

Oxford Film Festival, Yoknapatawpha Arts Council announce summer film series

Wayne Andrews, new Executive Director for the Arts Council, and Michelle Emanuel, co-director of the Oxford Film Festival, announced this week their organizations will be teaming together for a new summer film series to be held at the Powerhouse.

Along with the movie, concessions from The Main Squeeze Juice Bar will be available. The monthly series will showcase major films before their theatrical release. Ron Shapiro, the operator of legendary Hoka

BY MELANIE ADDINGTON

theatre and a supporter of both arts groups, has agreed to serve as emcee.

"The Film Festival has raised the image of Oxford as a base for film. This film series offers fans the chance to view creative films while showcasing the regions contributions to the art and industry by highlighting writers, directors and actors from the region," said Andrews.

"We hope this will become a tradition. It would be great to

have a venue that consistently shows independent films," added Emanuel.

First up is "War Eagle,

The story was written by Graham Gordy who also just recently penned the upcoming "Love Guru" starring Mike Myers. "War Eagle, Arkansas' is a character-driven drama about a young

man's choice of whether to leave his family and friends for a career in baseball or stay and redeem his struggling community," according to the filmmakers.

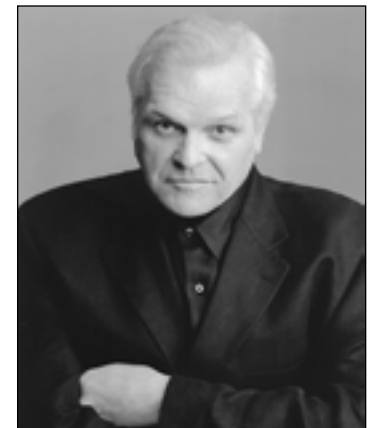
The movie is set in the stunning Ozark Mountains and looks at two childhood friends,

one with cerebral palsy and the other, an intensely talented baseball player with a stutter.

The movie looks at our youth living in rural America and the choices they must face when deciding to leave home

or continue to support their communities.

On July 11 is "We Are Wizards," a documentary on



Brian Dennehy

Harry Potter fandom primarily looking at the wizard rock bands that have sprung up after the books and movies.

The documentary by Josh Koury has been playing at film festivals with its world premiere to a packed house at the SXSW film festival in Austin in March.

Although this is about Harry Potter, there is some language in it, so parents will need to use their discretion. Otherwise, for Potter fans or anyone who's ever had an obsession, you will enjoy this film.

On Aug. 8, the series will wrap with a special treat in Oxford with Ole Miss alum Tate Taylor's film, "Pretty Ugly People" starring Missi Pyle of Boston Legal and Melissa McCarthy of Samantha Who and Gilmore Girls.

All movies will be held at the Powerhouse with the \$5 tickets sold at the door. Concessions will be available from the Main Squeeze Juice bar. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the movie starting at 7.



Arkansas" starring Brian Dennehy on Friday, June 13, at 7 p.m. The movie is an incredible story that is actually based on true life events.

The director of the film, Vincent Insalaco, will be at the screening and will conduct a Q & A afterwards. The film has been on the festival circuit recently and last month won the Reely Award at the Tupelo Film Festival.



We Are Wizards

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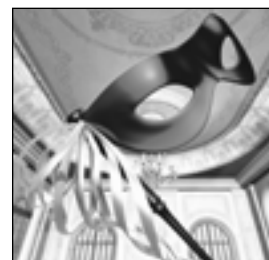
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Como Opera Guild brings its spring production of Menotti's to Oxford

"The Old Maid and the Thief" comes to Oxford on June 5 and 6. The tour is partially funded by a grant from the Oxford Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Oxford performances will take place in the Powerhouse, which has been donated by Yoknapatawpha Arts Council for the production.

The June 5 show will take place at 2 p.m. for



members of the Oxford and Batesville Boys and Girls Clubs. Educational workshops will be held at the clubs before the performances. The performance on June 6 will start at 7 p.m.

This year's spring production is being sponsored by Cellular South, Entergy, WalMart, and Sycamore Arts Council. Tickets are \$15 for adults.

Admission is free to Como Opera Guild members, children and students with ID.

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Sponsored by the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council