

THE BLACKHOUSE FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

BLACKHOUSE FOUNDATION RETURNS TO THE 2008 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

Park City, Utah January 10, 2008 - Returning for its second year after last year's tremendous success and acclaim, The BLACKHOUSE Foundation (BHF) is breaking down barriers and shining a spotlight on diversity at this year's 2008 Sundance Film Festival. A haven for filmmakers of color during the festival, The BLACKHOUSE is a high-profile venue geared towards dynamic industry networking, rigorous support, unparalleled education, and celebration for filmmakers of African descent and their audiences.

BLACKHOUSE will be presenting a number of groundbreaking workshops, and events specifically celebrating Black film as well as free daily cocktail networking receptions over the course of the festival. The BLACKHOUSE programming will include workshops focusing on topics as diverse as a look at the next generation of Black Hollywood to a discussion of new distribution opportunities for Black filmmakers to ways to make an independent film a breakout hit. BLACKHOUSE will also feature one-on-one conversations with Sundance filmmakers and industry executives.

This year, BLACKHOUSE will look to emphasize the increasing visibility and commercial success of films by, for and about African Americans.

Foundation Board president Brickson Diamond stated that "the recent opening box office record of 'I Am Legend' as well as the success of films like "This Christmas," "Why Did I Get Married?" and "The Great Debaters" show that African-American stories are receiving greater critical acclaim and experiencing greater commercial success both here and abroad."

Board member Pauline Fischer adds, "Black films have proven they can open strong, play long and receive critical recognition. We just need to get more of these films made and tell our stories on a global platform."

The BLACKHOUSE hopes to be a conduit of change so that improvement continues steadily both behind the scenes and in the images created for mass consumption.

This year, The BLACKHOUSE will be located at Zona Rosa, 501 Main Street, Park City, Utah. The hours of operation are 12pm - 7pm. Workshop discussions will take place between 2pm - 5pm.

Please visit www.theblackhouse.org and www.myspace.com/theblackhouse for more details, current schedules and to register in advance.

BHF is proud to be an Institute Associate of the 2008 Sundance Film Festival and is pleased to welcome the support of The Gill Foundation, HBO, BET and CAA as well as Stella Artois, and 360 Vodka as sponsors.

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