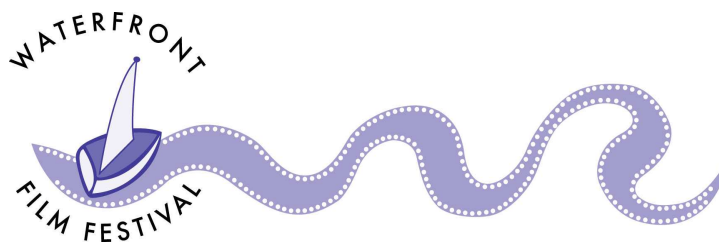


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Christopher Coppola at Waterfront Film Festival for ‘Biker Chef Culinary Experience’ *Special event benefits independent film projects*

Saugatuck, Michigan, May 10, 2012 – Writer, director and producer Christopher Coppola, known to many as the “Biker Chef”, will be hosting an intimate culinary experience during the 14th Annual Waterfront Film Festival June 14-17 in Saugatuck, Mich.

The Biker Chef Culinary Experience is a fund raiser for Waterfront Film Festival and Project Accessible Hollywood, Coppola’s worldwide effort to expand expression through filmmaking.

Exclusive access tickets are \$35, and seating is limited to 100 attendees. The event will be 2 p.m. Sunday June 17 at White House Bistro. Coppola will do a cooking demonstration, share culinary samples paired with wines from Coppola Winery, sign autographs and share his insights to the Coppola family history. Tickets are available at waterfrontfilm.org. Advance purchase is required.

Coppola’s TV pilot “Biker Chef” will screen at the event, with the filmmaker and “Biker Cat” in attendance. Coppola and his goggle-clad black feline will be in town for the week of the festival and are likely to be seen cruising Water Street on a motorcycle provided by DV8 Cycles.

“Cooking is the greatest act of love that you can do for your fellow human being, and I look forward to sharing that with the people of Saugatuck,” said Coppola, nephew to legendary director Francis Ford Coppola and brother to actor Nicholas Cage.

Waterfront Film Festival has been named in Screen Actors Guild magazine by SAGIndie as one of the top five film festivals in the world, alongside Sundance and Cannes. Waterfront Film Festival has premiered a long list of award-winning films in unique venues throughout Saugatuck’s friendly and walkable resort setting. Thousands of independent film lovers, including dozens of actors, directors, writers and producers, make the annual pilgrimage to the lakeshore for the more than 70 feature films, documentaries and shorts that have been meticulously selected for screening.

The Opening Night Party with headliner Beverly McClellan of “The Voice” kicks off at 6 p.m. Thursday at Coghlin Park, near the intersection of Culver and Griffith streets in Saugatuck. Advance tickets are \$10, and all proceeds go to benefit Waterfront Film Festival. Other musical acts include Valentiger and Garrett Borns. Renowned artist Ron English will be on hand to sign posters.

For exclusive access to film and music throughout the weekend, the Patron Pass can be purchased for \$500. It provides entry to Thursday’s Opening Night Party, Special Engagement screenings, select VIP mixers and first entry for all films. Each Patron Pass also allows for a tax deduction of \$200.

The *FastPass* is \$300 and entitles the holder to first entry to all films, as well as admission to the Opening Night Party, Special Engagement screenings and exclusive entry to two VIP mixers. The Super Pass for \$200 allows the holder priority entry to all general-programmed films and admission to the Opening Night Party.

Day passes, \$70 for either Friday or Sunday, and \$75 for Saturday, also are available. Individual film tickets for \$10 will go on sale in late May when the full lineup of films is announced.

Purchases of passes can be made at waterfrontfilm.org, and beginning Memorial Day weekend passes and tickets will be available at the Waterfront Film Festival Summer Box Office in the Chemical Bank Building at 249 Mason Street in Saugatuck.

About Waterfront Film Festival

Now in its 14th year, 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. Recognized as a top five film festival, WFF is a volunteer-run, non-profit event committed to creating a “middle coast” venue for independent filmmakers while further enhancing the artistic draw of West Michigan. For more information on the 2012 festival, June 14-17, visit www.waterfrontfilm.org.

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