ABFF 15

FILM LIFE’S 15TH ANNUAL
AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL
MIAMI BEACH JULY 6-9, 2011
FULL PAGE AD HERE

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HBO® SALUTES
THE AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL
ON 15 YEARS OF VISION AND INSPIRATION

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
Dear Festival Family:

Welcome to the 15th annual American Black Film Festival! When I began this journey a decade and a half ago, my desire was simple: to entertain, inform, inspire, encourage and educate by creating a forum where people of color could come together and experience the best and brightest in cinema created by people of African descent.

As I reflect on the past 15 years, how our festival has grown and evolved year by year, it has become apparent that we are more than a just a film festival. Since its inception in 1997, the ABFF has been committed to discovering, screening and promoting globally produced work, as well as providing an environment for filmmakers to engage and network with a diverse and international community. Over the years we have held that commitment, showcasing the work of up-and-coming filmmakers and nurturing their aspirations. We have screened more than 600 narrative, documentary and short films, and many ABFF alumni are among today’s leading filmmakers.

We are very proud of our program this year and hope that the events we have planned over the next four days will inspire and touch you in ways you never imagined. There are an unprecedented number of world premieres and, as always, you can look forward to exciting social events, stimulating panels and workshops, and close access to industry movers and shakers.

It is no small feat pulling together an event of this magnitude. I don’t quite know where we would be without our Advisory Board members and longtime supporters: Robert Townsend, Bill Duke, John Singleton and Spike Lee among others; the hardest working team, many of whom have been a part of this festival since our very first years in Acapulco: Reggie Scott, Melanie Sharee, Jeff Pearl, Christian Epps and Ghana Wilson; and, of course, my family: my wife Nicole, our children, mother Barbara and aunt Kathryn. I’d also like to acknowledge the support of Byron Lewis, my mentor and cofounder of the Acapulco Black Film Festival.

I extend my gratitude to Olivia Smashum for her unwavering support and belief in the ABFF. I thank all of the sponsors, many of whom over the years have become like family to us and without whom this would have just been a very good idea: Founding Sponsor HBO; Premier Sponsors Grey Goose and Team Sizzle Worldwide; Official Sponsors gmc Television Network, Cadillac, American Airlines, Gold Peak Tea, Wells Fargo and AT&T; Supporting Sponsors The Nielsen Company, Nickelodeon, NBCUniversal, Codeblack Entertainment and Grab Networks; Host Sponsors Miami Beach Visitor and Convention Authority and Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau; and Diversity Partners CBS, Stella Artois and Writers Guild of America West. We have received great support over the year from our Media Partners Black Enterprise, The Michael Baisden Show and Uptown, Official Level; and AOL Black Voices, Heart & Soul, Automotive Rhythms, Monarch and Precious Times, Supporting Level.

My deepest gratitude goes out to the thousands of you who have joined us over the years. This is your festival!

Very truly yours,

Jeff Friday
CEO, Film Life, and ABFF Founder
Welcome ABFF Participants:

Since it was founded in 1997, the ABFF has become one of the most important voices in the Black film community, offering a highly celebrated and influential forum that continues to call attention to the universality of black cinema through competition, workshops and panels, networking opportunities and the sharing of creative resources and visions.

As the founding and premier sponsor of the ABFF, we are proud of our long-standing partnership and extremely pleased to again have a major presence at this year's festival. In celebration of the ABFF and its commitment to excellence in black film, HBO extends an invitation to all to participate in these two showcase events:

On Thursday, July 7th, HBO will present the HBO® Short Film Award, a competition created to honor the writing and directing talents of emerging Black filmmakers. Presented as part of the ABFF's competitive film program since it was established in 1998, the special screening will showcase the five films/filmmakers selected for this year's final round of competition: Fig, written by Alex George Pickering, directed by Ryan Coogler; For Flow, written by Kesav Wable, directed by Jason Camp; Page 36, written and directed by Nelsan Ellis; Salvation Road, written by Michael Cobian, Ka’ramuu Kush and Greg Hendrick, directed by Ka’ramuu Kush; and The Turtle and the Nightingale, written and directed by Gershon Hinckson. The winner, who will receive a $20,000 grand prize, will be announced during the ABFF’s Awards presentation on closing night.

On Saturday, July 9th, HBO will host an Alumni Competition Winners panel discussion featuring past HBO® Short Film Award winners who will discuss their professional careers in film and television. The alumni – film director Frank E. Flowers, TV writer/producer Saladin Patterson, TV writer/producer Christine Swanson and feature film director Sylvain White – will share stories of their struggles and triumphs since winning the HBO competition.

