

BIFF offers film lovers new role for selections

Posted: Tuesday, September 24, 2013 4:00 pm

The Beloit International Film Festival is continuing its program known as “BIFF Year-Round” at Bushel & Peck’s in downtown Beloit.

Each week from Sept. 25 through Feb. 12 film fans can enjoy “Choose-Your-Own-Festival Wednesdays,” a twist on the early summer format which focused on BIFFY award winners from past festivals. The BIFF selection committee has sifted through more than 500 films since March and, with the submission deadline just around the corner, must decide which films will get into the festival and which accepted films will be getting the most play during the festival. This year BIFF is asking its fan base to assist in making some of these decisions.

Comment cards will be handed out at each event. Cards will be collected and ratings will be added to the selection committee’s database, giving each filmgoer a voice in the selection process. “You be the judge,” Executive Director Rod Beaudoin said.

The events will take place at Bushel & Peck’s, 328 State St., every Wednesday through Feb. 12. The program runs from 6-8 p.m. and costs \$5 for adults, \$2 for students, with Film Society of Beloit members admitted at no charge.

Upcoming films in September and October include: • Sept. 25 — “Buddies” (link to trailer: http://www.gatacine.com/?lang=en&p=2745 &cat_pai=37). It’s a road movie that shows the simple things in life in a poetic light through the eyes of three young people with Down syndrome.

• Oct. 2 — “Putzel” (http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x10o953_movie-trailers-putzel-exclusive-red-band-trailer_fun). For some, life is an adventure filled with opportunities to excel and places to explore. For Walter Himmelstein, a young man, endearingly known as Putzel, life literally doesn’t go beyond his family’s fish store and his community on the upper west side of Manhattan. • Oct. 9 — “Dead (expletive) Last” (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-IycaSH9RCc>).

The former rebel Tom and his friends are getting ready to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their co-operative bicycle courier business, when female competitors put a wrench in their spokes, taking away a good portion of their business.

• Oct. 16 — “The Golden Scallop” (<http://vimeo.com/48929240>). Every year since 1969 the best three fried fish restaurants in the northeast have competed in the Golden Scallop Championship. The 43rd annual pits a food truck seeking redemption, an aging former champion and a well financed, novelty friendly fish house against each other in the truest test of short order cooking mettle. • Oct. 23 — “Lost in Living” (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jj2Cew7na8>).

Motherhood is an endurance test that never ends. A marathon with no finish line. Behind this domestic curtain, the creative impulse can flourish or languish.

- Oct. 30 — “The Institute” (<http://vimeo.com/54624935>). The Institute is a feature-length documentary that examines a San Francisco-based Alternate Reality Game, where thousands of participants got more than they bargained for. Told from the players’ perspectives, the film looks over the precipice at an emergent new art form where the real world and fiction narratives merge to create unforeseen and often unsettling consequences. The Beloit International Film Festival is sponsored by the Hendricks Group in association with Beloit College and with funding from Visit Beloit.