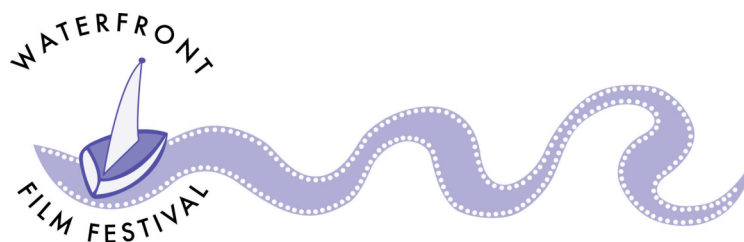


www.waterfrontfilm.org  
tel 269.857.8351  
fax 269.857.1072  
PO Box 387  
Saugatuck, Michigan 49453-0387



**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Patrick Revere  
616.308.7573  
[reverewriter@gmail.com](mailto:reverewriter@gmail.com)

Tarrah Lee Curtis  
310.247.3090  
[tcurtis@oscars.org](mailto:tcurtis@oscars.org)

**Biggest Night in Entertainment Comes to Grand Rapids**  
***West Michigan's only Academy-sanctioned Oscar Night® America party***

**Grand Rapids, Mich., Feb. 17, 2011** – Guests will experience the unfolding of Hollywood's most prestigious night on Feb. 27 with Oscar Night® America at The Goei Center. Benefiting the Waterfront Film Festival, the Academy is very selective in choosing only 50 charities across the country to allow the honor of holding an official Oscar® party in major media markets.

West Michigan's only Academy-sanctioned party starts with a paparazzi lined red carpet walk, champagne greeting, live music, and the chance to bid on a series of standout prizes including:

- Hollywood's hottest ticket: an invite for two to a live read-thru of *The Simpson's* - an up-close and personal experience with the actors on the lot of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox Studios in LA;
- A beach party with recent *Survivor: Nicaragua* winner Judson "Fabio" Birza; and
- Dinner and jam session with prolific American musician and songwriter, Jim Peterik.

*The Simpson's* is the longest running and Emmy-Award winning sitcom. Birza played the role of lovable underdog to become the youngest winner in the history of the *Survivor* TV show, and Peterik started the band Survivor in 1978 and co-wrote the hit songs "Eye of the Tiger," "I Can't Hold Back" and "Is This Love?"

Doors open and the auction begins at 5:30pm at The Goei Center, 818 Butterworth St. SW. The live broadcast of the 83rd Academy Awards® shows on multiple big screens via ABC affiliate WZZM TV-13 beginning at 8 p.m. The awards show is hosted by James Franco and Anne Hathaway

Oscar Night America® tickets start at \$65, which includes a champagne greeting, music, food and drink vouchers.

VIP tickets are \$125 and include the champagne greeting, music, food, open bar, VIP swag bag, official commemorative Oscar poster and official Oscar show program and reserved seating. Tables are \$1,000 and provide an entourage of 10 with all the perks of individual VIP tickets at a \$250 savings.

Among other auction items are dinner with a personal chef in your home, the chance to renew wedding vows on the Star of Saugatuck, a bowling and sushi outing at Lakeview Lanes in

Douglas, kite surfing lessons, deep sea fishing charter in Florida, as well as other dining, beauty and vacation packages. Auction items can be viewed at [www.waterfrontfilm.org](http://www.waterfrontfilm.org)

Food stations throughout the evening will include offerings from renowned area eateries and local favorites: Butch's Dry Dock and Gringo's Grill from Holland, White House Bistro from Saugatuck, Fennville Station from Fennville, Mia & Grace Bakery Bistro from Muskegon, and Anything Goes from Grand Haven. Live music will be performed by Delilah DeWylde and the Lost Boys.

Scheduled to be in attendance are:

- Jenn Proctor a.k.a. Mrs. Peacock - songwriter and dance agent whose clients include the Lady Gaga dancers
- Z. Eric Yang, 2008 Academy Award Winner for *State of Sunshine* and finalist of the 2011 Sundance Screenwriter Lab for his film *Midland's Got Talent*
- Hopwood DePree – member of the Michigan Film Office Advisory Council and producer of the soon-to-be-released, *What's Wrong With Virginia*, written by Academy Award Winner, Dustin Lance Black, and starring Academy Award Winner, Jennifer Connelly, and Academy Award Nominee, Ed Harris.
- Marcia Fishman, executive director of Screen Actors Guild Detroit and member of the Michigan Film Office Advisory Council
- Stephanie Webb – host of WZZM's "Take Five & Co" and Oscar Party Emcee
- Michele DeSelms - WXMI FOX 17 News Anchor and host of the Oscar Party red carpet arrivals
- Todd Chance, radio host and Oscar Party Honorary Co-Chair

Oscar Night America® tickets are available at [www.waterfrontfilm.org/ona](http://www.waterfrontfilm.org/ona). A portion of each ticket purchase is eligible for a tax deduction as a donation to a charitable organization.

### **About Waterfront Film Festival**

Now, in its 13th year, the Waterfront Film Festival celebrates independent film and filmmakers in a non-competitive environment. Located in Saugatuck, Mich., WFF is one of the leading destination film festivals in the Midwest, regularly hosting Midwest premieres of Academy Award-winning and nominated documentaries. WFF is committed to education and features seminars designed to encourage the next generation of actors, writers and directors. For more information on the 2011 festival, scheduled for June 9 -12, visit [www.waterfrontfilm.org](http://www.waterfrontfilm.org).

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###END###