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For Immediate Release

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**West Michigan's Oscar Night® America Celebrates
Film and Performance at Red Carpet Affair
*Gala Fundraiser on March 7 to Benefit Waterfront Film Festival***

Grand Rapids, Michigan, Feb 2, 2010 – The glamour and thrill of Hollywood returns to West Michigan for the second-coming of the region's only sanctioned Oscar Night® America Party, a fundraiser that celebrates film and performance in benefit of the non-profit Waterfront Film Festival.

Attendees to Oscar Night® America will be able to experience the 82nd Academy Awards on big screens, in an exhilarating and glamorous setting at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts in downtown Grand Rapids, as it happens live in Hollywood. The A-list atmosphere includes entry to red carpet, open bar, specialized food stations, exclusive swag gift bag, live music, invitation to the late night AfterGlow party, and other surprises.

"This is an intimate but extravagant party, and one of the best evenings of the year," said Dana DePree Minter, WFF co-founder and WFF-ONA co-chair. "Our guests dress for the part, our venue is designed accordingly, and the gathering turns out as a perfect local complement to the Oscar presentations at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood."

Nominations for this year's Academy Awards, hosted by Alec Baldwin and Steve Martin, were announced this morning.

Oscar Night® America kicks off, Sunday March 7 at 5:30 p.m., with red carpet walk, paparazzi, champagne welcome, and live music at the UICA, 41 Sheldon Boulevard SE, and the Academy Awards air on ABC affiliate WZZM TV-13 beginning at 8 p.m. The evening's emcee will be, Stephanie Webb, Co-Host/Reporter of WZZM's "Take Five & Co." Honorary co-chairs are WFF co-founder Hopwood DePree and 105.3 HOT FM radio show host Todd Chance.

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Last year's gala was successful in raising more than \$15,000 for the 501(c)3 non-profit, 100% volunteer-run Waterfront Film Festival, held each June in Saugatuck to promote and support independent film. The festival was rated as one of the Top Five Film Festivals in the world by SAGIndie in the Screen Actors Guild Magazine, and was said to be "deservedly becoming a leading film festival," by former MGM Vice President Jay Froberg.

Tickets to Oscar Night America are \$150 per person, or \$1,200 for a table of eight, with \$75 of each ticket purchase eligible for a tax deduction as a donation to a charitable organization. For further ticket information, including purchases, and other Oscar Night details please visit waterfrontfilm.org

About Waterfront Film Festival

Now in its 12th year, the Waterfront Film Festival celebrates independent film and filmmakers in a non-competitive environment. Located in Saugatuck, Mich., WFF is one of the leading destination film festivals in the Midwest, regularly hosting Midwest premieres of Academy Award-winning and nominated documentaries. WFF is committed to education and features seminars designed to encourage the next generation of actors, writers and directors. For more information on the 2010 festival, scheduled for June 10-13, visit www.waterfrontfilm.org.

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