

10TH ANNUAL
FARGO
Film Festival

MARCH 2-6, 2010



FARGO THEATRE
ON & OFF BROADWAY



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*Accept What Can't Be
Changed, Change What
Can Be & Know the Difference*
by local artist Jessica Wachter

Welcome to the 10th Annual Fargo Film Festival

On the eve of the 10th Annual Fargo Film Festival, I am literally assaulted with a kaleidoscope of images from past festivals. The frames flickering through my memory banks are as compelling and evocative as an unexpected encounter with a Northern Lights display in the vast North Dakota night sky. Images that include melting glass, huge balls of twine, Antarctic explorers, one-legged dancers and fighting cholitas. Scenes that are set in drug stores, kitchens, "chaplets," elevators, subway systems, Hollywood mansions and cottages at the shore.

And then there are the hundreds of faces of the very real and extraordinarily dedicated people who have shared this journey with me. Of all of these volunteers, few have made more of a contribution than our 2010 Ted M. Larson Award recipient, Tony McRae. My congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Tony and to all of you who have enriched the Fargo Film Festival with your creative energy and enthusiasm.

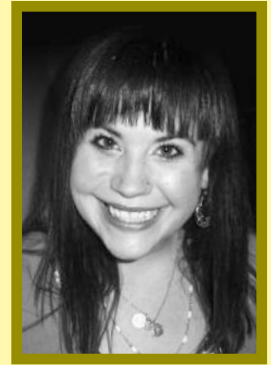
A welcome back to my old friend, Rob Nilsson and a festival "high five" to all our new filmmakers! *Let the movies begin!*

Margie Bailly


EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • HISTORIC FARGO THEATRE



Margie Bailly
FARGO THEATRE
Executive Director



Emily Beck
FARGO THEATRE
Film Programmer



FARGO THEATRE STAFF:

Margie Bailly, *Executive Director*
Michelle Kaiser, *Operations Manager / Executive Assistant*
Emily Beck, *Film Programmer*
Michael Kinkle, *Box Office Manager*

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Alex Engle Nicole Larson
Max Heesch Eddie O'byrn
Sabrina Hornung Sean Volk

PROJECTIONISTS:

Eric Carlson Bryan Liedman,
Mark Elton Head Projectionist
Mark Frenzel Stephanie Tyler
Michael Kinkle

TECHNICAL:

Chaz Johnson, *Stage Manager*

FESTIVAL STAFF:

Margie Bailly, *Director and Programmer*
Emily Beck, *Programmer and Festival Operations*
Michelle Kaiser, *Volunteer Coordinator*
Lynette Triebwasser, *Graphic Designer*
Susan Revland, *Organizational Consultant*
Greg Carlson & Richard Vaudrin, *Webmasters*
Eric Carlson & Meghann Southwick, *Festival Interns*

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FESTIVAL COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERS:

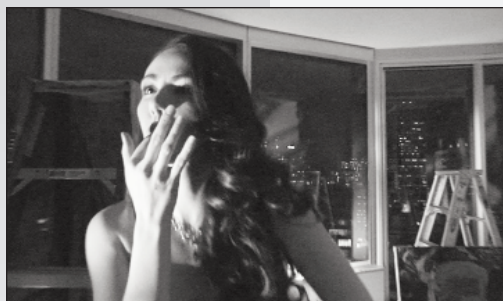
Anthony Adah	Brittney Goodman	Raymond Rea
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Emily Beck,	Michelle Kaiser,	<i>Indigenous Voices Chair</i>
<i>Narrative Short Chair</i>	<i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>	Ryan Sailer
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<i>Documentary Feature Chair</i>	Michael Kinkle	Tom Speer
Greg Carlson,	Kyja Kristjansson-Nelson,	Mel Stone
<i>Festival Co-Chair,</i>	<i>Festival Co-Chair</i>	Mike Stromenger,
<i>Animation Chair</i>	Matt McGregor	<i>Documentary Short Chair</i>
Rebecca Castillo	Christofer Meissner	Tony Tilton,
Kathleen Cox	Heidi Nelson	<i>Festival Co-Chair</i>
Patrick Cronin	Jeff Nyquist	Richard Vaudrin
Sandi Dahl	Matt Olien,	Sara Watson-Curry
Tracie Demaniuk	<i>Narrative Feature Chair</i>	Nikki Willhoit
Peggy Gaynor	Karen Olson	

OFF BROADWAY THEATRE COORDINATORS:

MSUM Faculty and Film Students

SNOW SCULPTURES:

The Snowkitects



Imbued



Into Temptation



The Cat Piano

Opening Night • Tuesday, March 2nd

12:00 p.m. Opening Press Conference at the Fargo Theatre
Best in Show Announcements

Pre-Party • 5:00 - 6:45 p.m.
Monte's • 220 Broadway • Downtown Fargo

6:40 p.m. **At the console of the
Mighty WurlitZer - Tyler Engberg**

Evening Hosts: **Margie Bailly,
Fargo Theatre Executive Director
and Emily Beck, Film Programmer**

7:00 p.m. **Imbued** **NF** Invited Film
(83m) Directed by Rob Nilsson, Los Angeles, CA
Golden Globe-winning actor Stacy Keach stars as
Donatello, a complex man with an intense gambling
addiction. Donatello isn't betting on the strange and
sudden appearance of Lydia, a beautiful woman with
an expensive problem Don is convinced he can solve.
Through one long night together, emotions are laid bare,
settling and unsettling in the shadowy corners of the
San Francisco skyline. • **FILMMAKER PRESENT**

8:45 p.m. **Into Temptation** **NF** Invited Film
(95m) Directed by Patrick Coyle, Minneapolis, MN
Filmed in Minneapolis' warehouse district, this riveting
drama follows a priest's quest to find a mysterious woman
in time to prevent her suicide. Starring Kristin Chenoweth
and Jeremy Sisto.

