



**GLOBAL AWARENESS PROJECT ANNOUNCES 2008 STRAND FILM FESTIVAL SCREENING:  
THE RED CARPET PROJECT.**

**FOR TICKETS, CONTACT JESSICA DURIVAGE: 843-467-9238**

**VIP Reception: 6:00pm-7:15pm, Liberty Steakhouse  
Film Screenings: 7:30pm-10:00pm  
After Party hosted by Liberty Steakhouse: 10:00pm-12:00am**

**Festival fare, sneak previews, and community involvement come to the red carpet in Myrtle Beach**

Myrtle Beach, SC - Global Awareness Project and the I-MAX Theatre, in association with The Collective and Hart Media, announce the inaugural event of The Strand Film Festival – The Red Carpet Project, a screening evening of short films on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at the I-MAX theatre at Broadway on the Beach.

The Red Carpet Project screening will premiere GAP's short film *The Silly Side of Serious* and will include award-winning shorts and previews of future festival features (direct from the 2008 New York International Latino Film Festival and 2008 Sonoma Valley Film Festival). The event will direct "red carpet" attention to grass roots efforts and present content that examines familiar situations from new angles.

Scheduled films include:

*Lady in a Box, 12 minutes*

In this dark comedy loosely based on the Schiavo case, Sarita Choudhury stars as a bedeviled lawyer trying to stop an American family's absurd feud over a macabre heirloom. The short was licensed for international broadcast by the Mini Movie Channel (US/Europe), PropellerTV (UK), and Ouat Media (Canada).

Writer/director **Jeffrey Stanley** teaches at NYU Tisch School of the Arts Department of Dramatic Writing, where he earned his MFA, and served as a guest teacher in Croatia at The Imaginary Academy summer film and theatre workshop sponsored by the Soros Foundation. He co-wrote and will direct *Jane Henry: A Comedy Short*, which has been optioned to Peter Farrelly, Charlie Wessler & GreeneStreet Films. Screenwriting awards include the Laurel Entertainment Award for Screenwriting Excellence, the New York Picture Company Award for Best Dramatic Screenplay, and finalist showings for the Nicholl Fellowship and the Austin Film Festival Screenwriting Competition. Stanley has also appeared as a guest writer in The New York Times.

<http://www.brain-on-fire.com/lady/>

*My Tale of Two Cities, preview, 13 minutes*

In the tradition of *Super Size Me* and *Roger & Me*, *My Tale of Two Cities* is a poignant and funny film about coming home, and how people, and cities, reinvent themselves. *St. Elmo's Fire* screenwriter and TV writer/producer Carl Kurlander did go home again, only to find that his hometown of Pittsburgh, which had built America with its steel, produced Andy Warhol AND

consecutive superbowl victories, and invented everything from aluminum to the Big Mac, was struggling in a new age. As Pittsburgh is the real-life home of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," Kurlander asked his neighbors -- from Steeler great Franco Harris to philanthropist Teresa Heinz Kerry -- how his hometown could once again become "The City of Champions. Dealing with issues of family, community, and place, Kurlander finds that each neighbor makes a difference in determining how a city--or as this movie seems more timely than ever-- a country, comes back. *My Tale of Two Cities* premiered at the 2008 Sonoma Valley Film Festival.

**Carl Kurlander** worked in Hollywood for two decades as a screenwriter and television writer/producer under contract for Columbia, Paramount, Universal, Twentieth Century Fox, Orion, and Disney Studios, and writing and producing over 150 episodes of television for NBC, Fox, and CBS. He also wrote "The F Word: How to Survive Your Family" with Louie Anderson. Kurlander is a recipient of the MCA-Universal Studios Scholar Award and a graduate of Duke University. He co-founded and is the Executive Producer of the non-profit Steeltown Entertainment Project and is currently a Visiting Distinguished Senior Lecturer at the University of Pittsburgh.

<http://www.mytaleoftwocities.com>

*The Gloves, preview, 14 minutes*

Set against the backdrop of the New York City Golden Gloves, the world's largest boxing tournament, four semifinalists battle each other and their own obstacles for a chance at a better future for themselves and their families. Directors Joshua Durham, Sam Mestman, and Matt Mochary document each competitor's run to see which heavyweight will live out his potential in the title match. *The Gloves* premiered at the Ninth Annual 2008 New York International Latino Film Festival presented by HBO.

