

BOCA BLACK FILM FESTIVAL

Colorful Black Cinema: Arts & Education. July 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE INAUGURAL BOCA BLACK FILM FESTIVAL NOW OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS Festival brings cinema arts & education to new and emerging talent

BOCA RATON, Fla.—(April 15, 2014)—The inaugural **Boca Black Film Festival 2014** kicks off its film and scriptwriting competition this week for talented black content makers based in the United States. The organization's first cinema arts & education film festival celebrates black media arts, film works and scriptwriting.

The **Boca Black Film Festival** was created and developed by Florida natives who live and work in the South Florida community. By hoping to fill the void left in the South Florida area by the exit of a similar film festival for people of color that was held annually in South Beach, the three-day event is filled with educational sessions, film discussions and workshops. Seasoned professionals in their respective fields, based locally and around the state, will share about acting and storytelling basics, the filmmaker's toolbox, product placement, pitching, webisodes and financing as well as other educational and training sessions.

The Festival's founder, Lizabeth Martin, is a college professor and former journalist. She has experience in creating and developing community synthesis. She created an artist network in Jacksonville in early-2000. The Jacksonville Artists Renaissance Group pooled talent, resources and creativity to support the artistic endeavors of black filmmakers, writers, actors, videographers and performance artists such as Frank Goodin, Elizabeth Straight and Al Letson. The group also performed, collectively, a choreo-poematic stage performance at the University of North Florida directed by Noble Lee Lester.

"I am excited about the possibilities for the Boca Black Film Festival," said Lizabeth Martin, founder. "I have met so many talented and creative people since I arrived in South Florida. This is the perfect opportunity to network, engage and develop more opportunities in film."

Filmmakers can submit short films, feature films or documentaries via the Festival's website at www.BocaBlackFilm.org. And, there's a sister competition in scriptwriting for shorts and features too. A student competition is only available in the short films and scripts category.

This is the premier film festival created by film lovers serious about the craft of filmmaking—and not just a celeb fest. The **Boca Black Film Festival** is now open to the public and discounted student rates are available for student ambassadors who sign up for community service hours.

For more information on the **Boca Black Film Festival** visit www.BocaBlackFilm.org or follow us on Facebook: Boca Black Film and Twitter @BocaBlackFilm.

The **Boca Black Film Festival** is the premier creative arts and educational film fest that specifically celebrates and champions independent film works created, designed and inspired by persons of black heritage. As one of Florida's and the tri-county area's only film festivals dedicated to the art and craft of filmmaking for black content makers, the **Boca Black Film Festival** organization strives for authenticity and originality in promoting and screening film works. The Festival provides balance in creative arts development, training sessions, networking, mentorship and endeavors that promote well-balanced, diverse images of color in film, television and other media venues. The **Boca Black Film Festival** celebrates the imaginative, organically grown, perspective that is uniquely black American.

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