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

From the Division of Tourism Director:

Do you think image matters? We do. Thanks to the work of our dedicated team, the Missouri Film Office has a newly redesigned website - now showing at MoFilm.org. We invite you to browse through our location photo database, with a variety of locations across our state to find diverse options to meet the needs of your next project. Maybe you have some photos to share with us? Well, now you can! Just follow the instructions under the “Submit a Location” tab to add locations to the database. Also, you can search our crew and support service database to get your production team together; be sure to add yourself to the crew or support service section. You will find a new listing of the more than 15 annual film festivals and links to over 30 film and digital media programs at colleges and universities in Missouri. Also, check out the new “Show-Me-Stars” listing and our Film and Television Credits page.

That’s not the only way we have made progress. A robust team represented the Show-Me State at the Locations Trade Show presented by the Association of Film Commissioners International in Los Angeles, March 28-30. Staffing the trip with the Film Office’s Andrea Sporcic and the Division of Tourism’s Elise Eimer, were Beth Mead with the Columbia CVB, Chris Wilson with the Jefferson City CVB, and Jim Dufek with Southeast Missouri State University representing the Cape Girardeau CVB. Support for the trip was provided by the Kansas City CVA and the St. Louis CVC. More than 3,000 studio executives, producers, directors, cinematographers and location scouts from all segments of the entertainment industry attended this 3-day trade show. While there, we hosted our 6th Missouri Meet-Up reception for film and TV professionals with strong Missouri connections, specifically those who grew up in the state, went to college here or generally lived for a period of time and consider themselves Missourians. We had 100 attendees at this year’s event. Guests included: producer Jere Hausfater (Sin City, Machete Kills) from St. Louis; writer/producer Ken Lazebnik (Army Wives, Prairie Home Companion) from Columbia; director Brent Huff (Chasing Beauty, Last Will) from Springfield; and Andrew Jones with cast and crew from his Jefferson City filmed Haunting of Cellblock 11(Apparitional). We hope this event puts Missouri top of mind for any new project that might be in development.

-Katie Steele Danner

Production News

In March: A UK film crew shot at several locations across the state, including St. Louis and Piedmont for a documentary on Raw TV … scenes for the feature film Mississippi Grind were shot in St. Louis and along roads in Southeast Missouri … PSG Films shot a series for two weeks in Branson … a team from a Swiss production company shot a travel show in Hannibal … a Lifetime series shot in and around St. Louis … MTV shot in Jefferson City … Enterprise, Honey Bunches of Oats Morning Energy Cereal and McDonald’s shot commercials in St. Louis … Price Chopper, AMC Theaters, Sprint and Hallmark shot in Kansas City … Kikim Media shot at Washington University … ESPN shot a SEC commercial in Columbia, on campus at MU. In April: NBC’s American Ninja Warrior shot for eight days in St. Louis … the feature film ADDicted shot on campus at MU and around Columbia … St. Louis Hospital shot in St. Louis … a new media narrative project filmed in Columbia and Guthrie … The Travel Channel shot in St. Louis … NBC Sports shot in Kansas City … Sirens Media shot in St. Louis … Stephens College Short Film shot at the Lake of the Ozarks … Brand USA has had a team shooting across the state … a Sherwin Williams/Dutch Boy/Menards commercial shot in Poplar Bluff and St. Louis … a PSA for the State of Missouri shot in Kansas City.

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

After 12 years as a volunteer organization, **Kansas City will soon have a new Office of Film & New Media.** According to a line item in the new city budget, $50,000 has been allocated for a film office, and **news reports indicate** those funds will be matched by the Convention & Visitors Association, which will house the new office. The funds will pay for a full-time staff person, who will lead efforts to attract production to Kansas City. Budget issues prompted the city to discontinue funding the film office in 2002. A volunteer board, The **Film Commission for Greater Kansas City** has been keeping film efforts going ever since. While planning for the new office is under way, The Film Commission of Greater Kansas City hosted the first of several events to unite the Kansas City filmmaking community on March 19. More than 300 members of the production community joined together in the River Market to network and celebrate Kansas City.

The **Gone Girl** trailer debuted on April 15, in it, we got a glimpse at Cape Girardeau’s role in the film after director David Fincher (*Fight Club, The Social Network*) shot there for six weeks last fall. While intended to be only a tease for the film, a few familiar landmarks stand out during the trailer, including: the Common Pleas Courthouse; the Bill Emerson Memorial Bridge; the Mississippi River mural wall; and other locations. “Trying to find the Cape locations has been so much fun; seeing that last shot in the trailer of our Riverfront Park with a barge heading upriver is thrilling,” says Stacey Lane, public relations director for Cape Girardeau. “It has been really exciting to see Cape Girardeau through David Fincher’s eyes and the community is abuzz with anticipation for the film.”

