

January 26, 2006

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



WAIKOLOA BEACH AND GOLF RESORT TO HOST 2006 BIG ISLAND FILM FESTIVAL

WAIKOLOA, HAWAII - Calling all film fanatics ... pick your spot on one of Waikoloa Beach Resort's fabulous golf courses and prepare to watch a spectacular independent film under the stars during the 2006 Big Island Film Festival May 18 - 21, 2006. Celebrating independent narrative films and filmmakers, the first annual Big Island Film Festival at Waikoloa Beach & Golf Resort will feature movies, music, parties, Filmmaker and Actor Salutes, an Awards Brunch, filmmaker symposiums and golf tournament.

Movies will be shown at three different venues throughout Waikoloa Beach & Golf Resort. The Ohana Venue, which will be located on the Waikoloa Beach Course driving range, will show only family movies throughout the festival. The Festival Venue, which will be located on the Waikoloa Kings' Course driving range, will show general feature films. Lastly, the Honu Venue will show films in two-hour blocks from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday (feature films), Friday (movie shorts) and Saturday (student films) at a location to be announced.

The Big Island Film Festival will kick off with a golf tournament at the Waikoloa Kings' Course on Wednesday, May 17, 2006. The tournament will be a two-man best ball format with an entry fee of \$170 that includes green fees, continental breakfast and lunch. Prizes will be awarded for closest to the pin and top scores. All proceeds from the tournament will go to Project ALS, which is a non-profit organization dedicated to finding a cure for ALS (also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease), finding an effective treatment for people living with ALS and raising awareness about ALS.

Other festivities include an Opening Night Party, Reception & Salute to the Filmmakers, Reception & Salute to the Actors as well as several filmmaker symposiums, all to be held at the Hilton Waikoloa Village. In addition, there will be an Awards Brunch on Sunday, May 21, honoring the top films from the festival in a variety of categories, including Best Family Film Feature, Best Live Action Digital Short, Best General Film Feature and Up and Comer, among others.

The Big Island Film Festival is also pleased to announce that it has just signed an agreement with Big Island artist, Clint Sloan, to use one of his paintings in Big Island Film Festival marketing.

Tickets to the Big Island Film Festival are priced as follows: food and beverage events are \$45 - \$120 per person, special events are \$5 - \$170 per person and film events are \$5 - \$20 per person. Ticket packages are also available and include the Ali'i Pass, which includes everything except the golf tournament, for \$600 per person and the Talk Story Film Pass, which includes every film and/ or symposium, for \$100 per person. Special room rates will also be available at the Hilton Waikoloa Village and Marriott Beach Resort. For more information, please call 808-883-0394 or visit www.bigislandfilmfestival.com

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