Waterfront announces lineup of premieres, award winners, audience favorites

Tickets on sale at waterfrontfilm.org

South Haven, Michigan, June 4, 2013 – Among the 70 films set to screen at Waterfront Film Festival, June 13-16, is the Midwest Premiere of “Blood Brother”, the acclaimed film that won both the 2013 Sundance Grand Jury Prize as well as the Sundance Audience Award for being the favorite film. “A River Changes Course” also will have a Midwest Premiere at Waterfront, and is known for winning the 2013 Sundance Grand Jury Prize.

Last year’s Sundance Grand Jury Prize winner was “Beasts of the Southern Wild”, a film that went on to receive four Academy Award nominations. Waterfront Film Festival has a tradition of showcasing films to the Midwest that go on to great success, including “Man On Wire”, “March of the Penguins”, “Queen of Versailles”, and “Napolean Dynamite”, to name a few.

“We are thrilled to be able to offer this year’s diverse and impressive lineup of films. As always, our programmers strive to offer something for everybody,” Waterfront Film Festival Co-founder Hopwood DePree said. Below are short descriptions of just a few films showing at the 2013 festival.

• “Syrup”, based on the best-selling book of the same title, is an edgy comedy that details the cut-throat world of advertising through the eyes of a young prodigy chasing fame, fortune, and the woman of his dreams. Starring Amber Heard, Brittany Snow and Kellan Lutz.

• “Between Us” is a dark comedic drama about two couples reuniting over the course of two incendiary evenings where anything can happen. Grace and Carlo are a newly married New York couple who visit their old friends Sharyl and Joel in their huge Midwestern home, collectively navigating rocky relationships, parenthood and financial woes. Starring Julia Stiles and Taye Diggs.
• “Blood Brother” is an intimate portrait of Rocky Braat, a young man whose desire to find a family would lead him to a hostel in India, a place of unspeakable hardship where he would find almost more love and need than he could bear. (2013 Sundance Grand Jury Prize & Audience Award winner)

• In “A River Changes Course”, director Kalyanee Mam offers a breathtaking and unprecedented journey through Cambodia, spending two years with three young people attempting to overcome the challenges of deforestation, overfishing and overwhelming debt. (2013 Sundance Grand Jury Prize for World Cinema)

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 – are available at www.waterfrontfilm.org.

Accompanying the release of the 2013 film schedule will be information on Waterfront Film Festival’s music events, filmmaker and actor panels and social mixers.

For more information on Waterfront Film Festival, including volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, please visit 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, “like” us on Facebook at facebook.com/WaterfrontFilm and follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/#!/WaterfrontFilm.