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Waterfront Film Festival receives state arts grant

Saugatuck, Michigan, May 11, 2011 – The Waterfront Film Festival has received a \$7,500 grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

The grant will go toward organizing and presenting the annual festival, which celebrates its 13th year June 9-12 in Saugatuck, Mich.

The Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs grants are provided to "encourage, develop and facilitate an enriched environment of artistic, creative and cultural activity in Michigan."

Independent filmmakers and thousands of people who appreciate fine filmmaking convene each year in one of Lake Michigan's most scenic resort communities. More than 70 independent films and shorts are screened at unique venues around town. The festival also offers a variety of workshops and seminars for attendees who desire a deeper understanding of independent film.

"The Waterfront Film Festival is a prime outlet for artistic expression," festival cofounder Dori DePree said. "The sponsorship and grant dollars, like this from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, make it possible to showcase highquality independent films in West Michigan."

About Waterfront Film Festival

Now in its thirteenth year, 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. It has been recognized as one of the top five film festivals in the United States.

WFF is committed to education and also features seminars designed to encourage the next generation of actors, writers and directors. For more information on the 2011 festival, which will be held June 9-12, visit www.waterfrontfilm.org.