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The Montclair Film Festival and The Film Institute at Montclair State Announce 2015 Behind The Screen Program

Kahane Cooperman (*The New Yorker Presents*), Michael Slovis (*Game Of Thrones*), Tim Squyers (*Life Of Pi*) and Joel Stillerman (*The Walking Dead*) featured as speakers

October 18, 2015, Montclair, NJ— The Montclair Film Festival (MFF) and The Film Institute at Montclair State today announced the program for the annual Behind The Screen (BTS) program, a day of free filmmaking workshops and seminars taking place Sunday, December 6, 2015 at University Hall on the campus of Montclair State University.

The BTS program is designed for students and adults from all backgrounds to come and learn from leading industry professionals about building a career in film and television; from the artistic mastery of creative roles to the collaborative leadership of development and producing, each speaker at BTS brings years of experience at the highest levels of film and television production.

The 2015 Behind The Screen program is free and open to the public, but registration is required. To register, visit MontclairFilmFest.org/BTS-2015.

"The Film Institute at Montclair State is committed to fully leveraging the University's rich resources in filmmaking and film scholarship for the benefit of our community, and the BTS program is an important part of our fulfilling that mission", said Daniel Gurskis, the Dean of the College of the Arts at Montclair State University.

"Our annual Behind The Screen program is the cornerstone of our collaboration with the Film Institute at Montclair State and with this year's incredible line-up, we expect the event to be our best yet," said MFF Education Director Sue Hollenberg.

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The 2015 Behind The Screen Program

Development: The Walking Dead - From Comic Book to TV Megahit

Joel Stillerman, President of Original Programming and Development for AMC and Sundance TV, discusses how the beloved comic book *The Walking Dead* became the #1 show on television. Having overseen the process from inception, Stillerman will talk about adapting a niche comic book about survival in the zombie apocalypse to the worldwide television franchise that it is today.

The Director: Building a Visual Vocabulary

Michael Slovis, the acclaimed cinematographer and director on such shows as *Breaking Bad, Game of Thrones,* and *The Affair,* breaks down the visual vocabulary and the different choices and decisions that go into shooting and recording a scene. From budget and scheduling considerations to the collective and creative collaboration among craftspeople, Slovis discusses the meaning and emotional impact that every decision can have in a scripted show.

The Producer: Getting it on the Air, Online, or in Theaters

Kahane Cooperman, Executive Producer and show runner for Amazon's new series *The New Yorker Presents* and formerly the longtime producer of the Emmy and Golden Globe winning *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* as well as documentary filmmaker, takes us behind the scenes of the of what it means to be a producer and filmmaker. Kahane will dissect the role of the producer and discuss what goes into getting a show on the air.

The Editor: Transforming Dailies into Oscar Nominated Films

Tim Squyers is the editor of renowned films including *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, Syriana, Life of Pi, Rachel Getting Married, and Gosford Park* and many others. Having edited almost all of Ang Lee's films and currently at work on their latest collaboration, *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk,* Squyers offers a unique perspective on how the editor pulls together a film to ultimately illuminate the director's vision.

Film Festivals: Building Strategies To Get Your Film or Pilot Seen

Tom Hall, Executive Director of the Montclair Film Festival, will lead a discussion with leading film festival programmers about best practices and strategies for emerging filmmakers to get their films onto the festival circuit and in front of the industry, audiences, and beyond.

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ABOUT THE MONTCLAIR FILM FESTIVAL

The Montclair Film Festival, Inc. (MFF), a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, nurtures and showcases the talents of filmmakers from around the region and world. MFF unites, empowers, educates and celebrates our region's diverse cultural heritage and robust artistic community by presenting an annual spring festival and a growing assortment of engaging programs and events all year long. The fifth annual spring festival will take place from April 29 through May 8, 2016. MFF 2016 is made possible through generous support from Investors Bank, Audible, Audi, HackensackUMC Mountainside, Chubb, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Horizon Foundation for New Jersey, and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, among others. For information about MFF, visit www.montclairfilmfest.org.

ABOUT THE FILM INSTITUTE AT MONTCLAIR STATE

Based within Montclair State's College of the Arts, the Film Institute oversees a robust schedule of public events and collaborative programs, including a film forum series; weekend and summer workshops in film production; a "film-inthe-schools" program bringing faculty and industry professionals into area high schools; special film screenings on campus and in the community; and a wide range of seminars, podcasts and live streaming webcasts. The Film Institute serves as a resource for industry professionals by fostering networking opportunities in New York City, New Jersey and Los Angeles; hosting conferences on the Montclair State campus; and partnering with technology firms to offer workshops in the latest hardware and software products. For Montclair State students, the Film Institute offers an internship program with support from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences; a professional mentorship and career-networking program; and international collaborations with University film programs in Asia, Australia and Europe. The Film Institute also originates activities that meet the educational and cultural needs of Montclair State's local communities by providing exclusive programming designed for adults, middle- and high-school students and others. For information about the Film Institute at Montclair State, visit http://www.montclair.edu/arts/the-film-institute-at-montclair-state/

> For more information, please contact FRANK PR: Phone: 646-861-0843

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