Wednesday Morning • March 3rd

9:00 a.m. Registration / Box Office Opens

10:00 a.m. **The Cat Piano** **A**
(9m) Directed by Eddie White and Ari Gibson
Rundle Mall, Australia – A city of singing cats is preyed
upon by a shadowy figure intent on performing a twisted
feline symphony.

10:10 a.m. **Santa: The Fascist Years** **A**
 (3m) Directed by Bill Plympton, New York, NY
 We all think of Santa as "Jolly Ol' St.Nick," but who knew that he has a dark hidden past that's very un-jolly? This short film uncovers and explores Santa's flirtation with politics and greed.



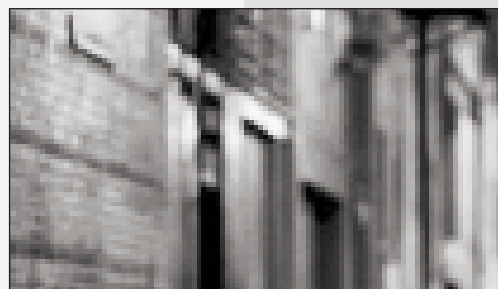
Santa: The Fascist Years

10:15 a.m. **Liminality** **IV**
Honorable Mention
 (14m) Directed by James Lujan, Los Angeles, CA
 The story of a young Indian man (Cody Lightning) looking to join a vampire slayer cult, who gets much more than he bargained for when he walks into a small reservation bar.



Liminality

10:30 a.m. **True Beauty This Night** **NS**
Best Narrative Short
 (10m) Directed by Peter Besson, Sherman Oaks, CA
 Last night, Rhett Somers met the love of his life. Now all he has to do is convince her she's the one. Not an easy feat considering how they met.



True Beauty This Night

10:40 a.m. **A Cruel Wind Blows** **DF**
Honorable Mention
 (81m) Directed by Rob King, Regina, Saskatchewan
 From 1949 to 1989 the Soviet Union exploded 500 nuclear bombs in northeastern Kazakhstan. 200,000 villagers living close to the test site were exposed to high levels of radiation. Deliberately unprotected from the explosions, they were treated as human guinea pigs, instruments of study in the event the cold war turned "hot." *A Cruel Wind Blows* is an intimate portrait of the Kazakh villagers of the Polygon region. This tragedy has particular resonance in today's era of nuclear proliferation and weapons of mass destruction.



A Cruel Wind Blows

Festival Icons

Award Winner or Honorable Mention..... **Yellow Circle**
 Narrative Features **NF**
 Narrative Shorts **NS**

Documentary Features..... **DF**
 Documentary Shorts **DS**
 Animation..... **A**

Experimental **E**
 Student..... **S**
 Indigenous Voices..... **IV**

FILMS IN THE FARGO FILM FESTIVAL HAVE NOT BEEN RATED FOR ADULT CONTENT AND MAY INCLUDE: VIOLENCE, NUILITY, LANGUAGE AND ADULT SITUATIONS. VIEWER DISCRETION IS ADVISED.

Wednesday Morning • Fargo Theatre OFF BROADWAY



Desert Wedding



The Kayak Lady

10:00 a.m. **Desert Wedding S**

(14m) Directed by Alexandra Fisher Erlenbach, Switzerland
Marissa, an excited bride-to-be, turns into a raging bridezilla when she learns her maid of honor has lost her bouquet. In the middle of her hysterical tantrum, a tragic event unravels her momentous day.

10:15 a.m. **The Kayak Lady S**

(38m) Directed by Kit Cross and Patrick Joyner, Moorhead, MN – A short documentary that explores a Minnesota woman's passion for her kayak and exploring new rivers, streams and lakes. • **FILMMAKERS PRESENT**

10:55 a.m. **American Outrage IV**
Best Indigenous Voices Picture

(56m) Directed by George Gage and Beth Gage, Oley, PA
Two elderly Western Shoshone sisters, the Danns, put up a heroic fight for their land rights and human rights.

12:00 p.m. **Luncheon** and Panel Discussion
**"The First 10 Years:
Remembering Past Festivals"**

MODERATOR: Margie Bailly

FFF Kilbourne Kafé • 300 Broadway, Fargo

LUNCH PROVIDED BY:

Erbert & Gerbert's
SUBS CLUBS

Wednesday Afternoon • March 3rd

1:30 p.m. **Pigeon: Impossible A**

(6m) Directed by Lucas Martell, Austin, TX
Pigeon: Impossible is the tale of Walter, a rookie secret agent faced with a problem seldom covered in basic training: what to do when a curious pigeon gets trapped inside your multi-million dollar, government-issued nuclear briefcase.

1:35 p.m. **Adrien Brody S**

(3m) Directed by Cody Brown, Brookings, SD
This music video for Welcome to the Cinema's track entitled *Adrien Brody* is a surrealistic rotoscope animation project utilizing crayon as the main medium. It is a mix between band performance and other imagery with a few touches of stop-motion and some other textures thrown in.



Pigeon: Impossible



Adrien Brody

1:40 p.m. **Danny** **NS**
 (6m) Directed by Jeremy Wanek, Bloomington, MN
 Danny is a player who loves himself very much... maybe too much.



