

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RENOWNED TV & FILM PIONEER ROBERT TOWNSEND & TV ONE KICK OFF FESTIVAL

September 17, 2009

(Nashville, TN) The **International Black Film Festival of Nashville, (IBFFN)** welcomes a pioneer in the independent film industry, renowned television executive, actor and producer **Robert Townsend**. Townsend's documentary *"Why We Laugh: Black Comedians on Black Comedy"*, a 2009 Sundance Film festival favorite, provides a sweeping account of the cultural influence and evolution of black comedy in America from comedic greats such as Bill Cosby, Chris Rock, Whoopi Goldberg, Richard Pryor, Dave Chappelle, Eddie Murphy and much, much more. The film will make its "southern" debut at the **Opening Night film on September 30, 2009 at the Regal Cinema Opry Mills 20 & IMAX**. With more than 30 years of varied experience in the entertainment industry, Townsend, will be present for the screening followed by a talk back with the audience. Townsend, a multi-talented visionary and trail blazer, is best known for his groundbreaking projects in film and television such as *"Hollywood Shuffle"*, *"The Five Heartbeats"*, *"Partners in Crime"*, *"The Parenthood"*, *"Little Richard"*, *"Holiday Heart"*, *"Livin' for Love: The Natalie Cole Story"*, *Carmen: A Hip Hopera* for MTV Films starring Beyonce Knowles and the popular television series *"Soul Food"*.

Immediately following the Opening Night Film, IBFFN presents their Official Opening Night Gala with groundbreaking cable and satellite television network **TV One**. A new episode of *"Life After" in HD will be premiered at the Opening Gala with a* celebrity appearance from **Omarosa** from *Apprentice*. *"Life After"* gives you the stories of the likes of **Christopher "Kid" Reid, Bell Biv DeVoe, Eva Marcille, Al Reynolds, Jamiee Foxworth, Taimak, Daryl "Chill" Mitchell and Omarosa**, from their own mouths and they're not holding anything back. Filled with jaw-dropping confessions and shocking twists, *"Life After"* investigates what happened to them after a major turning point in their careers.

For a complete list of screenings, workshops, and networking opportunities log onto www.ibffnashville.com.

IBFFN officially commences on Wednesday, September 30th and ends on Sunday, October 4th. The new festival host site is the breathtaking Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center and Regal Cinema Opry Mills 20 & IMAX. IBFFN has served many inspiring filmmakers by providing them with a venue to showcase their work and access to industry executives that help take their projects to the next level. With an estimated 2000 participants in

international 
black film festival
of nashville

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*September 30-October 4

www.ibffnashville.com

2008, the festival's is gaining tremendous momentum and exposure as Nashville becomes the springboard for ideas, execution, showcase and distribution.

The festival is made possible in part with by our valued sponsors; Delta Airlines, The Film House, The Documentary Channel, HCA, The Cultural Services of the French Embassy, One Village Entertainment, the Africa Channel, The Tennessee Arts Commission, The TN Film, Entertainment and Music Commission and The Screen Actors Guild. IBFFN would like to welcome their growing list of new sponsors, Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center and Regal Cinema Opry Mills 20 & IMAX, Comcast, TV One, Broadway Video, B-Side, the Tennessee Arts Commission and the Nashville Black Chamber of Commerce. With the support of our corporate partners, the community and its leadership the International Black Film Festival of Nashville is on course to becoming one of the top festivals in the country.

Over the next few weeks please expect updates, highlights and exciting announcements. If you would like to setup an interview, obtain media credentials, and/or request information in regards to the bios, photos, and film synopsis, please contact Jessica Johnson at (615) 417-8306 or via email at Jessica@ibffnashville.com or Sherlene Shanklin at (502) 295-0435 or via e-mail at sshanklin@vipcommunications.com.

For up to the minute updates and information about the International Film Festival of Nashville log onto: www.ibffnashville.com.