As always, we look forward to the festivities and hope you enjoy all the events offered by the ABFF. We extend our warmest congratulations to the festival on its 15th year, with special thanks to Jeff Friday and his staff. Thanks also to all the sponsors for continuing to provide resources and guidance to up-and-coming filmmakers. Most importantly, we thank you the attendees for helping build a wider audience for Black films.

Enjoy the festival!

Sincerely,
Lucinda Martinez-Desir
Vice President, Domestic Network Distribution & Multicultural Marketing
HBO

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Welcome
Chauncey Hamlett: Premier Sponsor

Thank you for joining us here at the 15th annual American Black Film Festival. We’re glad you can share in our excitement, and in our dedication to strengthening the Black filmmaking community through resource sharing, education, artistic collaboration and career development.

GREY GOOSE is once again participating in the festival as a Premier Sponsor to show our support of ABFF’s mission. Established in 1997, ABFF aims to promote cultural diversity within the motion picture industry; and GREY GOOSE is proud to help ABFF introduce the top tier of rising artists to the film and television industry.

I have very much been looking forward to this year’s event, as the schedule is full of inspiring and enlightening happenings. Some highlights include the return of the acclaimed Actors Boot Camp, led by actor/director Bill Duke, and Robert Townsend’s “The Ultimate Pitch” Master Class. There will also be various film screenings, celebrity conversations, panel discussions and hospitality events in which you can partake. I hope you take advantage of all the rich opportunities that the festival offers. And, of course, feel free to cool off with a complimentary cocktail at any of the GREY GOOSE Cocktail Hour Summer Soirees held at the various nighttime activities.

The festival will culminate with the 15th annual ABFF Awards at the famed Fillmore Miami Beach at the Jackie Gleason Theater. The closing ceremony will feature a special tribute to Keenen Ivory Wayans, the presentation of Grand Jury Prizes for Best Film, Actor, Screenplay and Director, as well as an announcement of the GREY GOOSE Rising Icon, HBO Short Film Award, NBC Universal Star Project and GMC Screenplay Search winners. After the awards, cap off the night at the annual GREY GOOSE ABFF closing party.

GREY GOOSE is honored to be included among such an esteemed group of sponsors to help make this festival happen. GREY GOOSE joins HBO®, the festival’s Founding and Premier Sponsor, as well as Premier Sponsor Team Sizzle Worldwide, and Official Sponsors GMC Television Network, Cadillac, Gold Peak Tea, American Airlines and Wells Fargo. Nickelodeon, The Nielsen Company, NBCUniversal and Codeblack Entertainment are with us this year as Supporting Sponsors. Miami Beach Visitor & Convention Authority and Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau are Host Sponsors. Also, CBS and Writers Guild of America West are Diversity Sponsors. Media Sponsors include The Michael Baisden Show, AOL Black Voices, Black Enterprise, Uptown, Heart & Soul, Automotive Rhythms, Monarch and Precious Times.

Throughout the next four days, I hope you can experience why GREY GOOSE is so proud to be part of this celebration of talent at the African American Film Festival. We always appreciate your support and hope you enjoy the festival!

Chauncey Hamlett
Grey Goose, Senior Brand Manager
Bacardi, Inc.
Dear Film Lovers and Festival Attendees:

It is a great honor to be a part of the 15th annual American Black Film Festival. I am excited to celebrate with the ABFF and all of you 15 years of the best of independent Black films. It is encouraging to see how the ABFF has grown, sustained itself and developed into the premier festival for films by and about people of color.

Whether you are established in the film industry, an aspiring filmmaker or a film enthusiast, the ABFF gives you a greater awareness and appreciation of the importance of telling our own stories. I am a living testament to that. Through its programs, comprehensive teachings and exposure to many of the most respected professionals in the industry, the ABFF has provided me with a firm foundation in filmmaking that has enabled me to actively follow my own professional pursuits in the motion picture business. I would like to congratulate the filmmakers who have films in this year’s competition on being chosen to share their work.

This year is particularly exciting to me for a couple of reasons. The primary one is the screening of two of my films, Marco Polo and When Beautiful People Do Ugly Things. The other is my joining the ABFF family as a Premier Sponsor. Over the next four days, you will have the opportunity to view films, attend panels and meet aspiring and established filmmakers. It was my attending the ABFF two years ago that solidified my interest in becoming a filmmaker and supporting the festival.

My hat is off to the incredible ABFF team for another event well done. I am most grateful to Jeff Friday for his groundbreaking vision and look forward to this year’s ABFF. Best wishes to all for a wonderful festival experience!