Danny

1:45 p.m. **May I Take Your Order?** **S**
Honorable Mention
 (14m) Directed by Tony Grosz, Fargo, ND
 This mockumentary unfolds under the roof of the popular restaurant Musical Pizza Land. Nick Nelson and Charles Lightenburger, III shed some light on the inner workings of this beloved pizza parlor and illustrate that happiness can be found in the most unexpected places.



May I Take Your Order?

2:00 p.m. **Winning the Peace** **S**
Honorable Mention
 (18m) Directed by Eli Akira Kaufman, Venice, CA
 An Iraqi-American Marine returns to Iraq to redeem his place of birth, only to destroy the very people he hoped to save.

2:20 p.m. **Taylor's Way** **NF**
 (75m) Directed by René Brar, West Vancouver, Canada
 Taylor is a young woman in search of meaning in her life. She meets an enigmatic stranger, Wyatt, in a bar one night and they embark on a journey together. But is their meeting just accidental or fate? Director Rene Brar's mesmerizing tale will have you guessing at every turn.



American Outrage

3:35 p.m. **American Outrage** **IV**
Best Indigenous Voices Picture
 (56m) Directed by George Gage and Beth Gage, Oley, PA
 Two elderly Western Shoshone sisters, the Danns, put up a heroic fight for their land rights and human rights.

4:30 p.m. **Secret Circles, Hidden Prayers** **S**
 (25m) Directed by Amber Beard, Las Vegas, NV
 At odds with the mainstream, four modern pagan families reinterpret spirituality outside the conventional American context and reveal why they've been hesitant to "come out of the broom closet."



Secret Circles, Hidden Prayers

Fargo Theatre OFF **BROADWAY**

Films marked in this manner are being shown on our second screen.
 All other films will be screened in our main theatre.

Wednesday Afternoon • Fargo Theatre OFF BROADWAY



Jyunigatsu no Sora (Sky in December)



Small Town Soldiers

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. **Animation Workshop with Richard Vaudrin and Angela Steffen**

2:00 p.m. **Jyunigatsu no Sora (NF)**
(Sky in December)

(83m) Directed by Hiroshi Toda, Kyoto, Japan
A man who has lost track of his life searches for new meaning with the help of a young punk and an elderly fortune-teller.

4:00 p.m. **Small Town Soldiers (DF)**

(62m) Directed by Cody Shimek, St. Louis Park, MN
The tale of World War II as seen through the eyes of nine veterans from rural McKenzie County, North Dakota.

Wednesday Evening • March 3rd

CAFÉ MUSE

Pre-Party • 5:00 - 6:45 p.m.

Mosaic Foods at the Plains Art Museum
704 1st Avenue North • Downtown Fargo

6:40 p.m. **At the console of the Mighty WurlitZer – Lance Johnson**

Evening Hosts: **Greg Carlson, Festival Co-Chair and Animation Chair**
Kyja Kristjansson-Nelson, Festival Co-Chair



Juiced and Jazzed

7:00 p.m. **Juiced and Jazzed (A)**

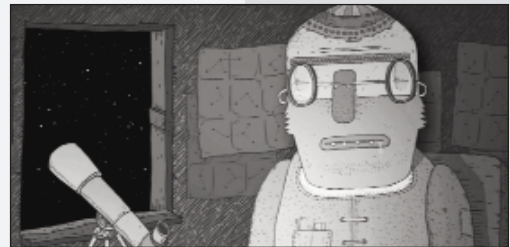
(3m) Directed by Justin Weber, St. Louis Park, MN
In prohibition-era 1920s, hot jazz music overcomes a young woman named Lulu after she stumbles upon a flask. Her night on the town is cut short when the long arm of the law intervenes. The swinging jazz of Joe Venuti and the wild music of Spike Jones accompany the visuals, inspired by early 20th century animation.

7:05 p.m. ***Inherent Obligations*** **A**
 (10m) Directed by Rao Heidmets, Tallinn, Estonia
Inherent Obligations is a provocative depiction of politics, sexuality, and voyeurism as filtered through the lens of the media. Combining live action and stop-motion animation, the film colorfully addresses contemporary viewership through the construction of several audacious metaphors.



Inherent Obligations

7:15 p.m. ***The Astronomer's Dream*** **A**
 (12m) Directed by Malcolm Sutherland, Montreal, Quebec, Canada – While working on a problem, a hungry astronomer falls asleep. He finds the solution not in outer space, but in the surreal food chain of his subconscious mind.



The Astronomer's Dream

7:25 p.m. ***Botnik!*** **A**
 (11m) Directed by Jacqueline Brennan, Chicago, IL
 A lonely beatnik yearns to make the local art scene and win the heart of a cool beat-chick. Frustrated by his own artistic limitations, he creates a robotic doppelganger to solve his problems. Unfortunately, a half-ton piece of steel programmed with an artistic temperament comes with problems of its own.



Santa: The Fascist Years

7:35 p.m. ***Santa: The Fascist Years*** **A**
 (3m) Directed by Bill Plympton, New York, NY
 We all think of Santa as "Jolly Ol' St. Nick," but who knew that he has a dark hidden past that's very un-jolly? This short film uncovers and explores Santa's flirtation with politics and greed.



The Cat Piano

7:40 p.m. ***The Cat Piano*** **A**
 (9m) Directed by Eddie White and Ari Gibson
 Rundle Mall, Australia – A city of singing cats is preyed upon by a shadowy figure intent on performing a twisted feline symphony.



Pigeon: Impossible

7:50 p.m. ***Pigeon: Impossible*** **A**
 (6m) Directed by Lucas Martell, Austin, TX
Pigeon: Impossible is the tale of Walter, a rookie secret agent faced with a problem seldom covered in basic training: what to do when a curious pigeon gets trapped inside your multi-million dollar, government-issued nuclear briefcase.



