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news release

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SCOTTSDALE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AND SCOTTSDALE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCE NEW COLLABORATION



(SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.) – Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, a division of the Scottsdale Cultural Council, and the Scottsdale International Film Festival have established an innovative new collaboration that will enable the nonprofit organizations to share resources and offer expanded film programs to the community.

The alliance, which will officially begin in January, will provide benefits to both the Festival and Center as well as their respective audiences, including operational and promotional support to grow the annual Festival and expanded year-round film programming at the Center.

“When arts organizations come together in a spirit of collaboration they can accomplish so much more,” remarked Scottsdale Cultural Council President and CEO Neale Perl. “We look forward to a productive partnership that will build on existing strengths, foster innovation and create new opportunities for the arts in Scottsdale.”

As part of the collaboration, Scottsdale International Film Festival Founder and Executive Director Amy Ettinger will join the staff of the Center as a film curator and continue to direct the Festival, now in its 14th year. The Festival also will maintain its longstanding relationship with Harkins Theatres, which has served as its official home since 2001.

“The Scottsdale International Film Festival is a true gem in the city’s cultural landscape, and we are honored to be aligning ourselves with the quality, passion and vision that it has come to represent,” noted Cory Baker, director of Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, who worked out the details of the collaboration with Amy Ettinger.

“Our partnership with the Scottsdale Cultural Council and Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts is a natural fit in terms of combining their resources and facilities with our film programming expertise,” added Ettinger.

The Scottsdale International Film Festival and Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts have a history of working together. In 2010, the Center hosted the Festival’s opening-night event, and in recent years Ettinger has curated selections of international films from Australia, New Zealand, India and Brazil for the Center’s annual Discovery Series.

This year's Scottsdale International Film Festival showcases five days and nights of screenings and special events. The Festival will kick off on Thursday, Oct. 9, at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts with the Arizona premiere of *Rudderless*. The film is William H. Macy's directorial debut and stars Billy Crudup as a former high-profile advertising executive whose life is torn apart by the sudden death of his son.

Following opening night, the Festival will resume at Harkins Shea 14 in Scottsdale. Additional information and tickets are available at www.ScottsdaleFilmFestival.com.

SCOTTSDALE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Scottsdale International Film Festival is an annual five-day destination event celebrating its 14th year. The Festival provides an essential and enriching component to the Valley's arts scene by using film to share and create dialogue about the unique perspectives of other countries and cultures, allowing attendees to gain a deeper connection to local and global communities.

SCOTTSDALE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Since opening in 1975, Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts has provided a stage for a wide range of voices and perspectives, creating shared, inspiring experiences for the community that celebrate artistic excellence and cultural awareness. Today one of the premier performing-arts halls in the western United States, the Center presents a diverse season of dance, music, theater, comedy and film from around the world. More than 1,000 indoor and outdoor performances, educational programs, festivals and other events are presented and hosted by the Center annually, serving approximately 250,000 participants. The Center's education and outreach programs reach nearly 20,000 students and adults each year. Events take place in the state-of-the-art, 853-seat Virginia G. Piper Theater, recognized for its intimacy, acoustics and comfort, as well as the 137-seat Stage 2 and neighboring 1,800-capacity Scottsdale Civic Center Amphitheater. Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts is located on Scottsdale Civic Center Park, a 21-acre urban oasis next to the city's Old Town and gallery districts.

The nonprofit Scottsdale Cultural Council is contracted by the City of Scottsdale to manage the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA) and Scottsdale Public Art.

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