



News Release

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Madonna Students Coach Hollywood Movie Makers

LIVONIA, Mich. — Some 16 Madonna University students recently returned from Hollywood where they applied what they've learned in the classroom to digital movie making at the third annual Project Accessible Hollywood (PAH-fest.)

The following broadcast and cinema arts (BCA) students traveled to Hollywood.

Student

Ted Pittman
Walid Jaward
Mark Pikula
Katie Boomgaard
Brett Wheat
Matthew Reed
Jake Freeman
Sara Simnitch
Brent Burgess
Jody White
Alyse Paquin

Hometown

Ann Arbor
Dearborn
Dearborn
Holland
Livonia
Northville (journalism major)
Plymouth
Swartz Creek
Westland
Westland
Whitmore Lake

Drawing from experience gained during PAH-fest Motown, hosted at Madonna University for the past three years, the students coached Hollywood participants in script writing, filming, producing and editing during the week-long festival's creative competitions.

Madonna University co-sponsored this year's PAH-fest Hollywood with festival creator and filmmaker Christopher Coppola. "Without the support of Madonna University, PAH-fest Hollywood would not have taken place this year," said Coppola. "I am very grateful for the hard work and leadership our Madonna team provided."

Dan and Sue Boyd of Highland, BCA instructors at Madonna, accompanied the students to Hollywood and were involved with event organization. "The students inspired creativity in those they coached, while gaining valuable industry experience and establishing Hollywood career connections," Sue Boyd said.

Coppola, an adjunct professor at Madonna, utilizes University students quite regularly with his personal film endeavors. During their recent Hollywood stay, Sara Simnitch and Katie Boomgaard worked on Coppola's upcoming cable network reality television show.

PAH-fest is a unique digital media festival that travels to cities throughout the U.S. and internationally, offering movie-making fun to everyday people. Students Jake Freeman and Brett Wheat produced a documentary of the week's events. To see the video or to get more information about PAH-fest, visit www.pahnation.org. A PAH-fest Hollywood blog written by journalism student Matthew Reed can be found at www.myspace.com/pahnation.

Madonna University's (www.madonna.edu) Broadcast and Cinema Arts program prepares students for careers in broadcast, film and other digital media. The program, grounded in the liberal arts, combines an integrated theoretical and intensive hands-on approach for professional preparation. Madonna University's new "green" Franciscan Center houses state-of-the art video and audio studios, editing suites, and the latest high-definition production equipment. The Kresge Foundation has offered Madonna University a \$1.5 million challenge grant for this new building. To meet the challenge, the University must raise \$3.25 million by Dec. 31, 2009.

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