The Terrible Thing of Alpha-9!



Lebensader (Lifeline)



The Secret of Kells



Float



California King

7:55 p.m. **The Terrible Thing of Alpha-9!** **A**

Honorable Mention

(6m) Directed by Jake Armstrong, New York, NY
A space bounty hunter travels to a lonely planet to kill a terrible monster.

8:00 p.m. **Lebensader (Lifeline)** **A**

Best Animation

(6m) Directed by Angela Steffen, Ludwigsburg, Germany
A little girl finds the whole world inside a leaf.

• **FILMMAKER PRESENT – Q&A WITH FILMMAKER**

8:15 p.m. **The Secret of Kells** **A**

Recipient of The Golden Snowflake Award for Outstanding Achievement in Filmmaking Sponsored by Forum Communications

(75m) Directed by Tomm Moore and Nora Twomey, New York, NY – Adventure, action and danger await 12 year old Brendan who must fight Vikings and a serpent god to find a crystal and complete the legendary Book of Kells. But with the terrifying Viking Hordes closing in, will Brendan succeed in his quest to illuminate the darkness and prove that enlightenment is the best fortification against barbarians?

• **ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE – BEST ANIMATED FEATURE**

Thursday Morning • March 4th

9:00 a.m. Registration / Box Office Opens

10:00 a.m. **Float** **B** **Honorable Mention Excellence in Sound Design**

(3m) Directed by Mackenzie Mathis, Berkeley, CA
At an opportune moment, a feather makes a stealthy escape towards freedom.

10:05 a.m. **California King** **S**
Best Student Film

(21m) Directed by Eli Akira Kaufman, Venice, CA
A mattress salesman who employs faux science to get female customers into bed falls for a skeptical insomniac who knows her science better than her heart.

10:25 a.m. **The Metaphor** **S**

(5m) Directed by Joseph T. Kramer, Moorhead, MN
A visual examination of a commonly used metaphor.

10:30 a.m. **Botnik! A**

(11m) Directed by Jacqueline Brennan, Chicago, IL
A lonely beatnik yearns to make the local art scene and win the heart of a cool beat-chick. Frustrated by his own artistic limitations, he creates a robotic doppelganger to solve his problems. Unfortunately, a half-ton piece of steel programmed with an artistic temperament comes with problems of its own.



Botnik!

10:40 a.m. **Lebensader (Lifeline) A**
Best Animation

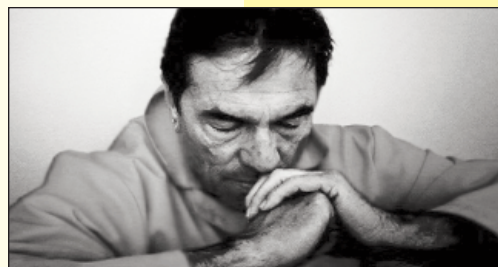
(6m) Directed by Angela Steffen, Ludwigsburg, Germany
A little girl finds the whole world inside a leaf.



Open Air

10:45 a.m. **Open Air NS**

(12m) Directed by Shira-Lee Shalit, Manhasset, NY
In an unnamed conflict in an unnamed country, two women, Dreena (*Munich's* Lynn Cohen), and Anna (Agata Domanska), struggle to maintain some form of normality in their lives, all the while trapped from fleeing their homes due to an unseen sniper who keeps the two women forever on guard.



Trip to Hell and Back

11:00 a.m. **Trip to Hell and Back DS**
Best Documentary Short

(29m) Directed by Stu Maddux, Novato, CA
Trip Harting was a rich kid with a shot at the Olympics. He became one of the top ten horse riders in the world. But few knew about his other life as one of the largest crystal-meth dealers in Washington, D.C.



Liminality

11:30 a.m. **Liminality IV**
Honorable Mention

(14m) Directed by James Lujan, Los Angeles, CA
The story of a young Indian man (Cody Lightning) looking to join a vampire slayer cult, who gets much more than he bargained for when he walks into a small reservation bar.



Folie Simultanée

11:45 a.m. **Folie Simultanée S**

(14m) Directed by Ben Pimlott, Moorhead, MN
A magician with metaphysical talents and his beautiful assistant find themselves slipping into madness. As she tricks herself through skillful showmanship into delusions of supernatural abilities, he is overcome by his slight-of-hand reality and finds himself conquered by the mundane.

Thursday Morning • Fargo Theatre OFF BROADWAY



Mildred Richards



McCartney's Genes

10:00 a.m. **Mildred Richards** **NS**

Honorable Mention

(19m) Directed by Marc Kess, New York, NY
Mildred Richards, an egomaniacal, nearly bankrupt actress, enlists the assistance of her reluctant brother Gerald to wrest away the fortune of their elderly, ailing aunt. Mildred has nothing short of murder on her mind as she and her brother drive to their aunt's country estate, but things get complicated by the aunt's doctor, lawyer and maid!

10:20 a.m. **McCartney's Genes** **NF**

Honorable Mention

(83m) Directed by Jason Dennis, Los Angeles, CA
A rock band finds itself on the verge of either making it big or self-destructing when the lead signer becomes obsessed with fathering a child.

12:00 p.m. **Luncheon** and Panel Discussion

"Hot Topics, Hot Docs with Docs"

MODERATOR: Dr. Richard Bailly

FFF Kilbourne Kafé • 300 Broadway, Fargo

LUNCH PROVIDED BY:

GREEN MARKET

• C A T E R I N G •

Thursday Afternoon • March 4th

1:30 p.m. **Great Ambition** **A**

(3m) Directed by Malcolm Sutherland, Montreal, Quebec, Canada – A singer from the country discovers life in the big city.



