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Waterfront Film Festival Receives \$25,000 in Grants

SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN – The Waterfront Film Festival has recently received three grants totaling nearly \$25,000 for the 2003 festival, to be held this June 12-15 in Saugatuck. “We are so delighted to receive these grants,” said festival co-founder Judy Smith. “Not only will the funds ensure another phenomenal festival, they are also a vote of confidence for our cause.”

“The Waterfront Film Festival gives the public the opportunity to see high-quality independent films that they otherwise would not have the chance to see – plus the chance to meet and mingle with the people who are part of the creative filmmaking process,” she added. This summer will be the festival’s fifth year.

The bulk of the funds (\$22,550) comes from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) in partner with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for the purpose of producing the festival. The mission of the MCACA is to “encourage, develop and facilitate an enriched environment of artistic, creative, cultural activity in Michigan.”

Other grants totaling \$3,000 were awarded by the Saugatuck-Douglas Area Community Fund and the City of Holland Department of Leisure and Cultural Services.

- **Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) in partner with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)**
\$22,550 will be used to produce and present the festival.
- **City of Holland – Department of Leisure and Cultural Services**
\$2,000 in support of the cultural benefits made possible to area residents by the film festival.
- **Saugatuck-Douglas Area Community Fund**
\$1,000 to provide an outdoor screening to the public, free of charge in downtown Saugatuck.

Saugatuck, located midway between Detroit and Chicago, is long renowned as a meeting place for artists, writers, actors, and arts-literate consumers. The quaint village – nestled in the beautiful white sand dunes of Lake Michigan and curled around an inland bay – offers wonderful restaurants, art galleries, shopping, and lodging, all within easy distance of festival venues. For more information, visit the official festival website at www.waterfrontfilm.com.

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FESTIVAL FOUNDERS

Dana DePree • Dori DePree • Hopwood DePree • Kori Eldean • Judy Smith