Warm regards,

Terrell Suggs
President, Team Sizzle Worldwide, Inc.
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 6**
- **9:00 PM – 11:00 PM**
  - Encore Screening of Opening Night Film: “In the Hive”
  - Directed by Robert Townsend
  - Doors Open at 8:30 pm
  - Colony Theater
- **10:30 AM – 7:00 PM**
  - Official Film Screenings
  - Beverages provided at the Colony Theater courtesy of Gold Peak Tea
  - Colony Theater & Miami Beach Cinematheque
- **12 NOON – 6:00 PM**
  - Sponsor Hospitality & Diversity Suites (CBS, the gmc Television Network and NBCUniversal)
  - Ritz Carlton/3rd Fl.
- **1:30 PM – 3:00 PM**
  - “The Enduring Significance of Boyz N The Hood”
  - Screening of a 27 minute documentary followed by a Q&A with the film’s Oscar nominated writer/director John Singleton
  - Ritz Carlton/Salon 3
- **3:00 PM – 6:00 PM**
  - Bill Duke’s Actors Boot Camp (Day 1)
  - Sponsored by the Film Life Foundation (Separate ticket required)
  - The Fillmore at the Jackie Gleason Theater – Rehearsal Hall
- **4:30 PM – 6:00 PM**
  - Digital Distribution 101: The New Distribution Paradigm
  - Ritz Carlton/Salon 3
- **6:30 PM – 7:30 PM**
  - Grey Goose Cocktail Hour “Summer Soiree”
  - Complimentary cocktails for festival passholders
  - Segafredo Café

**THURSDAY, JULY 7**
- **8:30 AM – 6:00 PM**
  - Festival Registration Center (The will call desk will be open until 9:30 pm for pre-registered attendees only)
  - Ritz Carlton/Salon 1
- **9:00 AM – 12 NOON**
  - Master Class: Michael Elliot’s “From Script to Screen” presented by the Writers Guild of America, West.
  - (Separate ticket required)
  - Ritz Carlton/Salon 3
- **10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**
  - Gold Peak Tea Bars
  - Complimentary tea for festival passholders
  - Ritz Carlton/2nd Floor Gallery
- **10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**
  - Cadillac Outdoor Showrooms @ Lincoln and Collins Entrances
  - Meet and Greet with Actor Laz Alonso at the Cadillac Lounge
  - Collins Entrance (11am-1pm)
  - Ritz Carlton Driveway
- **12 NOON – 6:00 PM**
  - Opening Night Party
  - Sponsored by NBC’s Team Sizzle Films
  - LIV at the Fontainebleau

**FRIDAY, JULY 8**
- **8:30 AM – 6:00 PM**
  - Festival Registration Center
  - Ritz Carlton/Salon 1
- **9:00 AM – 12 NOON**
  - Master Class: Robert Townsend’s “The Ultimate Pitch” sponsored by AT&T (Separate ticket required)
  - Ritz Carlton/Salon 3
- **10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**
  - Gold Peak Tea Bars
  - Complimentary tea for festival passholders
  - Ritz Carlton/2nd Floor Gallery
- **10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**
  - Cadillac Outdoor Showrooms @ Lincoln and Collins Entrances
  - “Free Shuttle to Film Screenings at the Miami Beach Cinematheque and Colony Theater at Lincoln Rd. entrance
- **1:30 PM – 3:00 PM**
  - The gmc Television Network Screenplay Competition Table Reading
  - Ritz Carlton/Salon 3
- **3:00 PM – 6:00 PM**
  - Bill Duke’s Actors Boot Camp (Day 2) sponsored by The Film Life Foundation (separate ticket required)
  - The Fillmore at the Jackie Gleason/Theater – Rehearsal Hall
- **4:30 PM – 7:30 PM**
  - Gold Peak Tea Splash Party
  - Hosted by Chef G. Garvin (passholders only)
  - Ritz Carlton/Di Lido Beach Club

**SATURDAY, JULY 9**
- **9:00 AM – 12 NOON**
  - Festival Registration Center
  - Ritz Carlton/Salon 1
- **9:30 AM – 11:00 AM**
  - Bridging The Digital Divide: An Examination of Robert Townsend’s Web Series “In The Hive” And NAAOP’S Bond Project, “Builders Of The Next Dream”
  - Sponsored by AT&T
  - Ritz Carlton/Salon 3
SPECIAL PREMIERE SCREENING

Trinity Goodheart

Every broken heart longs to be whole again

Special Premiere Screening at the COLONY THEATER
Sat. July 9th 3:30 PM

FILM LIFE’S 15TH ANNUAL AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL
MIAMI BEACH JULY 6-9, 2011

2011 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

■ 10:00 AM – NOON
Gold Peak Tea Bars
Complimentary tea for festival passholders
Ritz Carlton/2nd Floor Gallery

