

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
ANNOUNCES THIRD COAST FILM AND MEDIA
FESTIVAL**



Kalamazoo, MI - The School of Communication at Western Michigan University will host the first annual Third Coast Film and Media Festival on Thursday, April 23, 2009, from 5:00 to 8:30 pm in the Marguerite Clifford Auditorium, 1025 Brown Hall. The event is free and open to the public. (Some material does involve adult themes.)

The Third Coast Festival will feature digital and 16mm films as well as audio and broadcast journalism projects and 3D digital animation. Film, Video, and Media Studies faculty members have selected submissions that represent the most innovative student work. "This festival gives us a great venue to premiere and showcase our students' projects," says Dr. Jennifer Machiorlatti, who is the faculty advisor for the event. "We will continue to build on it from year to year, soliciting entries from outside of WMU."

The festival is the brainchild of graduating Film, Video, and Media Studies major Katharine Densmore, who was looking for a way to enhance the regional profile of WMU's media program. Other students in the School of Communication appreciate Densmore's idea. "I think it's great that students now have an outlet to show their work. The festival will motivate students to produce the highest quality projects, because they know that they will have the opportunity to present them to the community," says Mallory Yockey, another graduating senior.

This year, the work shown at the festival includes projects from the following classes -- Kevin Abbott's 3-D Modeling and Animation, Dr. Heather Addison's Film Production, Dr. Machiorlatti's Digital Video Production, Dr. Rebekah Farrugia's Audio Production, and Jan Kruse's Advanced Broadcast Journalism. There are also several submissions from the Fall 2008 semester.

The schedule for the event will run as follows (all times are approximate):

5:00 pm: 3-D Modeling and Animation
5:35 pm: Basic Film Production
6:10 pm: Intro to Digital Video Production
6:45 pm: Audio Production
7:20 pm: Advanced Broadcast Journalism
7:55 pm: Media Projects from Fall 2008

For more information, please contact:

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