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The LGBTQ Center of Long Beach
Presents...

***The 2015 Long Beach QFilm Festival
Announces Major Features Lineup including West Coast Premieres.
Additional night added. All screenings at the Art Theatre.***

Long Beach, California - The 2015 Long Beach QFilm Festival will take place September 10th-13th at the historic Art Theatre located at 2025 East 4th St. and the neighboring LGBTQ Center of Long Beach, both on Long Beach's renowned "Retro Row." Submissions for this year's fest are now closed but will be accepted beginning in October for the 2016 festival via www.withoutabox.com.

Passes and tickets will be available for purchase beginning August 10th through the QFilms festival page at www.qfilmslongbeach.com.

Long Beach's longest-running film festival since 1993, the QFilm Festival annually presents narrative features, documentaries and short films that embody the rich diversity and experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) communities. More than 1,500 people attend each year to savor a mix of West Coast, Southern California and local premieres as well some of the most acclaimed features on the film festival circuit. Over 200 submissions were received this year by both student and professional filmmakers from around the world. To accommodate the festival's growth, an additional night is being added this year with the official opening on Thursday, September 10th and all screenings will take place at the Art Theatre. Dozens of filmmakers and cast members of the films to be shown will be present for audience discussions after each screening. Festival events will feature numerous parties and opportunities for attendees to meet and mingle with filmmakers, actors, critics and other industry professionals.

The 2015 QFilm Festival will open at the Art Theatre the evening of Thursday, September 10th with the Long Beach premiere of **“Tab Hunter Confidential,”** award-winning director Jeffrey Schwarz’s documentary about the heartthrob movie star who later came out as a gay man. It will be followed by the Southern California premiere of **“Kittens in a Cage,”** a hilarious send-up of women in prison films starring local theatre favorite Gigi Bermingham as the power-hungry matron. An Opening Night party will take place between screenings at the LGBTQ Center of Greater Long Beach, located directly next door to the Art Theatre with the opening night after-party taking place at Hamburger Mary’s on downtown Long Beach’s Pine Avenue.

Two acclaimed features will have their Long Beach premieres the night of Friday, September 11th. **“Liz in September”** stars Patricia Velasquez (“The Mummy” and “The Mummy Returns”) as a woman on a Caribbean vacation with friends who refuses to let her health issues hold her back. Velasquez will be in attendance at the screening. This will be followed by **“Those People,”** an elegant, appropriately New York-set story about a young man struggling with his all-consuming love for his troubled best friend. It recently won the Audience Award for Best First U.S. Dramatic Feature at Outfest. A party will take place between screenings at the Center and an after-party will be held at Hamburger Mary’s.

West Coast premieres selected to screen on Saturday and Sunday (all festival screening times will be finalized in August) are: **“Clambake,”** Andrea Meyerson’s entertaining new documentary about the women who congregate each summer in Provincetown; Robert L. Camina’s chilling **“Upstairs Inferno,”** which details a little-known New Orleans hate crime that endures as the largest gay mass murder in U.S. history; and **“Velociraptor,”** which has nothing to do with dinosaurs but everything to do with two young Mexican men sorting out their feelings for each other as the world comes to an end.

Other narrative and documentary features that will have their Long Beach premieres between Saturday and Sunday are: **“How to Win at Checkers (Every Time),”** a moving exploration of the relationship between two brothers in Thailand that recently won the award for Best Narrative Feature from the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival; **“While You Weren’t Looking,”** a lesbian love story set against South Africa’s complex political and racial backdrop; the uniquely-crafted **“Drown,”** about sexual tensions among a group of Australian lifeguards; **“S&M Sally,”** a wacky, revealing romp through the world of BDSM for both women and men; **“Seed Money: The Chuck Holmes Story,”** which pulls back the curtain on the life of the founder of Falcon Studios, known as “the MGM of gay porn”; and the uproarious comedy **“BFFs,”** in which two longtime female friends on a weekend retreat begin to wonder if there isn’t more to their relationship.

In addition, QFilms signature shorts programs Men in Briefs and Women in Shorts will return on September 13th along with a new all-inclusive mixed-genre program titled All Sorts of Shorts on September 12th. The festival will come to a close the evening of Sunday, September 13th.

Jury awards will be given to worthy films in several categories. All net proceeds from the festival will benefit The LGBTQ Center of Long Beach and its important community outreach programs. We are grateful to those filmmakers and current sponsors who are supporting this effort. Sponsors of the 2015 QFilm Festival include: Underwriter California Institute for Contemporary Arts; Official Airline Sponsor JetBlue Airways; Programming Sponsor Wolfe Media; Interval House; Hyatt Regency Long Beach; Anderson Real Estate Group; Tasteful Cakes; Nick Chavez Beverly Hills; Carrie Rickard, MD; Boardwalk Properties; South Bay LGBT Center; American Institute of Bisexuality; and Buono’s Authentic Pizzeria. Additional sponsors and underwriters are being sought, and program ad space is available. Please contact Porter Gilberg at (562) 434-4455 ext. 245 or at porterg@centerlb.org for information about sponsorship and advertising opportunities. For more information on the Art Theatre, please visit www.arttheatrelongbeach.com.

About The LGBTQ Center of Long Beach

The LGBTQ Center of Long Beach is located at 2017 E. Fourth Street in Long Beach. The Center was officially incorporated in 1980 and has been providing a variety of health, social, advocacy, legal, and service

programs to the LGBTQ community in the Long Beach area for three decades. The Center serves approximately 25,000 clients annually through dozens of programs and services. www.centerlb.org