Great Ambition



Inherent Obligations

1:35 p.m. **Inherent Obligations** **A**

(10m) Directed by Rao Heidmets, Tallinn, Estonia
Inherent Obligations is a provocative depiction of politics, sexuality, and voyeurism as filtered through the lens of the media. Combining live action and stop-motion animation, the film colorfully addresses contemporary viewership through the construction of several audacious metaphors.

1:45 p.m. **Mannen med kulorna** **NS**
(The Man with All the Marbles)

(14m) Directed by Hans Montelius, Stockholm, Sweden
Two very different, very competitive brothers, mourning the recent loss of their father, play a game from their youth with stakes higher than they ever could have imagined.

2:00 p.m. **Facial Features** **S**

(5m) Directed by Scott Slade Wagner, Ann Arbor, MI
A hyper-visual exploration of the self-portrait.

2:05 p.m. **A Message from the East** **DF**

(56m) Directed by Jeremiah Hammerling, Chicago, IL –
An inspirational film about the life and work of Muhammad Iqbal, the national poet of Pakistan. A crew of 10 Chicago filmmakers traveled to Germany, Dubai, Pakistan, Turkey, Spain, Canada and parts of the United States to retrace the steps and thoughts of the most inspiring Muslim poet of the 20th Century.

• **FILMMAKER PRESENT**

3:05 p.m. **Sem Fio (Wireless)** **NF**

(126m) Directed by Tiaraju Aronovich, San Paulo, Brazil
This modern narrative zigzags between Castro, a self destructive cocaine addict; Patricia, an intellectual and affluent woman with a neurotic boyfriend; Juliano, a phone thief and a champion mixed martial arts fighter; and twin sisters, Ana and Bia, trying to make a living in the confusion of the big city. Filmed in a rapid and chaotic style, see how a “wireless” world affects these relationships and how lines get crossed and disconnected.

• **FILMMAKERS PRESENT**



Mannen med kulorna (The Man with All the Marbles)



A Message from the East



Sem Fio (Wireless)

Thursday Afternoon • Fargo Theatre OFF **BROADWAY**

1:30 p.m. **From the Spirit:**
Preston Singletary **IV**

(24m) Directed by Raymond Yakeleya and Bill Stewart, Edmonton, AB Canada – Singletary attended the Pilchuk Glass School near Seattle, Washington, where glass artists from all over the world come to study. His stunning sculptures provide a unique vision of his deeply rooted Tlingit culture.



From the Spirit: Preston Singletary



El regalo de la Pachamama (The Gift of Pachamama)



From the Spirit: Kevin Red Star

Thursday Afternoon • Fargo Theatre OFF BROADWAY

2:00 p.m. **El regalo de la Pachamama** **NF**

(The Gift of Pachamama)

Honorable Mention

(102m) Directed by Toshifumi Matsushita
New York, NY– A 13-year-old Bolivian boy embarks on his first salt caravan, a several month journey that his family has undertaken for generations. Through the course of his adventure, the boy learns to embrace his identity and respect the Earth.

4:00 p.m. **From the Spirit: Kevin Red Star** **IV**

(24m) Directed by Raymond Yakeleya and Bill Stewart, Edmonton, AB Canada – Kevin was born and raised on the Crow Reservation in Montana. As a teenager he attended the brand new Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is now widely regarded as one of the foremost artists of the Northern Plains.

Thursday Evening • March 4th

John
Alexander's
American Classics Restaurant & Martini Bar

Pre-Party • 5:00 - 6:45 p.m.

John Alexander's • 315 Main Avenue • Moorhead, MN

6:40 p.m. **At the console of the
Mighty WurlitZer – Steve Eneboe**

Evening Host: **Matt Olien, Narrative Feature Chair
and Susan Revland,
Organizational Consultant**

2010 Prairie Spirit

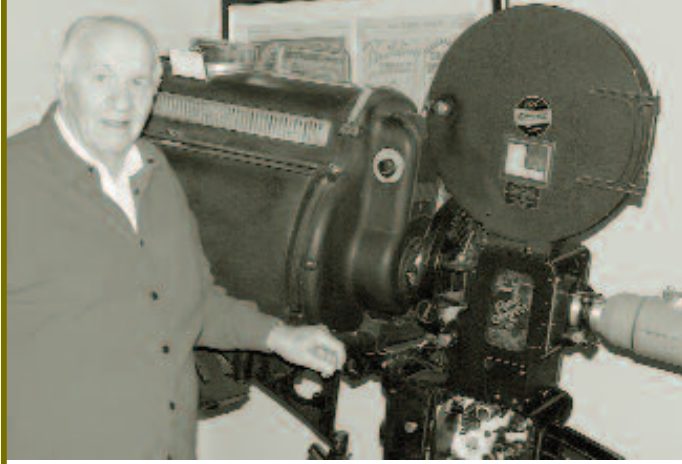
A W A R D

Thicker Than Water • Bradley Rappa, Vail, AZ

The Prairie Spirit Award honors films that reflect the unique strength of character that is the legacy of the Northern Plains.

The Bill Snyder Award

FOR DOCUMENTARY FILM MAKING



The Fargo Film Festival documentary award honors the significant career and accomplishments of Bill Snyder. Bill was a Fargo native, award-winning filmmaker, and producer and founder of Bill Snyder Films. Bill died on September 14, 2007. We celebrate the memory of this visionary and friend.