■ 10:15 AM – 7:00 PM
Official Film Screenings
Beverages provided at the Colony Theater courtesy of Gold Peak Tea
Colony Theater & Miami Beach Cinematheque

■ 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Cadillac Outdoor Showrooms @ Lincoln and Collins Entrances
“Free Shuttle to Film Screenings at the Miami Beach Cinematheque and Colony Theater at Lincoln Rd. Entrance

Cool Off at the Cadillac Lounge w/Free Beverages (11 am-3 pm)

Cadillac Confessions:
Record Your Fondest Cadillac Memory & Receive a Gift @ the Collins Entrance (11 am-3 pm)
Ritz Carlton

■ 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM
“The Business of Reality TV”
Sponsored by Nielsen & Black Enterprise
Ritz Carlton/Salon 3

■ 1:35 PM
Team Sizzle Presents...
Complimentary cocktails for festival passholders
The Fillmore Miami Beach at the Jackie Gleason Theater

■ 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Bill Duke’s Actors Boot Camp (Day 3)
Sponsored by Film Life Foundation.
(The separate ticket is required)
The Fillmore at the Jackie Gleason Theater – Rehearsal Hall

■ 3:30 PM
Sponsored Screening: Trinity Goodheart WORLD PREMIERE starring Erica Gluck & Eric Benet
Courtesy of the GMC Television Network
Colony Theater

■ 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
A Legacy of Talent Discovery: HBO Presents Alumni of the 14th Annual Short Film Competition
Ritz Carlton/Salon 3

■ 6:00 PM
Cadillac Outdoor Showroom at ABFF Honors

■ 7:00 PM
Red Carpet Arrivals for ABFF Honors
The Fillmore

■ 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Grey Goose Pre-Show Cocktails

*Shuttles by appointment only. Sign up for the shuttle at the Cadillac lounge on Weds. & Thurs. only.
Seize the opportunity to meet and greet executives and recruiters from CBS, The gmc Television Network & NBCUniversal.

CBS Corporation and its divisions are committed to building an environment that values diversity throughout the corporation and in its business practices. Recognizing the power and influence a media company carries through its various business units, including Network Programming, Network News, Local Television and Radio Stations, Cable and Publishing, CBS has been on the forefront of making diversity a reality. Our goal is to make a positive impact on the industry through a wide array of initiatives targeting talent in front of and behind the camera as well as utilizing diverse vendors and professional service suppliers. To learn more about these programs, visit the CBS suite and meet executives from the CBS family.

gmc is America’s favorite channel for uplifting entertainment featuring original movies, dramas, comedies and inspiring music. Stop by to learn more and meet the Director of Human Resources who will be onsite to accept resumes for current and future opportunities. www.watchgmctv.com

NBCUniversal believes that attracting and retaining the best, most diverse talent provides a significant competitive advantage in the media and entertainment industry. We also understand that an inclusive culture, where individuals of all backgrounds can succeed, is the responsibility of each and every employee. In an effort to expand diversity within our talent pool both in front of and behind the camera, NBCUniversal has several programs to recruit and support acting, writing and directing talent as well as news production and news coverage. To find out more about more about these programs and receive great giveaways visit the NBCUniversal suite and meet executives from Universal Pictures, NBC Entertainment, NBC Corporate and Focus Features!

We are proud to support Film Life’s 15th Annual American Black Film Festival

THE NEW STANDARD OF THE WORLD

CADILLAC SALUTES THE 2011 AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL FOR CONTINUING TO SET HIGH STANDARDS IN THE FILM INDUSTRY.

cadillac.com
ABFF TALK SERIES
Ritz-Carlton, South Beach, 1 Lincoln Rd., 2nd Floor, Salon 3

THURSDAY, JULY 7

1:30 PM THE ENDURING SIGNIFICANCE OF BOYZ N THE HOOD
Join Oscar-nominated writer/director John Singleton as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of his groundbreaking debut feature film. A 27-minute documentary followed by live interview.

Moderator: Trina Robinson of South Florida Today, NBC Miami

4:30 PM DIGITAL DISTRIBUTION 101: THE NEW DISTRIBUTION PARADIGM
Sponsored by Codeblack Entertainment & Grab Networks

Traditional methods of film distribution have undergone seismic changes in recent years as a result of the growth in new methods of content distribution and the rapid evolution in the ways that content is delivered and consumed. Filmmakers are now presented with a variety of new opportunities when it comes to choosing the right distribution platform for their films. Educate yourself on these shifts in technology and determine how to choose the best partners for your film project in this new distribution paradigm.

Moderator: Alvin Bowles, CEO/Grab Networks. Guest Speakers: Jeff Clanagan, President/Codeblack Entertainment; Payne Browne, V.P. Strategic Initiatives/Comcast; Nikkole Denson-Randolph, V.P. Specialty & Alternative Content, AMC Theatrical, Eric Collins, COO/Mobile Posse and Smokey D. Fontaine, Chief Content Officer/Interactive One.

