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Contact: Penny Niemann
Tel. 352.327.3560
Email: penny@cinemaverde.org

These are the directors that are planning to attend the festival. Listed is the day, date, time and name of film. I have included their email contact, the synopsis from our website, and a Bio.

Film trailers can be found: http://cinemaverde.org/trailers/

We would appreciate any publicity about our festival, these directors or on any of the 40 films from around the world that we are showing. Press passes are available.

We are seeking ambassadors to host visiting directors, assist with transportation and accommodations.
Thank you!!

Elam Stoltzfus, Thurs, 2/11, 5 pm Coastal Dune Lakes: Jewels of Florida’s Emerald Coast (USA)
elam@liveoakproductiongroup.com

Film synopsis
The coastal dune lakes are a unique and rare habitat explored by the film in Florida and New South Wales, Australia. In Florida, the dune lakes are home to many diverse species—some of them endangered, such as the loggerhead sea turtle, the snowy plover, and the Choctawhatchee beach mouse. The film explores what local organizations are doing to ensure this part of Florida’s natural beauty and its endangered wildlife will not be lost.

BIO:
For the past twenty five years Elam has documented diverse aspects of Florida’s natural resources which include estuaries, rivers, swamps, and aquatic preserves. He has spent countless hours filming Florida wildlife, such as: fledgling sea turtles, endangered panthers, delicate roseate spoonbills, fierce alligators, and graceful dolphins. Not only is Elam a gifted cinematographer; as executive producer of several documentaries, he combined his love of nature with his love of art. Elam’s mission is to educate, inform and entertain through storytelling using moving images and modern media.

Adam Pfleghaar, Fri. 2/12, 5 pm In Search of Balance (USA)
adam.pfleghaar@gmail.com

Film synopsis
Humans are literally connected to the rest of the natural world through our DNA. But today’s highly processed foods, pesticide-based monoculture farming, increasing urbanization, obsession with technology, and destruction of the natural environment distance us further and further from the world we co-evolved with. The explosive growth of technology is driving profound changes in every aspect of human civilization. The benefits of our new found electronic interconnectivity are incalculable. But could the tsunami of chronic and autoimmune diseases that modern societies are experiencing be related to our increasing disconnection from nature?
Adam Pfleghaar is the writer, director, and cinematographer of the critically acclaimed documentary, Still I Strive and most recently was the director and cinematographer of In Search of Balance. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from the motion picture program at Wright State University and immediately went on to shoot the documentary, Saving Jackie, which was an official selection at the Sundance and Palm Springs Film Festivals. He assisted two time Academy Award nominated, FX guru Kazuhiro Tsuji, in special effects makeup for the feature films Don’t Mess with the Zohan, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button and Hell Boy 2. Pfleghaar won the 2009 Sponsor's Award at Indie Shorts Fest, The Special Juror Award at West Hollywood International Film Festival, and has premiered at festivals ranging from The International Rights Protection Film Festival in Kiev Ukraine to the 14th and 15th annual Pusan International Film Festival. He worked as production coordinator at the American Film Institute and is currently a director and cinematographer for the Pioneer Cinema Institute.

Jacob Marlin, Fri. 2/12 6:45 pm Wings of Hope (Belize and USA)
jmarlin@bfreebz.org
Film synopsis
Researching rare Eagles of Belize at the Belize Foundation for Research and Environmental Education. www.bfreebz.org/ BFREE is a conservation, research and environmental education organization that operates a field station in the rainforest of Southern Belize. “Wings of Hope,” is a film chronicling the re-discovery of a population of wild Harpy Eagles in the Maya Mountains of southern Belize. It details the history of the Belize Foundation and Research and Environmental Education (BFREE) and UNC Wilmington initiative born from this discovery – the Integrated Community-based Harpy Eagle and Avian Conservation Program. Created by Emmy-award winning filmmakers, Richard and Carol Foster of Wildlife Film Productions, this 20-minute documentary is rich with breath-taking footage of adult and juvenile Harpy eagles and other wildlife and vistas found in the pristine tropical forests of the Bladen Nature Reserve. Over the seven year duration of the project, the Fosters followed local people involved as they transition from trainees to conservationists and as their lives are changed through their efforts to save this rare bird and its diminishing habitat.

BIO:
Raised in Washington, D.C., Jacob Marlin had a passion for the natural world at a young age, with a focus on reptiles and amphibians. In his early twenties, Jacob travelled to Belize to explore the country and its wild places – soon after he co-founded and established BFREE. Jacob is an active advocate for the conservation and protection of the Bladen Nature Reserve and the larger system of National Protected Areas in Belize. Jacob is adjunct assistant professor at University of North Carolina Wilmington. Jacob splits his time between Belize and Gainesville, Florida.