7:00 p.m. ***Under Our Skin*** **DF**
Best Documentary Feature
Recipient of The Bill Snyder Award

(103m) Directed by Andy Abrahams Wilson, Sausalito, CA – A gripping tale of microbes, medicine and money, *Under Our Skin* exposes the hidden story of Lyme disease, one of the most controversial and fastest growing epidemics of our time. Each year, thousands go undiagnosed or misdiagnosed, often told that their symptoms are “all in their head.” Following the stories of patients and physicians fighting for their lives and livelihoods, the film brings into focus a haunting picture of the health care system and a medical establishment all too willing to put profits ahead of patients.

• Q&A WITH FILM SUBJECT JORDAN FISHER SMITH



Under Our Skin

9:15 p.m. ***Thicker Than Water*** **DF**
Recipient of The Prairie Spirit Award

(72m) Directed by Bradley Rappa, Ithaca, NY
 Eleven-year old Tony Rappa struggles to lead a healthy, active life while afflicted with severe Type A Hemophilia. Despite the severity of his disease, Tony insists on playing hockey. As Tony's love for the sport grows stronger, so does the possibility that his continued participation will have a fatal outcome.

• Q&A WITH FILMMAKERS BRADLEY RAPPA AND BILL KERSEY



Thicker Than Water



The Migration



The Seventh Floor



The Upfront Gallery



Condoms

Friday Morning • March 5th

9:00 a.m. Registration / Box Office Opens

10:00 a.m. ***The Migration* IV**

(10m) Directed by Sydney Freeland, Los Angeles, CA
A cautionary tale set in the future where global warming and an authoritarian government have forced a brother and sister to flee for their lives, carrying a small bag of seeds that will grow a new world.

10:10 a.m. ***The Seventh Floor* S**

(26m) Directed by Andrew Seely, Clovis, CA
In 1940's San Francisco, a self-serving private detective resorts to deceit and blackmail in an attempt to pay off his escalating gambling debts.

10:35 a.m. ***The Upfront Gallery* S**

(14m) Directed by Andrew Neill and Ashely Somphet, Moorhead, MN – A documentary about the artists of the Upfront Gallery in downtown Fargo, North Dakota and their collaborative goal to keep the arts alive in the community. • **FILMMAKERS PRESENT**

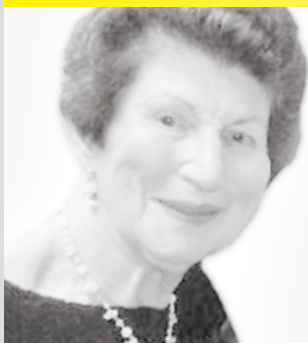
10:50 a.m. ***Condoms* S**

(13m) Directed by Andrew Neill, Moorhead, MN
On the night he's planned to lose his virginity, Nick is starting to get cold feet. Now with little time left, Nick, with the help of his "experienced" friend Pete, must stop the night's events from unfolding before it's too late.

• **FILMMAKER PRESENT**

11:05 a.m. ***Ba Ne Jek Kemal (We Meet in Peace)* NS**

(16m) Directed by Sean Fahey, Chicago, IL
An innovative combination of documentary and constructed narrative, *We Meet in Peace* is a portrait of a young man's desire to learn and find his place in his village.



The Ruth Landfield Award

HONORING FILMS CELEBRATING WOMEN OF COURAGE, CONVICTION AND COMPASSION

With the death of community arts patron, Ruth Landfield, the Fargo Film Festival will continue in perpetuity to present this award honoring Ruth and her long-standing commitment to the health and well-being of the historic Fargo Theatre. Films of artistic merit about or by women of courage, conviction and compassion are selected as recipients of the Ruth Landfield award.

Diane Bonder Retrospective

Diane Bonder (1960 – 2006) Her experimental, semi-narrative and autobiographical films explore themes of identity, belonging, landscape and loss. Diane's award winning films have screened at the Whitney Museum of Art, Brooklyn Museum of Art, SF Cinematheque, and many international film festivals, universities and curated screenings. Her films continue to be screened around the world.

11:20 a.m. **Parolé** **E**

(9m) Directed by Diane Bonder, New York, NY
Loosely based on a case study by Havelock Ellis of a lesbian who murders her lover, *Parolé* is an experimental film which examines the construction of sexuality through the discourses of medicine and psychology.

11:40 a.m. **You Are Not from Here** **E**

(9m) Directed by Diane Bonder, New York, NY
You Are Not from Here is a record of a rapidly disappearing vernacular landscape.

11:50 a.m. **The Lost Girl** **DS**

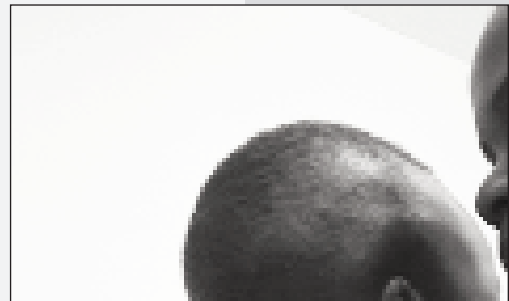
Recipient of The Ruth Landfield Award

(13m) Directed by Elizabeth Chatelain, Austin, TX
The inspirational story of Nyanwuor one of the Lost Girls of Sudan who was forced to flee to the United States during her country's brutal civil war.

• **FILMMAKER PRESENT**



Diane Bonder



The Lost Girl



Tales of the Road: Highway 61



Revealing Hate

Friday Morning • Fargo Theatre OFF BROADWAY

10:00 a.m. **Tales of the Road: Highway 61** **DF**

(59m) Directed by Cathy Wurzer, St. Paul, MN
The Minnesota stretch of this iconic highway is explored and the early days of automobile travel are revisited. *Tales of the Road* remembers when traveling by car was a novelty and a road trip was a great adventure.

