

THE SIGNPOST

Weber State University · Ogden, Utah · (801) 626-7121



Argh! That's Not Green

8Th Annual GANGRENE Film Festival

Brian Ence

Issue date: 9/7/07

If students want good entertainment close to home, then look no further than the "GANGRENE FILM FESTIVAL" in Layton this Friday.

Film entries have come from as close as Ogden and as far away as Canada, New York and Los Angeles. This is the eighth year the festival has been produced in Northern Utah. Each year is given a comic theme. Following the pirate trend of recent months, the festival's theme this year is PIECES OF 8. The name specifically stems from the eight short films that will be shown at each session of the festival. Pre-show entertainment will feature the pirate musical stylings of Rustmonster at 8:30 p.m.

A pirate theme for the festival has been highly anticipated.

"We love pirates," said festival founder, Larry Nybo. Nybo highly recommends sharing his pirate enthusiasm and arriving early for the pre-movie entertainment.

The first general session of festival showings begins at 9:00 p.m. The films shown at the first session are appropriate for all, containing nothing rougher than light comic violence. The comedy and content might earn a G or PG rating by the Motion Picture Association, but have not yet been rated. But don't be fooled. This festival and films are not generally intended for children.

The late session of the festival begins at 11:00 p.m. Heavier comedic violence may appear in the films, and some light profanity, but otherwise these films might also be considered conservative, except in their potential to entertain. The "late session" films in mainstream media would generally earn a "PG" or "PG-13" rating.

Nate Peck, stand up comedian, will host this years festival. There are also surprise elements patrons might be treated to throughout the evening's events.

"We want people to be entertained in a show-like fashion," Nybo said, speaking about all the entertainment that takes place in addition to the films. Some of the films that are scheduled to appear at the festival include "25 Ways to be Happy" - directed by Patrick Murphy, "Perfect Gentleman" - directed by the Fackrell brothers, "Super-Anon" - directed by Stephen Plitt, and much more.

Since its humble beginnings in 1999, the festival has made huge progress, garnering national sponsorship this year with Comcast.

"We're looking forward to our festival receiving more exposure," said film art director, Mike Terrell. "We have huge props, and it's only going to get bigger from here."

The festival anticipates at least 500 people, which really is a major jump from the audience of 50 people they had in their first year. To accommodate the size of this year's audience, it is being shown at the Ed Kenley Amphitheater, an outdoor amphitheater in Layton. The venue has seating for 550, plus a grass field where viewers may set up blankets or lawn chairs. While the pirates, comedians, and films may keep bellies warm from laughing, a jacket in the outdoor venue is probably a good idea.

For ticket purchases, the "general audience session" and "late session" are both \$7, but if you purchase both tickets simultaneously the price is \$10, which saves you \$4. Tickets can be purchased at the festival, or online at www.gangreneproductions.com or contact Craig Nybo at 801-544-8989.