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Media Contact:
Connell Creations

CHICAGO UNITED FILM FESTIVAL
A UNITED SHOWCASE OF ART AND CREATIVITY
September 18th - September 24th, 2009
Music Box Theatre 3733 N. Southport Ave, Chicago, IL 60613

Chicago, IL - 24 July, 2009 *The Chicago United Film Festival*, bringing art and creativity together to create a united film community, will be held for the first time at the Music Box Theatre September 18th through September 24th. The festival's focus is to bring together talented filmmakers from diverse backgrounds, thus creating a "United" showcase of creative energy and talent. It's a film festival for everyone, a place where art and community converge.

A Tulsa native filmmaker, Jason Connell and his production company **Connell Creations** founded *Tulsa United Film Festival* seven years ago and recently released their first feature-length film *Strictly Background*. This heartfelt and compelling award-winning documentary is based on the trials of 10 movie extras trying to make it big in Hollywood and will have a special screening at this year's Chicago festival. Now living in Hollywood, Connell expanded *The United Film Festivals* to include *Los Angeles & New York* in 2007 and has added *San Francisco, Chicago & London* this year. With this growth, the rich tradition of screening humorous, touching and provocative films will be open to new audiences. This is one film festival you won't want to miss!

Chicago United is proud to present an amazing list of Feature-Length Narratives and Documentaries. Nearly all films will be Chicago Premieres or Special Engagement Screenings and will be preceded by a selection of Award-Winning Short Films.

Our kickoff film, *Like Dandelion Dust*, follows what happens when a couple's idyllic life is shattered when their adopted son's biological parents find a loophole in the adoption papers. Based on the best-selling novel by Karen Kingsbury, starring Mira Sorvino, Barry Pepper, and Cole Hauser, *Like Dandelion Dust* won the Grand Jury Prize at the Las Vegas International Film Festival. Also premiering is *The Shark is Still Working*, a captivating documentary about one of Hollywood's biggest blockbusters of all time, *Jaws*. To gear up for the documentary, come out to our special screening of *Jaws* and see Steven Spielberg's classic on the big screen. Finally, our very exciting closing film is *All's Faire in Love*, a light-hearted romp about two rival Medieval shows vying for supremacy in the world of Renaissance Faires. Starring Christina Ricci, Ann-Margaret, Owen Benjamin, Matthew Lillard, and Cedric the Entertainer. Other films in our lineup include *Rock-afire Explosion*, *Fowl Play: The Untold Story of the Incredible Edible Egg*, *The Providence Effect*, *I Am Hip Hop: The Chicago Hip Hop Documentary*, *Bleacher Boys*, *The Lost Coast*, *Monsters From the Id*, *Complacent*, *Facing the Fat*, *Last Cup: The Road to the World Series of Beer Pong and Etienne!*

The United franchise has gained the attention and support of major sponsors and media outlets including Sony Creative Software, Final Draft, ShowBiz Software, Glidecam, Moviemaker Magazine, Film Musicians Secondary Market Fund, B-Side, Copymat Hollywood, CRE Rentals, Hollywood Green Team, InkTip & Talent6.

"A one-of-a-kind smorgasbord for film aficionados of every stripe. The documentaries here are particularly good." Todd David Schwartz CBS

***All film screenings are \$10, All Access Passes are \$70 & Mini Passes are \$35.*

For more information, please visit the official festival website: www.theunitedfest.com.

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