11:00 a.m. **Revealing Hate** **DF**

(56m) Directed by Mariah Wilson, New York, NY
Donning swastikas or long white robes and hoods, the attendees of a white supremacist rally are coated with symbolism that pierces deep into the darkest shadows of America's racial history.

12:00 p.m. **Luncheon** and Panel Discussion
**"Keep it Simple Stupid" A Discussion
 on Screenwriting with JT O'Neal and friends**

FFF Kilbourne Kafé • 300 Broadway, Fargo



This Is the Place



Irene in Time



Growing Up Vegas



Rebuilding Hope

LUNCH PROVIDED BY:

DEB'S CORNER
 FOODS & CATERING

Friday Afternoon • March 5th

1:30 p.m. ***This Is the Place* NS**

(20m) Directed by Jacob Strunk, Los Angeles, CA
 On the shores of the Salton Sea, a disenchanted killer gets friendly with the locals while clashing with his superior. Along the way, he crosses paths with two young women on a weekend escape from the city.

1:50 p.m. ***Irene in Time* NF**

(95m) Directed by Hengry Jaglom, Los Angeles, CA
 A puzzle about love and time, *Irene in Time* is a look at the complex relationships between fathers and daughters and the consequences – years later – on the grown women's relationships to the men in their lives.

3:25 p.m. ***Growing Up Vegas* S**

(20m) Directed by Amber Beard, Las Vegas, NV
 Taylor, an isolated, withdrawn tomboy hangs out at the local casino where her single mom, Lizzy, works as a cocktail waitress. Taylor meets Tony, a lovable, washed-up Elvis impersonator who takes her under his wing. As their relationship progresses, Taylor develops an unhealthy infatuation with Tony. But what are Tony's true intentions?

3:45 p.m. ***Rebuilding Hope* DF**

Honorable Mention

(78m) Directed by Jen Marlowe, Seattle, WA
 Three boys fled their South Sudan villages during the civil war. As young men, they return to find their families and help rebuild after decades of war.

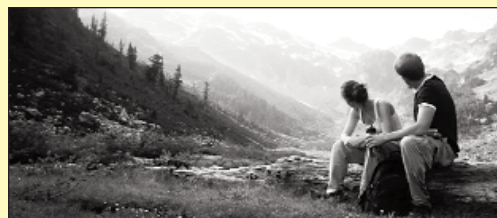
Friday Afternoon • Fargo Theatre OFF BROADWAY

1:30 p.m. **Tahaan** **NF** **Best Narrative Feature**
(105m) Directed by Santosh Sivan, New York, NY
Tahaan will do anything to get his best friend back. When Tahaan's grandfather dies, much of the family's assets are seized, including their pet donkey. To regain his beloved friend, Tahaan embarks on a journey, one that takes him over the same mountains where his father disappeared three years earlier.



Tahaan

3:30 p.m. **Taylor's Way** **NF**
(75m) Directed by René Brar, West Vancouver, Canada
Taylor is a young woman in search of meaning in her life. She meets an enigmatic stranger, Wyatt, in a bar one night and they embark on a journey together. But is their meeting just accidental or fate?



Taylor's Way

Friday Evening • March 5th



Pre-Party • 5:00 - 6:45 p.m.
Silver Moon Supper Club • 309 Roberts St N, Fargo

6:40 p.m. **At the console of the Mighty WurlitZer** – Lance Johnson

Evening Host: **Tony Tilton, Festival Co-Chair and Tom Brandau, Doc. Feature Chair**

7:00 p.m. **Pigeon: Impossible** **A**
(6m) Directed by Lucas Martell, Austin, TX
A rookie secret agent faced with a problem seldom covered in basic training: what to do when a pigeon gets trapped inside your multi-million dollar, government-issued nuclear briefcase.



Pigeon: Impossible

7:05 p.m. **Our Neck of the Woods** **NS**
(17m) Directed by Rob Connolly, Los Angeles, CA
This sweet tale concerns a plant foreman whose life is turned upside down when a bewitching young foreigner comes to work at his factory.



Our Neck of the Woods

7:20 p.m. **McCartney's Genes** **NF**
Honorable Mention
(83m) Directed by Jason Dennis, Los Angeles, CA
A rock band finds itself on the verge of either making it big or self-destructing when the lead signer becomes obsessed with fathering a child. • **FILMMAKERS PRESENT**



McCartney's Genes

9:15 p.m. **2-Minute Movie Contest**

Post Party • ecce • 216 BROADWAY



Birthdate



Cold Mountain



American Outrage

Saturday Morning • March 6th

9:00 a.m. Registration / Box Office Opens

10:00 a.m. **Birthdate** **S**

(11m) Directed by Jeremy Brunjes, New York, NY
A first date... between mother and son.

10:10 a.m. **And What Remains** **DS**

(10m) Directed by Marc Havener, Lawrence, KS
A "cinematic personal essay" that explores the complexities of a father searching through his past to find the legacy he will someday leave for his son.

10:20 a.m. **Deer Hill Road** **NS**

(14m) Directed by Ann Prim, St. Paul, MN
A subtle tale of redemption. Dot Mason is a self-righteous landowner who catches Addie Bennett, a local girl, trespassing on her land.

10:35 a.m. **Cold Mountain** **DS**

(28m) Directed by Mike Hazard and Deb Wallwork
St. Paul, MN – A rollicking portrait of the Tang Dynasty Chinese poet Han Shan, filled with poetry, colorful characters, and the Zen wisdom that inspires us today.