Mariah Wilson, Fri. 2/12, 6:15 pm. Kaziranga (USA)
mariahewithison@gmail.com
Film synopsis
Nestled in India’s northeastern Assam district, Kaziranga National Park contains the world’s highest density of the endangered Asian one-horned rhino. Long plagued by civil unrest, this park is also ground zero for poaching and illegal trade of rhino horn. The film focuses on efforts of journalist Uttam Saikia, who begins to serve as a mediator between the park and local poachers.

BIO:

Rex Jones. Sun. 2/14, Noon, Longleaf: The Heart of Pine (USA)
rajones2@olemiss.edu
Film synopsis
Towering stands of old-growth longleaf pine (pinus palustris) once covered over 90 million acres while stretching from southern Virginia to eastern Texas. Today, the total acreage is about two million, with only about two thousand of that considered old growth. As the South was settled and Northern timber supplies were exhausted, this incredible natural resource was very nearly extirpated from the South’s landscape and collective consciousness. LONGLEAF: THE HEART OF PINE is a cultural and natural history of the South’s ancient primeval forest and how it might still be saved.

BIO: Rex Jones is an award-winning documentary filmmaker who joined the Southern Documentary Project at the University of Mississippi in July 2011. Rex, a Hickory, Mississippi native, is an MFA graduate in Science and Natural History Filmmaking from Montana State University and also holds a BS in Computer Engineering and an MBA from Mississippi State University. His latest feature film, BEAUTIFUL JIM, won the Programmers’ Choice Award at the 2014 Crossroads Film Festival and was an official selection of several film festivals throughout the country. His latest short film, A TIME TO ALL THINGS, won the 2014 Heritage Award in Preservation Education from the Mississippi Heritage Trust. He is the series producer of MISSISSIPPI STORIES, a collection of “visual oral histories” of Mississippians telling their own stories. Rex is currently in production on feature films about the longleaf pine ecosystem and a naturalist’s trek of the Texas / Mexico border. - See more at: http://southdocs.org/staff/#sthash.vWECmQtp.dpuf

Darryl Saffer Sun. 2/14, Noon Florida Field Journal: Not Long Ago (USA)
earthcare@aol.com

Film synopsis
The people of Florida and Sarasota have repeatedly voted to support acquiring and sustaining environmentally sensitive lands. These precious natural resources have not gone unnoticed by those who could profit from them. A battle is ongoing waging private profit against public parks. For more info go to www.parksinperil.net. Directed by Darryl Saffer. The people of Florida and Sarasota have repeatedly voted to support acquiring and sustaining environmentally sensitive lands. These precious natural resources have not gone unnoticed by those who could profit from them. A battle is ongoing waging private profit against public parks. For more info go to www.parksinperil.net.

BIO:
Talents include music, writing, sculpting, photography, and video, but they all come together to express his passion for the environment. Darryl documented a botanical expedition in the cloud forest of Venezuela, produced the CD-ROM "Tales Of Titans—The Amorphophallus titanium in North America" (featured on Apple website) and filmed and produced the music cinemas "Not Long Ago: The Myakka River Basin circa 2000" and "The Everglades: Here Where The River Ran". His documentary "One Man's Vision" featuring the Pelican Man's Bird Sanctuary was screened at the Sarasota Film Festival 2002 "Not Long Ago" and "The Brown Pelican" were selected for The Education Channel's Independent's Film Festival. "One Man's Vision" aired on Sarasota's Education Channel. He moderated the digital cinema forum on at the 2003 Sarasota Film Festival. Later that year, composer Rex Willis enlisted Darryl to create the film "Florida Postcards: Duet for Guitar and Camera." Darryl collaborated with filmmaker Diane Mason on the films "Three Khmer Flowers" (2004 UNIFEM Film Festival), "Condemned" (2005 Sarasota Film Festival) and "The Last Refuge" (2006 UNIFEM Film Festival). His music CDs "Through Our Eyes" and "Seascapes" are available through www.amazon.com and www.CDnow.com as well as downloads from the iTunesStore and others. Darryl earned a Masters degree in music theory and composition from the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University. He is a member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (the Grammy awards).

Naresh Kumar KC, Sun, 2/14, 1:45 pm. Dying Candle (Kathmandu, Nepal)
dyingcandlemovie@gmail.com

Film synopsis
A sister fights all odds to take care of her younger brother, until things fall apart and she is left with no option but sell her dignity to save him.

BIO:
I am from Kathmandu, Nepal but currently living in Los Angeles, CA. I am a screenwriter/director/producer. I finished my undergraduate in film directing and went to New York Film Academy at Los Angeles. Later joined prestigious School of Cinematic Arts, University of Southern California for Maters in Film and Television Production. I have written more than 7 feature screenplays, written/directed and produced 13 short films and recently written and directed a feature film "Dying Candle". I am hoping to tell many more stories in my lifetime and beyond. ARTISTIC STATEMENT: http://dyingcandlemovie.com/forum/