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Governor's Council on Film and Media Industries Announces Town Hall Meeting in Las Cruces

SANTA FE – The Governor's Council on Film and Media Industries will host a town hall meeting to gather input on the future of the state's burgeoning film and media industries. The event is free and open to the public and will be held from 1:00 to 4:30 PM Thursday, October 8th at the *Alma d' arte* Charter High School in Las Cruces.

“This is an opportunity for the Council to get direct input from the public so that we can help update Governor Richardson's plan of action.” said Chairman Michael Kaye.

The event is being held in association with the High Tech Consortium of Southern New Mexico. The schedule includes a listening session, three break-out strategy sessions and a final wrap-up session.

Participants registering online will have an opportunity to help identify breakout sessions from a list including Opportunities in Film; Opportunities in Games, Modeling and Simulation; Building Connections between South and North; Building effective Groups and Organizations; and Developing Education Strategies – or they may suggest their own.

Pre-registration is suggested, as space is limited. To pre-register, visit www.altmedianm.org. Those who cannot attend are encouraged to submit their comments at the online form as well.

Event schedule is as follows:

12:00 – 1:00 PM On-site check-in and registration

1:00 – 2:30 PM Council Introduction and Listening Session

2:45 – 4:00 PM Break-out Sessions (Topics to be determined)

4:15 – 5:00 PM Wrap-up Session

5:30 – 7:00 PM Following the Town Hall, IATSE 480 will host a post-event networking reception. Location: Meson de Mesilla, 1803 Avenida de Mesilla. Phone number: 575-525-9212; web: www.mesondemesilla.com

The *Alma d' arte* Charter High School is located at 402 W. Court Avenue (downtown Las Cruces in the historic Alameda Neighborhood District between Alameda and Court Avenue), in Las Cruces. For more information on the Town Hall event, please contact Governor's Council on Film and Media Industries Executive Director, Rochelle Bussey at rochelle@nmfilm.com or call 505-476-5604

The Governor's Council on Film and Media Industries was created in 2003. Its mission is to explore new methods to nurture filmmaking, digital and interactive media in New Mexico; serves as an advisory resource for the Governor and the New Mexico State Film Office; provides a network of working professionals to assist emerging filmmakers and interactive media artists; and acts as ambassadors to promote a positive image of film and the economic and cultural contributions of filmmaking and digital media in New Mexico.

The High Tech Consortium of Southern New Mexico provides leadership that fosters the retention and growth of technology in Southern New Mexico. A 501C (3) non profit formed in 2003, the Consortium has established itself as an active force in advancing the vision of making Southern New Mexico a regional technology leader and a national **center for technical excellence.**

The *Alma d' arte* Charter High School at the Court Youth Center is a pioneering arts-based secondary school serving a diversity of learners through a rigorous academic and integrated arts program. It opened in 2004. Directions can also be found on their website: www.almadarte.org.

Also, don't miss the free Las Cruces informational session about New Mexico Filmmakers Program and how to prepare a New Visions 2009 application with Program Director, Trish Lopez:

Wednesday, October 7th – 7:00pm | Las Cruces: CMI Theatre in Milton Hall on NMSU Campus

Space is limited, so please call (505) 476-5600 to reserve a seat or for additional information. Applications can be printed online at

www.nmfilm.com or picked up in person at the NM Film Office at 418 Montezuma Avenue, Santa Fe, NM. Deadline for applications is October 16, 2009.

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