FRIDAY, JULY 8

1:30 PM THE gmc TELEVISION NETWORK SCREENPLAY TABLE READ
Sponsored by gmc Television Network

Have you ever wanted to write a movie? Watch Lamarr Rucker, Elise Neal, Jazsmin Lewis, Hosea Chanchez and other actors bring four scenes to life, from the very first gmc Faith & Family Screenplay Competition. Four original screenplays have been selected to compete for the grand prize of $5,000. Come see new talent unveiled and speculate on who the deserving winner might be.

Judging panel includes Brad Siegel, Vice Chairman/gmc Television Network, the writer of gmc’s first original movie, Trinity Goodheart, Rhonda Baraka and William Morris Endeavor Agent, Charles King.

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: AN EXAMINATION OF ROBERT TOWNSEND’S WEB SERIES “INTHE HIVE” AND NAACP’S BOND PROJECT, “BUILDERS OF THE NEXT DREAM”
Sponsored by AT&T

Producer Robert Townsend and NAACP President Ben Jealous will engage in an intimate dialogue on initiatives aimed at closing the digital divide while improving the lives of young men and boys. “In the Hive” is a film set for web distribution about a woman who starts an alternative school for teenage boys who are not wanted by the system. The alternative school is funded by One Economy, a non-profit organization tasked with providing life improvement resources to underserved communities through technology.

Moderator: Derek T. Dingle, Editor-in-Chief/Black Enterprise magazine
Guest Speakers: David Hudson, SVP of Late Night & Specials/ TNT & TBS; David Turner, Director, Non-Fiction & Alternative Programming/A&E; Datari Turner, Executive Producer (LisaRaye: The Real McCoy, I Married a Baller, The Ultimate Hustler); Cindi Smith, Nielsen Research Group and Sonya Norwood (For the Love of Ray J, Brandy & Ray J).

SATURDAY, JULY 9

12:30 PM THE BUSINESS OF REALITY TV
Sponsored by The Nielsen Company & Black Enterprise

With 20 reality-based shows scheduled to debut this summer, it is evident that non-scripted television continues to reign supreme in the ratings. Hear from some of TV’s most successful network executives and show producers about the process of developing an original reality series. Learn about the current pitch climate, average production budgets, how a show’s ratings affect its programming position and the typical parameters of a first-time development deal. In addition, we will share information about the not-so-lucrative back-end of reality programming as a business model and explore what the next wave of shows might be to trump the ratings in this intensely competitive market.

Moderator: Kevin Frazier, The Insider, CBS
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HOME BREWED TASTE
THAT FEELS LIKE HOME.

FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN
led by Michael Elliot in association with the
WGAW
A crash course on developing and selling scripts from the award-winning writer of Brown Sugar and Just Wright.

THURSDAY, JULY 7
9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

THE ULTIMATE PITCH
led by Robert Townsend
Sponsored by AT&T
Learn about pitching techniques used from concept to development, to pitching studio executives and closing the deal.

FRIDAY, JULY 8
9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

BILL DUKE’S ACTORS BOOT CAMP
A 3-day workshop offering an insight into the “business” of acting - how to hone your craft and build your career.

THURSDAY, JULY 7 | FRIDAY, JULY 8 | SATURDAY, JULY 9
3:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Filmmakers bring creativity to life

Independent film festivals bring us the best cinematic productions of filmmakers around the world. Their work captures our imagination.

We applaud the American Black Film Festival.

Wednesday, July 6, Colony Theater
(5:45 pm & 9:00 pm encore screening)

IN THE HIVE 2011 USA 107 MIN HD World Premiere
courtesy of Townsend Entertainment Corporation


A gritty, factually based film set in rural North Carolina at the HIVE Academy, a technologically inspired alternative school for underachieving boys who, because of their gang and criminal behavior, no other school will admit. At the heart of the story is sixteen year old Xtra Keyes, a young father who’s tougher than nails yet discovers through the nurturing at the HIVE that his toughness can also lead to new found hope and perhaps even a future.
BLACK GOLD 2011 NIGERIA 98 MIN RED
SCR/DIR: Jeta Amata
PROD: Wilson Ebye, Ohi Ayomike and Jeta Amata
EXEC. PROD: Hosa Okunbo, Walter Wagbatsoma and Don King
CAST: Mbong Amata, Vivica A. Fox, Hakeem Kae-Kazim, Billy Zane

One local Niger Delta community led by an orphan struggle against their own government and a multinational oil corporation who has plundered their land and destroyed the environment. A powerful story of greed, murder and corruption pitted against human and environmental justice.