**Missouri Motion Media Association (MOMMA):** A central region meeting was held in Columbia on March 15 and the southwest region met in Springfield on March 22. MOMMA is an organization created to support the production industry in Missouri by providing its members opportunities for professional development, networking, and community recognition. It is the only production related membership organization working at the state level to support film, television and digital media production. Meetings for the Kansas City and St. Louis regions will be announced soon. Also, the organization is holding a **Cardinals baseball fundraiser**, selling tickets to the July 10 game against the Pittsburg Pirates.

**For Kids:** The Missouri 4-H will hold its **Director’s Cut Camp** July 13-27, as part of the **Summers @ Mizzou** program. For kids looking to move out of the audience and become part of the movie making process, youth ages 13-17 get a chance to participate in all parts of the movie business from script writing to acting to filming to editing and everything in between. Also, the **4th FilmFest 4H** will take place in St. Louis, Aug. 3-6. Youth ages 11-18 can submit videos with running times of 10 minutes and less to compete in several categories including narrative, documentary, animation and music video. In addition to screening selected youth videos, **FilmFest 4-H** presents filmmaking workshops led by working professionals.

Downtown Jefferson City has a new independent not-for-profit, community-based, member supported movie theater, **Capitol City Cinema**, on East High Street adjacent to Capitol City Cork and Provisions. **Capitol City Cinema is an upscale, 50-seat, single-screen theater which will show independent, foreign, and documentary films.** The space is available for private screenings. The cinema opened April 23 with **Particle Fever**, a 2013 documentary film tracking the first round of experiments at the Large Hadron Collider near Geneva, Switzerland. The film also played at the True/False Film Festival earlier this year.

The Branson doc directed by David Wilson and AJ Schnack, **We Always Lie to Strangers**, that premiered at last year’s SXSW Film Festival, has been on the film festival circuit and on April 27 held two sold out screenings in Branson. The film looks at Branson’s changing face and, by extension, the changing face of America, through the lives of four performing families. More Missouri screenings include: May 2-8 at Ragtag in Columbia; May 7-11 at Capitol City Cinema in Jefferson City; and May 9-15 at the Moxie Cinema in Springfield. The film is also **available exclusively on iTunes**.
Two Missouri filmmakers have new behind-the-scenes books out: **Ken LaZebnik** (*Army Wives, A Prairie Home Companion*), a Columbia native, playwright and screenwriter just released *Hollywood Digs: An Archaeology of Shadows*. In a series of essays, accompanied by photographs by Hollywood photographer Leigh Wiener, *Hollywood Digs* unearths stories of film history that have rarely seen the light of day. Included are such stories from Jock Mahoney, legendary stuntman and Hollywood’s thirteenth Tarzan, to Micky Moore, who spent eighty-four years in the industry, first as a child actor and later as the second-unit director of “Raiders of the Lost Ark.” And, just as a non sequitur can pull you out of a story, the lack of a seamless film transition can also distract the audience. **Jeffrey Michael Bays** (XM Radio’s *Not From Space*), now a Mid-Missouri resident, writes about the power of scene transitions as a storytelling tool. *Between the Scenes: What Every Film Director, Writer, and Editor Should Know About Scene Transitions* bridges practical filmmaking with academic principles and is filled with examples from well known movies from Ridley Scott, Alfred Hitchcock, James Cameron and the Coen Brothers.

The Springfield filmed web-series “**Drifter: Broken Road**” is back with season 2. The first season of the series was well received and won multiple awards, including Best Actress in a Drama, at LA WebFest, and competed in festivals in France and Italy. Alongside the series release, American Wasteland is releasing a comic book version of the story, partnering with local comic book artist David Faught.

**Headlines**

**Wide Awake Films Wins Silver Telly Award**

**Coolfire sees next TV hit in ‘Carvers’**

**The True/False effect**

**Former NPR Producer Brings Three "Crazy Talented" Young French Filmmakers To STL**

**LA-Based Filmmaker Returns Home to Direct a Movie 20 Years in the Making**

**Former Belle graduate writing books, film in L.A.**

**Priory grad is surviving television**

**Woelfel Named Director of New Documentary Journalism Center at MU**

**Locally Produced Film, "STL" premieres at The Tivoli**

**Budding filmmaker nears debut of feature on STL comic fandom**

**Historic Bald Knobbers come to life in Red Oak II**

**‘Tom Benton’s Missouri’ now available on Blu-ray and DVD**

**Locally produced Springfield movie, shot world wide**

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