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Gary Sinise Among Special Guests to Attend 2010 Heartland Film Festival

Stars and special guests to travel to the Circle City to support the films of the 19th annual film festival

INDIANAPOLIS (Oct. 13, 2010) - This week and next Indianapolis will welcome stars, special guests and filmmakers as they travel to the Hoosier state to support the films that will screen as part of this year's Heartland Film Festival, Oct. 14-23.

Among those scheduled to attend is actor Gary Sinise (*Forrest Gump*, *Apollo 13*, *Truman*), who will be at the Friday, Oct. 15 screenings at AMC Castleton Square in support of the Award-winning documentary feature, *Lt. Dan Band: For the Common Good*. The film chronicles the journey of Sinise and his Lt. Dan Band (aptly named so after Sinise's character in *Forrest Gump*) to countries around the world as they entertain and honor America's military, first-responders and their families. *Lt. Dan Band: For the Common Good* will screen at 7:15 p.m. Friday evening and will be followed by a question and answer session with Sinise, as well as the film's producer/director, Jonathan Flora, and the film's producer, Deborah Flora.

Other stars and special guests scheduled to attend on behalf of Heartland Film Festival Award-winning films include:

Madeline Carroll (*Flipped*) in support of the dramatic feature *Café*, Alex Etel (*The Water Horse*, *Millions*) in support of the dramatic feature *Ways to Live Forever*, Don Most (*Happy Days*) in support of the dramatic feature *The Yankles*, Sabrina Quinn in support of the dramatic feature *Bilal's Stand*, Amy Hollingsworth (author of "The Simple Faith of Mister Rogers") in support of the documentary feature *Mister Rogers & Me*, Genevieve Hughes Houghton in support of the documentary feature *Freedom Riders* and Gaila Mitchell in support of the documentary feature *Thunder Soul*. These stars, special guests and the filmmakers of this year's 17 Heartland Film Festival Award-winning films will join Sinise at the Friday, Oct. 15 screenings at AMC Castleton Square where all Award-winning films will be screened. Visit HeartlandFilmFestival.org for screening times and additional screening dates.

Indiana's own Catt Sadler (*E! Entertainment Television*) will emcee this year's Heartland Film Festival Awards Ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 16 at the Old National Centre in downtown Indianapolis, where awards and \$150,000 in cash prizes will be handed out. Award presenters include Quinton Aaron (*The Blind Side*), who will present this year's Pioneering Spirit Award to Andrew Kosove and Broderick Johnson, the co-founders and co-CEOs of Alcon Entertainment and producers of *The Blind Side*. Corbin Bernsen (*LA Law, General Hospital*), who appears in the Heartland Film Festival Official Selection dramatic feature *Rust*, will also present awards. Tickets for the black-tie optional event, which includes the Awards Ceremony and Afterglow Party, are available through Heartland's website and ticket line for \$40 at HeartlandFilmFestival.org or by calling 1.866.HFF.1010.

Stars and filmmakers of the three special event films will also come to the Circle City to promote their films. Actors Bobby Coleman (*Martian Child, The Last Song, Must Love Dogs*) and Beverly Mitchell (*7th Heaven, Saw II*) and producer John Shepherd (*Bella, The Ultimate Gift*) will attend the Opening Night Event on Thursday, Oct. 14 at the Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA) in support of their film, *Snowmen*. Actors Alexandra Allen and Sydney Isitt-Ager, as well as director/writer Debbie Isitt (*Confetti*) and Producer Nick Jones (*Confetti*) will be present at the Family Movie Event, *Nativity!*, on Sunday, Oct. 17 at the IMA. Director/writer Tom Provost will help bring the 19th annual Heartland Film Festival to a close during the Closing Night Event's film, *The Presence*, which will also screening at the IMA. Tickets for all special events are available through Heartland's website and ticket line. Prices vary by event.

Other special guests scheduled to attend on behalf of Heartland Film Festival Official Selection films include:

Googy Gress (*He's Just Not That Into You, Frost/Nixon, The American President*) in support of *Ashley's Ashes*; Mara Connor, Andy Hirsch (*Big Love, Beverly Hills 90210*), Joel Marshall (*Sideliners, A Single Woman*) and Kathy Sullivan in support of *Fort McCoy*; Don Hahn (producer/director of *Waking Sleeping Beauty*, producer of *Beauty and the Beast, The Lion King*) in support of *Hand Held*; Heather Del Rio, Dane Seth Hurlburt and Oliver Luke in support of *Paradise Recovered*; and Alice Ziolski in support of *Summer Eleven*.

The complete 2010 Heartland Film Festival lineup and additional Festival information can be found online at HeartlandFilmFestival.org. Regular screening tickets are available for purchase online through the Festival's website, toll-free ticket line at 1.866.HFF.1010, or at the theaters during the Festival. Single tickets are \$7 each when purchased in advance online or through the ticket line. Tickets purchased at the theaters are \$8 each. In addition, Festival 10-Packs, consisting of 10 ticket vouchers that are redeemable at the theaters, are available in advance for \$60 at select Indianapolis-area Marsh Supermarkets.

Visit HeartlandFilmFestival.org for complete ticketing information, the list of participating Marsh Supermarkets and applicable service fees.

Heartland Truly Moving Pictures™, a national, independent, non-profit arts organization, was established in 1991 to recognize and honor filmmakers whose work explores the human journey by artistically expressing hope and respect for the positive values of life. Its flagship event, the Heartland Film Festival®, launched in 1991 and runs each October in Indianapolis, screening independent films from around the world. Each year, the Festival awards \$150,000 in cash prizes and presents its Crystal Heart Awards to the top-judged submissions. Heartland has awarded more than \$2.2 million to support filmmakers during the last 18 years. The organization's Truly Moving Picture Award was created to honor films released theatrically that align with Heartland's mission. By bestowing a watermark to honored films, the award allows studios and distributors to inform audiences of a film's uplifting message and appeal. Heartland is also dedicated to its relationship with the National Collaboration for Youth and its expanding F.I.L.M., "Finding Inspiration in Literature & Movies," Project. For more information, visit TrulyMovingPictures.org.

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