DAVID IS DYING 2011 USA 90 MIN
SCR/DIR: Stephen Lloyd Jackson
PROD: Stephen Lloyd Jackson, Andy Mundy-Castle
CAST: Lonyo Engele, Isaura Barbe-Brown, Brigitte Millar, Stephen Samuel Jackson, Jr., Ysra Daley Ward, Allan Sealy

A young, successful hedge fund manager has just been told that he is HIV positive. Through an intense therapy session, David takes us on a dark, pernicious journey that displays the ugly side of love.

DYSFUNCTIONAL FRIENDS 2011 USA 116 MIN RED EPIC
SCR/DIR: Corey Grant
PROD: Datari Turner
EXEC. PROD: Patrick Thomas Jr, Gordon Bjelonic, Neil Harrington
CAST: Meagan Good, Stacey Dash, Terrell “T.O.” Owens

A comedy/drama about a group of estranged friends who are reunited after their larger-than-life friend unexpectedly dies. They are all forced to spend the weekend together in order to collect their inheritances while reevaluating their lives and goals.

THE LAST LAUGH 2010 USA 95 MIN HD
SCR/DIR: Kenny Young
PROD: Phil James, Amber Washington
CO PROD: Angela White
EXEC. PROD: Phil James, Pat Jordan, Tee Ashra, Victor Hobson, Amber Washington
CAST: Tony Rock, Rodney Perry, Faune C. Chambers, Hilton Powell, Luanel Kenny Young, Kym Whiteley, Lavell Crawford, Aries Spears

A hilarious and thought-provoking mockumentary that chronicles the attempted comeback of fictional fallen comedy star ‘Jeff Woods,’ on his quest to battle his demons, rebuild broken relationships and rejuvenate his crushed career.
THE TESTED 2010 USA 107 MIN S16MM


One year ago a plain clothes cop gunned down an unarmed teen. The teen’s mother spirals into a pit of despair, while his brother flirts with gang life. As the cop prepares to get back to work, each of the three realizes they cannot find closure without the others.

Florida Premiere

OFFICIAL SELECTIONS
IN COMPETITION

CONGRATULATIONS!
2011 Star Project Winners

Writers Guild of America, West

ABFF’s 15th Annual
American Black Film Festival
and its screenwriters.

WGAW Diversity: The Future of Storytelling

Contact for information:
(323) 782-4589
diversity@wga.org

www.wga.org
Nielsen is a proud sponsor of the
15th Annual American Black Film Festival

Nielsen provides measurement services for online, media, mobile and consumer industries.

As the world's largest research company, we rely on people to voluntarily participate in our studies. Your participation:
• tells us what you watch on TV, how you use your online and your cell phone time, and where and how you buy your groceries; which
• helps businesses offer the products and services you want.

YOU MATTER.

If you’re ever asked to participate in a Nielsen study or survey, please say yes.

Nielsen listens to you because your preferences are important.

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If you’re ever asked to participate in a Nielsen study or survey, please say yes.

www.nielsen.com

OUT OF COMPETITION

BREATHE 2011 USA 75 MIN Digital HD
SCR/DIR: Jeannette Branch J Jesses Smith PROD: Angela Burgin Logan EXEC PROD: Samson Logan, Angela Burgin Logan CAST: Robin Givens, Elise Neal, Jazzmine Lewis, Miguel Nunez, Steven Williams
A woman’s dream of becoming a mother turns into a nightmare when, during her pregnancy, she is stalked by a silent killer. Her fears are allayed by caretakers — until it is almost too late.

THE EXPERIENCE 2011 USA 76 MIN MINI DV
On a pilgrimage to Ghana and West Africa, five individuals search for the buried history of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, a global story that raises the question, “What is identity?” Is it merely our DNA makeup, is it history left behind by our ancestors or does it go deeper?

MOTHER COUNTRY 2011 USA 87 MIN Canon 5D Mark II
SCR/DIR: Maria Breaux PROD: Maria Breaux EXEC PROD: Maria Breaux CAST: Thomas Galasso, Cindy Pickett, Thea Gill, Ernest Waddell, Katherine Cello
After committing murder, Dwight Porter grows remorseful and sets out on a journey to walk from Texas to California in search of a former teacher, the one person who believed in him.

