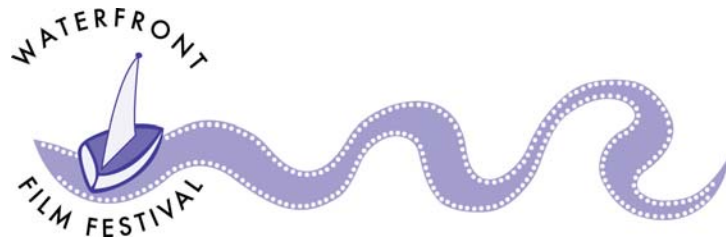


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## **Public invited to meet celebrities and talent scouts at Waterfront Film Festival networking event**

*Tyler Mane of 'X-Men', talent manager Jay Froberg and others to attend*

**South Haven, Michigan, June 7, 2013** – Waterfront Film Festival, June 13-16 in South Haven, Mich., will welcome dozens of filmmakers from around the country, including actors from blockbuster hits and lead talent from popular films and TV shows.

Each year, Waterfront Film Festival screens more than 70 films, drawing thousands of people who appreciate the art of movie making and dozens of established filmmakers who are available to talk about their projects and answer questions about the industry.

A special Networking Event will be held at 2:15 p.m. on Saturday, June 15, at the Black River Tavern, 403 Phoenix Road, in downtown South Haven. The event will provide a chance to meet, ask questions and hear advice from celebrities and industry insiders.

Among this year's special guests are:

- Tyler Mane, an actor who carries undeniable physical prowess and imbues a tangible humanity in every role he plays, including King Ajax in "Troy", Michael Meyers in "Halloween" and "H2", and Sabretooth in "X-Men". He will be in town in support of his soon-to-be released feature "Compound Fracture", in which he plays the lead role of Michael.
- Jay Froberg is the founder of ROAR, a major talent management company based in Beverly Hills, Calif. He and his company represent A-list talent including Chris Hemsworth ("Thor", "The Avengers"), Liam Hemsworth ("The Hunger Games") as well as the Grammy winning Zac Brown Band.
- Farrah West is a casting director and casting associate who has identified and provided talent for many film and TV projects, including ABC's hit "Lost", "The Bill Engvall Show" and Sam Raimi's recent remake of "Evil Dead".

- Garrett Clayton is an actor and Michigan native who was “discovered” in Michigan and now is one of the stars of Disney’s summer 2013 “Teen Beach Movie”. He has received a lot of publicity for being called “the new Zac Efron”.
- Richard Speight Jr. is an actor who has worked on TV in “China Beach”, “Matlock”, “Running the Halls” and “ER”. He gained much recognition for his performance in HBO’s “Band of Brothers” and recently has worked on “The Consultants”, CBS’s “Jericho” and The CW’s “Supernaturals”.
- Ameena Matthews is a professional “Violence Interrupter” who rose to international attention as a central figure in the award-winning 2011 documentary “The Interrupters”, a film that tells the story of three brave individuals who work toward protecting their Chicago communities from the violence they once employed. It examines a year in which Chicago drew national headlines for violence and murder that plagued the city. Ameena has received countless honors including “Chicagoan of the Year” and can be seen in a six page feature article in the July issue of Essence Magazine. She will be in attendance for a Q&A following a screening of “The Interrupters”, sponsored by Zonta Club of Grand Rapids.
- Ron English is a world-renowned “popaganda” artist who has played himself on “The Simpsons” and is known for his signature mash-ups of cultural touchstones, including “Abraham Obama”, the 2008 fusion of America’s 16th and 44th presidents. English continues his support of Waterfront Film Festival with the design for the 15<sup>th</sup> annual festival poster, which he will be available to sign in person during the Opening Night Music and Movie celebration on June 13 at South Beach. South Haven Center for the Arts is hosting an open reception for Ron on Friday, June 14 from 5-7PM (600 Phoenix Road). His film “The Art & Crimes of Ron English” is screening on Saturday, June 15, 2PM.

Many of the films set to screen in South Haven will have producers, actors, directors and writers in attendance and participating in Q&A sessions following each screening. The full schedule of more than 70 films – including documentaries, dramas, comedies and film shorts – is available at [www.waterfrontfilm.org](http://www.waterfrontfilm.org).

For more information on Waterfront Film Festival, including volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, please visit [www.waterfrontfilm.org](http://www.waterfrontfilm.org).

#### **About Waterfront Film Festival**

Now in its 15th year, Waterfront Film Festival celebrates independent film and filmmakers in a non-competitive environment. Located along the Michigan lakeshore, WFF is one of the leading destination film festivals in the Midwest, regularly hosting Midwest premieres of Academy Award-winning and nominated documentaries. Recognized as a top five film festival, WFF is a non-profit event committed to creating a “middle coast” venue for independent filmmakers while further enhancing the cultural draw of West Michigan. For more information on the coming festival June 13-16 in South Haven, Mich., visit [www.waterfrontfilm.org](http://www.waterfrontfilm.org), “like” us on Facebook at [facebook.com/WaterfrontFilm](https://www.facebook.com/WaterfrontFilm) and follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/#!/WaterfrontFilm](https://twitter.com/#!/WaterfrontFilm).