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SBIFFâ??s Year in Review â?? Roger Durling

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

From SBIFF Executive Director Roger Durling

As we head into a New Year and pave our way forward in 2017, Iâ??d like to take pause to recognize our successes of 2016, including our decision to acquire the Riviera Theatre â?? a major turning point for SBIFF. Our new home will allow us to expand and to further *engage, enrich, and inspire* people through the power of film on a year-round basis.

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The first quarter of 2016 marked one of the most unforgettable Festivals. SBIFF continues to be an incredible education platform where Oscar-winning and nominated industry leaders, independent filmmakers, fans, and students gather to celebrate and learn. All of us at SBIFF are honored to provide a world-class festival where thousands of visitors and local residents of all ages participate, right here in our hometown.

We expanded our film series *The Showcase*, and launched two new education programs: (1) *Film Camp* â?? a partnership with the United Boys and Girls Clubs of Santa Barbara County that teaches filmmaking and film appreciation to middle and high school students; and (2) *Programs for Seniors* â?? a partnership with Easy Lift Transportation that provides a fun movie-going experience for transit dependent seniors.



We also had another tremendous year of Cinema Society and treated our community to the latest Hollywood films, and welcomed some of the worldâ??s most talented filmmakers working today: Tom Ford â?? *Nocturnal Animals*; Damien Chazelle â?? *La La Land*; Jeff Nichols â?? *Loving*; Kevin Costner â?? *Hidden Figures*; Jeff Bridges â?? *Hell or High Water*; Pablo LarraÃn â?? *Jackie, Neruda*; and Denis Villeneuve â?? *Arrival*.

The 11th Kirk Douglas Award for Excellence in Film was the most successful in our history. We honored legend Warren Beatty and celebrated Kirk Douglasâ?? 100th Birthday â?? raising more money than ever to benefit our education programs.



2016â??s highlight is undoubtedly SBIFFâ??s acquisition of the Riviera Theatre in the form of a 30-year lease, to build a 24/7 cultural hub for all things film. SBIFFâ??s capital campaign â?? *The Riviera Project* â?? was launched in September to raise the necessary funds to support theatre renovations and expansion of our programs. Thanks to our generous supporters â?? in just a few months â?? weâ??ve raised $3.7 million of our $5 million goal to be raised by March 2017.

In the coming year, weâ??re further expanding our many education programs that currently serve 20,000 individuals, families and children â?? many from vulnerable and underserved populations. The renovation of the Riviera Theatre will enable SBIFF to increase participation in nearly all of our education programs so that they are offered on a year-round basis.

- *Mikeâ??s Field Trip to the Movies* will operate year-found and increasing participation by 87% to reach 7,500 Title 1 schools.
- The *Rosebud Program* will increase participation by 150%.
- The *AppleBox Family Films* will also operate year-round, increasing participation by 43% to 11,500 children and families.
- The new *Programs for Seniors* will serve 1,200.
- To ensure that we fulfill our important educational mission, a full time Education Director will come on board. Amanda Graves is starting the first week of 2017.



There are many ways to support SBIFF and the Riviera Project â?? all donations are 100% tax deductible:

â?? Contact Cindy Chyr, Director of Advancement, at cindy@sbfilmfestival.org or 805-963-0023 x809.
â?? View our brochure and opportunities for giving, click here.
â?? To name a seat, click here.
â?? Make a general donation to SBIFF programs, click here.

We are so grateful for our communityâ??s support during this transformational time in SBIFF history. Thank you for being a part of our community. We canâ??t wait to do more together in 2017!

See you at the movies,



Roger Durling
Executive Director

Category

1. #SBIFF
2. Santa Barbara International Film Festival
3. Showcase Series

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