<http://www.theglovesfilm.com/>

After graduating NYU film school in 2002, **Sam Mestman** co-founded the indie film collective Blatantly Subtle Productions, through which he directed, shot and edited dozens of short films for regular screenings across New York City. His screenplay *Time Square Hustle* was a 2005 semifinalist for the Sundance Feature Filmmakers Program, and shooting will begin this year. Mestman has edited for television, commercials, documentaries and fiction projects. *The Gloves* is his feature-length directorial debut.

Prior to directing *The Gloves*, **Josh Durham** served as Producer and Assistant Editor on the HBO film *Addiction*. His current documentary film projects include *Lil Poison*, a feature-length film due out in 2008 and a surfing documentary shooting on four continents. Durham taught film at the New York Film Academy and at Princeton University, and has worked in every genre of film including docs, fiction and commercial.

*The Gloves* is the second film directed and produced by **Matt Mochary**, CEO of Mochary Films. His first film, *Favela Rising*, which he co-directed with Jeff Zimbalist, was named Best Feature Film at the 2005 International Documentary Association Distinguished Documentary Achievement Awards.

*Linus, 17 minutes*

In this narrative story of homecoming, Linus, now a priest, returns to the old stomping grounds, ostensibly to officiate the funeral of one of the gang, but really for a deeper purpose. His search for his childhood friend is hindered by the very people he asks to help him. Eventually he finds the familiar face, and things are as they were, even if they are somewhat different.

*Linus* Director and Executive Producer **Zac Whinnem** is the Supervising Producer of *GameplayHD*, a 24-hour video game channel. He's produced for CBS, ABC, ESPN, Lifetime, VH-1, and at the NBC Olympics, where he won two Emmys for his work on the 2004 Summer Games in Athens.

*Linus* Writer and Executive Producer **Josh A. Cagan** spent seven years in theater school, and he'll never do that again. He is the story editor of cult animated TV show "Undergrads." Cagan's first feature-length movie "Bandslam," improbably starring Vanessa Hudgens & David Bowie, is scheduled for release in July 2009.

*The Silly Side of Serious, 40 minutes*

Global Awareness Project (GAP), in collaboration with Hart Media, journeys all the way to Ecuador and back home to South Carolina to explore a world of service work and the ideas that motivate those who keep it spinning. Uncovering some of the fun ways we can answer questions about what it means to live in our present day global community, this interview driven film brings out the kid in audiences of all ages. GAP collaborates with seven other non-profit organizations in the United States and South America, along with teachers and volunteers, to produce a promotional story for service related organizations.

<http://www.theglobalawarenessproject.org/>

### Host Organizations

**Global Awareness Project** is a non-profit organization founded in Myrtle Beach, SC, with a mission to create awareness for non-profit organizations through the arts. Through the organization's sponsoring and promoting of local community initiatives all over the world, it builds a global service network: GAP members have traveled to Thailand, Cambodia and South America studying, recording, and sharing ways to create local, grassroots movements that connect the arts with service-orientated groups. GAP collaborates with charitable agencies to offer creative promotional support through grant-funded projects.

[www.theglobalawarenessproject.org](http://www.theglobalawarenessproject.org)

**The Collective** is a New York non-profit production company established in 2007 by recent graduates of the William Esper Studio, including Coastal Carolina alumni Kevin Kane, who came together to create work that builds on their training and the strengths and talents of their colleagues. The organization's mission is to develop and produce original work and to explore stories in an artistically truthful style in the tradition of The Group Theatre. The Collective produces *Collective Mondays*, a weekly workshop which has generated the full-length plays *Finger Noise* and *Gated*; *Guerrilla Theatre*; and *Collective Comedy*, an underground, sold-out stand-up series hosted by Amy Schumer featuring top comics and new material.

[www.thecollective-ny.org](http://www.thecollective-ny.org)

**The Strand Film Festival** launches as a new forum in which to harness the communicative, educational, and entertainment power of visual storytelling to build community. Set in Myrtle Beach, it contributes a grass-roots perspective to the already strong the cultural presence on the east coast. The festival's mission is to serve as a platform for connecting (alternative and mainstream) art with audiences and for discovering and developing new talent, and thereby for increasing the variety of entertainment produced. The festival also will also serve as an eventual meeting of minds for those interested in joining the exploration of how new media can introduce new, cross-market audiences to filmmaking and help sustain independent production.

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