THE SHANGHAI HOTEL 2011 USA 107 MIN 35MM
SCR/DIR: Jerry Allen Davis PROD: Rita Daniels, Jerry Allen Davis EXEC PROD: Ralph E. Stringer, Dan Marino, Michael Fux CAST: Hill Harper, Eugenia Yuan, Cheng Pei Pei, J.D. Williams
A young Chinese woman who is a victim of human trafficking finds solace with a New York City bike messenger. The two share their hopes, dreams and pain.
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FILM LIFE’S 15TH ANNUAL AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL MIAMI BEACH JULY 6-9, 2011

DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION
Sponsored by CNN

ABFF’s 2011 documentaries will be screened at the Miami Beach Cinematheque, located inside the historic City Hall building at 1130 Washington Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33139. See below for times.

BROWN BABIES: The Mischlingskinder Story 2011 USA 102 MIN HD
DIR: Regina Griffin PROD: Regina Griffin, Charles Williams
Biracial, bicultural, illegitimate children unwanted by enemy nations. Postwar occupation Germany’s forgotten collateral damage.

MORE THAN CONQUERORS 2010 USA 49 MIN SD
DIR: Andre Wilkins PROD: Tawana Thomas-Johnson, Andre Wilkins
FEATURING: Tavis Smiley
The stories of eight African Americans who have battled cancer and found -- through love, faith and family — a reservoir of hope, learning that a diagnosis of cancer is not a death sentence.

THE SCROLL 2011 USA 60 MIN HD
DIR: Parrish Smith PROD: Parrish Smith, Leona Willis, Don Dodds, Todd Thomas FEATURING: T.D. Jakes, Noel Jones, Hezekiah Walker, Shirley Caesar
A collection of inspirational stories told by some of the most profound spiritual leaders of the 21st century. The Scroll is an intimate portrait looking into the hearts of pastors who speak of life lessons and transcending faith.

SOLE OF A HUSTLA 2010 USA 72 MIN HD
DIR: Adam Woodard PROD: Bob Compton
Five Black men from the Memphis hood, with a vision to build a company and pursue the American Dream. Journey with these entrepreneurs as they discover a very different start-up reality.
011 marks the 14th annual HBO® Short Film Award, one of the most prestigious competitions on the film festival circuit. Five finalists compete for a grand prize of $20,000. Join us for the HBO Short Film Competition, Thursday, July 7, 8:30 pm, at the Colony Theatre, where the five films are screened. The winner will be announced at the festival’s awards ceremony, ABFF HONORS, Saturday, July 9.

**SALVATION ROAD** 2011 USA 17 MIN 57 SEC HD
SCR/DIR: Michael Cobain, Ka’ramuu Kush and Greg Hendrick/ Ka’ramuu Kush
CAST: Russell Hornsby, Michael J. Harney, Roger Guenveur Smith

Business becomes unusual for an unsuspecting hitman who senses that he’s been witnessed murdering his traitorous mentor by a 9-year-old boy.

**FIG** 2011 USA 14 MIN 42 SEC HD
SCR/DIR: Alex George Pickering/ Ryan Coogler
CAST: Jontille Tome, Charline St. Charles

Candace is a young single mother in South Los Angeles. One night, when she is without food or money, she makes a desperate choice—and risks losing the most important thing in her life, as the bond with her daughter is put to the ultimate test.

**FOR FLOW** 2011 USA 18 MIN 00 SEC HD
SCR/DIR: Kesar Wible/ Jason Cam
CAST: Brian D. Coats, Cherrye Davis, Vladimi Versailles, Devere Rogers

Dee and Kane are two aspiring MCs (rappers) searching for a way to climb out of the hard-knock lives they’ve been forced to lead. On a lonely street corner in the Bronx, they wait for a record producer in hopes that the meeting will change their lives forever.

**PAGE 36** 2011 USA 19 MIN 35 SEC HD
SCR/DIR: Nelsan Ellis
CAST: Roger Guenveur Smith, Sydney Tamiia Poitier, Coley Mustafa Speaks

Roman Wilson, a recently paroled two-time felon, returns home to his overworked and underpaid girlfriend and their terminally ill son, who is in desperate need of medical care. With no positive employment prospects, and desperate for money, Roman signs a contract with a deadly clause.

**THE TURTLE & THE NIGHTINGALE** 2011 USA 20 MIN 00 SEC HD
SCR/DIR: Gershon Hinkson
CAST: Paul Barber, Lawrence Daniels-White, George Johnston, Rapha’el Olakotan

In Crystal Palace, London, as three precocious twelve-year-olds navigate their already antagonizing lives at home, they also grapple with the issue of bullying in school—and learn a lesson about friendship that might cost one of them his life.
SPONSORED SCREENINGS

Kevin Hart’s “Laugh at My Pain”  
World Premiere  
Courtesy of Codeblack Entertainment  
Friday, July 8, 6:30 pm

Do Women Know What They Want?  
Courtesy of Michael Baisden Films  
Friday, July 8 | Colony Theater

