

Media Contact: Christen McArdle
(734) 995-5356
director@aafilmfest.org

Express Yourself Over The Airwaves

Ann Arbor Radio hosts on-air fundraiser for the Ann Arbor Film Festival

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANN ARBOR, Mich., July 25, 2006 – An Ann Arbor first – The 107one Request-a-Thon to benefit the Ann Arbor Film Festival will celebrate free speech to close the funding gap for the AAFF.

Listen to Ann Arbor Radio Tuesday, August 1st, when the friends and supporters of the Ann Arbor Film Festival team up to celebrate the arts. Ann Arbor Radio will broadcast the first annual Request-A-Thon from 6am-7pm, and listeners will be encouraged to request their favorite songs in exchange for a donation towards the AAFF.

The Ann Arbor Film Festival received cuts to its state funding for exhibiting films that certain special interest groups and state legislators deemed too controversial. While some believe that films from past AAFF festivals have been “pornographic,” AAFF officials, local and international artists, media personalities and political figures do not agree with the accusations. Listen on August 1st, when Ann Arbor Film Festival director Christen McArdle co-hosts the 13-hour radio program, which will give artists and filmmakers the opportunity to defend their controversial work and discuss the importance of government funding for the arts, the freedom of speech, and independent cinema.

The fundraiser will be simultaneously broadcast on WLBY (1290 AM), the local affiliate of the local talk “Air America” network. Listeners will have an opportunity to win valuable premiums for different donation levels. Prizes include ticket giveaways to shows, festivals and concerts, signed merchandise and song requests – including those not normally heard on the adult alternative radio station.

Tune in, listen and call in to support AAFF, an Ann Arbor cultural treasure.

About Ann Arbor Film Festival

The Ann Arbor Film Festival celebrates independent and experimental filmmakers from around the world. Founded in 1963, the festival is the oldest of its kind in North America. Now in its 45th year, it attracts over 2000 entries from filmmakers in over 30 countries, and distributes over \$23,000 in awards. Created as an alternative to commercial cinema and mainstream film festivals, the annual week-long festival remains true to its original goal of promoting film as art and honoring the artists who make it possible. This year's festival runs March 20-25, 2007. For more information, please visit www.aafilmfest.org.

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