

PHOTO AVAILABLE: Sept. 24-27: Ava Gardner Film Festival Set For September, Reports Johnston County Visitors Bureau

Media Advisory

SMITHFIELD, N.C./EWORLDWIRE/July 25, 2008 --- The fourth annual Ava Gardner Film Festival scheduled for September 24-27, 2008 will be a celebration of independent films from around the world and will showcase several of Ava's classic films.

The Ava Gardner Museum has set the last week in September every year for this popular new festival that draws thousands of visitors to Smithfield. From Wednesday through Saturday, the festival will feature independent films, documentaries, narratives, short films and features. In addition to the films, there will be special museum exhibits and the JOCO Artists Guild sponsored Arts and Fine Crafts Marketplace near the Ava Gardner Museum located in historic Downtown Smithfield.

"The Night of the Iguana," "On the Beach" and "Earthquake" will be the three classic movies showcased at this year's festival. Films will be shown in five downtown Smithfield venues including the Historic Howell Theatre on Third Street - the same theatre that a young Ava Gardner watched her first movies starring legends such as Clark Gable and Jean Harlow.

The following is the schedule of activities for this year's Ava Gardner Film Festival. Tickets for individual films will be \$2.00 each or festival patrons may buy an all-inclusive pass that covers all movies, opening events and parties for \$75.00 per person. Tickets to festival parties and special events will be available on an individual basis through the museum.

. Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Kick-Off Party, 7:00 p.m. - until

Opening Movie Event at the Ava Gardner Museum, 7:00 p.m.

Film maker's Lounge Open, The Yoga Connection

. Thursday, September 25, 2008

Film screenings begin 12:00 p.m. and run until

"The Night of the Iguana", Town Commons Amphitheater

Hastings House and grounds party, 7:00 p.m. - until

. Friday, September 26, 2008

Special Exhibit Opens, Ava Gardner Museum, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Film showings begin 12:00 p.m. and run until

Reception and opening art exhibit at Frank Creek Art Gallery at the Johnston Community College, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Film maker's Lounge Open, The Yoga Connection

. Saturday, September 27, 2008

Breakfast with the film makers, place TBD

Special Exhibit Opens, Ava Gardner Museum, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Film screenings begin 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Arts and Fine Crafts Marketplace Sponsored by the JOCO Artist Guild, North Third Street, 10am-4pm

Film maker's lounge Open, The Yoga Connection

Little Brown Jug II, Party, 7:00 p.m.

Wrap Party, Ava Gardner Museum, 11:00 p.m. - until

For more festival information check out the Ava Gardner Museum's Web site at '<http://www.avafilmfestival.com>' or e-mail Museum Director Angela Lawson at avainfo@avagardner.org.

The Ava Gardner Museum, one of North Carolina's premier attractions, is located at 325 East Market Street in the heart of downtown Smithfield, N.C. The Museum is dedicated to displaying and preserving artifacts from the life of screen legend Ava Gardner. The Museum's hours are Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and teens and \$4 for children 5-12.

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