

[The Art of Visual Storytelling Tour](#) comes to St. Louis on Wednesday, June 5. This all-day cinematography workshop is taught by Alex Buono, director of photography for Saturday Night Live's film unit. He is known for the documentary *Bigger Stronger Faster*, and the short film *Johnny Flynton*, for which he was nominated for an Oscar. Everyone reading this newsletter gets a \$20 discount see code below.



coupon for \$20 discount at The Art of Storytelling seminar and posters for: the short film Solitaire, documentary Joplin, Missouri and feature film Nailbiter

Headlines

[Mission Continues boldly goes forward with 'Star Trek' connection](#)

St. Louis-based not-for-profit, The Mission Continues, provides support services to post-911 veterans, partners with movie "Star Trek Into Darkness."

['American Pickers' looking for good pickin's in Kan., Okla., Mo.](#)

St. Louis rapper appears on 'This is the End' movie soundtrack.

[SAG-AFTRA Closes Kansas City Office](#)

[Cinema St. Louis announces winners of third Cinema at Citygarden](#)

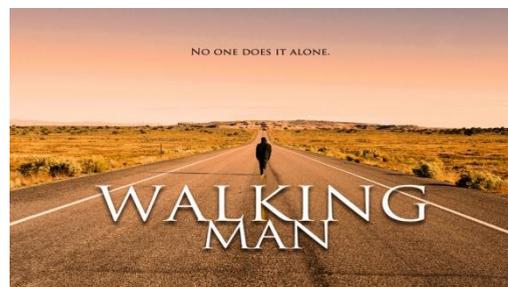
Competitors had to create short works and incorporate nature as a key element in their films.

['Something in the Water' looks at St. Louis classic rock](#)

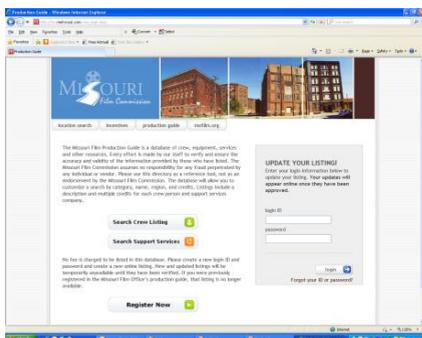
[Citizen Jane Film Festival Passes on Sale Now](#)

[Father and son team up for documentary](#)

Documentary hopes to shine a light on bi-polar disorder



The Mission Continues partner with movie, American Pickers, St. Louis native rapper J-Kwon, poster for documentary Walking Man



Looking for crew or equipment for your next production?

Access the Missouri Film Office Production Guide 24/7.

Search by region of the state or category.

[Missouri Film Office Production Guide](#)