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MEDIA CREDENTIAL APPLICATION

2009 International Black Film Festival of Nashville

September 20 – October 4, 2009

Thank you for your interest in covering the 2009 International Black Film Festival of Nashville.
Media credentials are limited; if you are interested in covering the Festival please submit an application as soon as possible.

Please complete one application per person including photographers

The following documents are required with your completed application:

- A letter, on company letterhead, from your editor/producer assigning you to cover the International Black Film Festival of Nashville. Please include a brief description of the aspects of the Festival that you plan to cover.
- A recent copy of the publication or program you represent. Please include circulation information.
- If you have covered IBFFN in the past, please include a copy of past coverage.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City, State/Country, Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (Office) _____ (Home) _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Dates Attending: _____

PUBLICATION/OUTLET INFORMATION

Primary Publication/Outlet: _____

Editorial Focus: _____

Media Type (print, online, broadcast, etc.): _____

Frequency (daily, weekly, monthly, etc.): _____ Circulation: _____

Editor/Producer: _____

Telephone: _____

Address (if different than above): _____

Additional Publication/Outlet: _____

Circulation: _____

Additional Publication/Outlet: _____

Circulation: _____

SPECIAL INTERESTS

Please select any categories on which you would like to receive specific information:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awards Luncheon | <input type="checkbox"/> Short Films | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing for Television |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kid's Day Young
Filmmakers Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Films | <input type="checkbox"/> Screenwriters
Workshops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Film & Food Party | <input type="checkbox"/> Student Films | <input type="checkbox"/> Stage Plays |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Film Premieres and Red
Carpet Events | <input type="checkbox"/> International Films | <input type="checkbox"/> Founder's Breakfast |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Music in Film | <input type="checkbox"/> Celebrity Interviews |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Screenplays | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

TYPE OF COVERAGE

Briefly Describe Focus of Stories and Length of Coverage

AS A CONDITION OF RECEIVING MEDIA CREDENTIALS TO THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL BLACK FILM FESTIVAL OF NASHVILLE, I AGREE TO SEND TEAR SHEETS OR A COPY OF MY COVERAGE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING THE FESTIVAL. Mail copies of coverage to International Black Film Festival of Nashville; Attn. Jessica L. Johnson; 810 Dominican Ave Nashville, TN 37228.

BY SUBMITTING THIS SIGNED APPLICATION FORM I AGREE TO NOT RECORD ANY FILMS, PANELS OR Q&As DURING THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL BLACK FILM FESTIVAL OF NASHVILLE. NO RECORDING DEVICES OF ANY KIND ARE PERMITTED IN THE THEATERS OR IN THE PANELS. IF YOU NEED TO SEND YOU REQUEST VIA EMAIL. SEND IT TO: Sherlene@ibffnashville.com BY SENDING THIS FORM BACK TO HER YOU UNDERSTAND AND WILL FOLLOW OUR REQUEST.
PLEASE BRING A SIGNED COPY WITH YOU WHEN YOU PICK UP THE CREDENTIALS.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

MEDIA CREDENTIALS ARE LIMITED. APPLICATIONS ARE REVIEWED WHEN RECEIVED, SO PLEASE SUBMIT AN APPLICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE FINAL DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING MEDIA PASS APPLICATIONS IS SEPTEMBER 21, 2009.

PLEASE SEND YOUR APPLICATIONS TO:

International Black Film Festival of Nashville; Attn. Jessica L. Johnson 810 Dominican Avenue; Nashville, TN 37228

Jessica@ibffnashville.com; www.ibffnashville.com/ (615) 417-8306 or Sherlene Shanklin at [sherlene@ibffnashville.com/](mailto:sherlene@ibffnashville.com) (502) 295-0435.

YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED OF YOUR CREDENTIAL STATUS WITHIN ONE WEEK OF RECEIPT OF YOUR APPLICATION AND NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 25, 2009.