Marco Polo  
Courtesy of Team Sizzle Films  
Saturday, July 9, 1:35 pm | Miami Beach Cinematheque

When Beautiful People Do Ugly Things  
Courtesy of Team Sizzle Films  
Saturday, July 9, 1:35 pm | Miami Beach Cinematheque

Trinity Goodheart  
World Premiere  
starring Erica Gluck & Eric Benet  
Courtesy of the gmc Television Network)  
Saturday, July 9, 3:30 pm | Colony Theater
FILM LIFE’S 15th ANNUAL
AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL
MIAMI BEACH JULY 6-9, 2011

Key Venues

1. Ritz-Carlton
   South Beach
   1 Lincoln Road

2. Colony Theater
   1040 Lincoln Road

3. Play
   1045 5th Street

4. Miami Beach Cinematheque
   1130 Washington Ave.

5. Maxine’s at the Catalina Hotel
   1756 Collins Ave.

6. LIV at the Fontainebleu Hotel
   4441 Collins Ave.
   (@ 45th St. Not shown on map)

7. The Betsy Hotel
   1440 Ocean Drive

8. The Fillmore Miami Beach at the Jackie Gleason Theater
   1700 Washington Ave.

9. Dolce Ultralounge
   1501 Ocean Drive

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NO LONGER
SPEAK
WITH YOU

DAD SOLD
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CAMARO

HIRED
PROFESSIONAL
ACTORS

CAST
YOUR
LANDLADY

ACCEPTED IN
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MOVIE
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Make sure to pick up your copy of our new Greater Miami and the Beaches Black Visitor Guide at the ABFF Registration Desk, or visit MiamiBlackVisitorGuide.com for more information.
# FESTIVAL CREDITS

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FAITH, is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

Making a film takes vision, passion, persistence, and resources. With a target audience of over 100,000 black christian women, Precious Times Magazine (PTM) is the most trusted source for women influencers and their families living a modern lifestyle in faith. As a marketing resource, PTM offers:

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TICKETS & PRICING

All passes and event tickets are sold at the ABFF Registration Center located at the Ritz Carlton South Beach (2nd floor, Salon 1) located at 1 Lincoln Rd. Ph: (786) 276-6262. Movie tickets on sale 30 minutes before screening times at the Colony Theater and Miami Beach Cinematheque.

Festival Passes

- PRESTIGE PASS .................. $1500.00
- MARQUEE PASS ................... $650.00
- ESSENTIALS PASS ................ $450.00

Master Classes

Ritz Carlton, 2nd Floor/Salon 3

- Michael Elliot’s “From Script to Screen” Master Class (Thursday, July 7, 9:00 am) .... $100
- Robert Townsend’s “The Ultimate Pitch” Master Class (Friday, July 8, 9:00 am) .... $100

Actor’s Workshop

Fillmore/Jackie Gleason Theater (rehearsal hall)

- Bill Duke’s Actors Boot Camp (July 7, July 8, July 9, 3:00 pm) .......... $200

Film Screening Tickets

On Sale at Theater Box Office. Day of Show Only.

- COLONY THEATER ...................... $12
- MIAMI BEACH CINEMATHEQUE .......... $12

Talk Series Events

Ritz Carlton, 2nd Floor/Salon 3

- The Enduring Significance of “Boyz N The Hood” (Thursday, July 7, 1:30 pm) ........ $50
- Digital Distribution 101: The New Distribution Paradigm (Thursday, July 7, 4:30 pm) .... $40

- The gmc Television Network Screenplay Competition (Friday, July 8, 1:30 pm) ........... $50
- A Conversation with... (Friday, July 8, 4:30 pm) ................................ $50
- Bridging the Digital Divide: An examination of Robert Townsend’s Web Series “In The Hive” and NAACP’s Bond Project, “Builders of the Next Dream” (Saturday, July 9, 9:30 am) ...................... $40
- The Business of Reality TV (Saturday, July 9, 12:30 pm) .................. $40
- HBO Talk Series (Saturday, July 9, 3:30 pm) ....................... $40

Awards Ceremony

Fillmore/Jackie Gleason Theater

- “ABFF Honors” (Saturday, July 9, 8:00 pm)
  General admission ........................................ $65

Parties

- Opening Night Party @ Play (Wednesday, July 6, 10:30 pm) .................. $65
- 15th Anniversary Party @ LIV (Thursday, July 7, 10:30 pm) ..................... $80
- Grey Goose “ABFF Honors” After Party @ Dolce (Saturday, July 9, 10:30 pm) ........ $80

Registration Center Hours:

Wed., July 6 | 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Thursday, July 7 | 8:30 am - 6:00 pm
Friday, July 8 | 8:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Sat., July 9 | 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon