



News Release

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Metro-Detroiters Encouraged to Share Their Stories During PAH-fest Motown 2009 *Applications for Film Competition Due June 20*

LIVONIA, Mich. – Madonna University will host the third annual Project Accessible Hollywood (PAH-fest) Motown this summer. The unique, entirely free, digital media festival travels to cities throughout the U.S. and internationally, engaging everyday people in the art of movie-making and digital storytelling. Competitions and events will take place at Madonna's Livonia campus Monday through Sunday, July 13-19.

The Mobiflicks competition is the festival's main event. Throughout the week, pre-selected teams, whose members represent diverse backgrounds, create short films. The teams are provided with professional coaching and equipment as they write, produce, shoot and edit, turning their story into a six-minute movie. The competition is open to all. Those interested in participating must submit their story idea, approximately 250 words, to www.pahnation.com by Saturday, June 20, 2009.

“Not only is Mobiflicks fun, but it provides an outlet for individuals, communities and organizations to share their stories,” said Sue Boyd, Madonna University broadcast and cinema arts instructor and PAH-fest organizer. “The competition also is an exciting experience for anyone considering a career in Michigan's burgeoning film industry.”

Last year's winning film, entitled “Espranza,” told the story of a Detroit native who founded the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation (DHDC), which provides a fun, safe environment for local youth.

This year, Mobiflicks teams will include composers, who will create musical scores for the short films. Composers can apply to be matched with a team by submitting an MP3 file of their work on the PAH-fest Web site, www.pahnation.com, by June 20.

PAH-fest creator Christopher Coppola looks forward to the one-of-a-kind stories he encounters during PAH-fest Motown. “There are pockets of magic within Detroit families and communities,” he said. “PAH-fest Motown is an excellent opportunity to bring to light the positive stories of a city that lately has received a lot of negative press.” Coppola, nephew of director Francis Ford Coppola and brother to actor Nicolas Cage, will return to Madonna's campus for the festival.

Mobiflicks films will be screened during the Festival Closing Ceremony, and cash prizes will be awarded. Afterwards, all films will be posted on the PAH-fest Web site for viewing. For more information about Mobiflicks, or to view a full schedule of PAH-fest events, visit www.pahnation.com, or call Sue Boyd at 734-432-5578.

Madonna University's broadcast and cinema arts program prepares students for careers in broadcast, film and other digital media industries. The program, grounded in the liberal arts, combines an integrated theoretical and intensive hands-on approach for professional preparation. Madonna University's new "green" Science and Media Building, recipient of a \$1.5 million Kresge Foundation Challenge Grant, opens fall 2009. PAH-fest participants will have an opportunity to see the building and the digital technologies that will be available to broadcast and cinema arts students.

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