11:05 a.m. **American Outrage** **IV**

Best Indigenous Voices Picture

(56m) Directed by George Gage and Beth Gage, Oley, PA
Two elderly Western Shoshone sisters, the Danns, put up a heroic fight for their land rights and human rights.

Saturday Morning • Fargo Theatre OFF BROADWAY

10:00 a.m. **Workshop**

"Keep it Simple Stupid"

Screenwriting with JT O'Neal

LUNCH PROVIDED BY:



12:00 p.m. **Luncheon** and Panel Discussion

"Unfiltered and Unrated:

Guests of the Fest Tell All"

FFF Kilbourne Kafé • 300 Broadway, Fargo

Saturday Afternoon • March 6th

1:30 p.m. **Artificial Paradise, Inc.** **E**

Honorable Mention

(3m) Directed by Jean-Paul Frenay, Brussels, Belgium
Artificial Paradise, Inc. is an experimental film anticipating a future where a major corporation has developed an unique software, based on organic virtual reality, which holds all the lost memories of humankind. A user connects to this database of the forgotten... what is he searching for?



Artificial Paradise, Inc.

1:35 p.m. **May I Take Your Order?** **S**

Honorable Mention

(14m) Directed by Tony Grosz, Fargo, ND
This mockumentary unfolds under the roof of the popular restaurant Musical Pizza Land. Nick Nelson and Charles Lightenburger, III shed some light on the inner workings of this beloved pizza parlor and illustrate that happiness can be found in the most unexpected places. • **FILMMAKER PRESENT**



May I Take Your Order?

1:50 p.m. **dawn escapes** **S** **NS**

Invited Film (15m) Directed by Alex Welgraven
Moorhead, MN – Everything starts where it ends.

• **FILMMAKER PRESENT**



dawn escapes

2:05 p.m. **Love and Roadkill** **NS**

Honorable Mention

(14m) Directed by John David Allen, New York, NY
Her car stalled in upstate New York, a Manhattan woman must depend on a local man for help. Their brief encounter confronts questions of trust, death and random violence. Based on the one-act play by Rose Caruso.



Love and Roadkill

2:20 p.m. **Open Air** **NS**

(12m) Directed by Shira-Lee Shalit, Manhasset, NY
In an unnamed conflict in an unnamed country, two women, Dreena, (*Munich's* Lynn Cohen), and Anna (Agata Domanska), struggle to maintain some form of normality in their lives, all the while trapped from fleeing their homes due to an unseen sniper, who keeps the two women forever on guard.



Open Air

2:30 p.m. **Trip to Hell and Back** **DS**

Best Documentary Short

(29m) Directed by Stu Maddux, Novato, CA
Trip Harting was a rich kid with a shot at the Olympics. He became one of the top ten horse riders in the world. But few knew about his other life as one of the largest crystal-meth dealers in Washington, D.C.



Trip to Hell and Back



Symptoms



Basket Bronx

3:00 p.m. **Symptoms** **S**
Recipient of The
Rusty Casselton Award

(20m) Directed by Amber Johnson, Fargo, ND
 An experimental narrative about the rise and fall of a relationship between a young man and woman.

• **FILMMAKER PRESENT**

3:20 p.m. **Basket Bronx** **S**

(14m) Directed by Martin Rosete, New York, NY
 Alex is an African-American kid from the Bronx whose dreams of playing basketball are often ridiculed by the older boys in his neighborhood. A new friend appears in his life to teach him to overcome his fears and follow his dreams.

3:35 p.m. **The Lost Girl** **DS**
Recipient of The Ruth Landfield Award

(13m) Directed by Elizabeth Chatelain, Austin, TX
 The inspirational story of Nyanwuor, one of the Lost Girls of Sudan, who was forced to flee to the United States during her country's brutal civil war. • **FILMMAKER PRESENT**

THE FARGO FILM FESTIVAL STUDENT AWARD
 HONORS THE LIFE AND WORK OF

Rusty Casselton

HAROLD "RUSTY" CASSELTON, chair of the Film Studies Department at Minnesota State University Moorhead and one of the Fargo-Moorhead area's most respected film historians, died December 30, 2007 at the age of 53. Rusty was known around the world for his efforts in film restoration and preservation. Rusty collaborated with mentor Ted Larson for many years, and their efforts resulted in a variety of wonderful opportunities for movie fans, who regularly attended popular events like Silent Movie Night at the Fargo Theatre and the Summer Cinema series on the campus of MSUM.

Rusty participated in the Fargo Film Festival from the time of its inception, providing a small army of students to help staff and run the various second venue locations as volunteers. A dedicated educator, Rusty taught film studies courses at Concordia College for 22 years before accepting a position at MSUM in 2001. He is greatly missed by the Fargo Film Festival, his students, his extended family, his friends, his colleagues, his wife Cindy and daughters Hannah and Amanda.



3:50 p.m. **The Secret of Kells** **A**

Recipient of The Golden Snowflake Award for Outstanding Achievement in Filmmaking
Sponsored by Forum Communications

(75m) Directed by Tomm Moore and Nora Twomey, New York, NY – Adventure, action and danger await 12 year old Brendan who must fight Vikings and a serpent god to find a crystal and complete the legendary Book of Kells. But with the terrifying Viking Hordes closing in, will Brendan succeed in his quest to illuminate the darkness and prove that enlightenment is the best fortification against barbarians?

• **ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE – BEST ANIMATED FEATURE**



The Secret of Kells

Saturday Afternoon • Fargo Theatre OFF **BROADWAY**

1:30 p.m. **A Cruel Wind Blows** **DF**

Honorable Mention

(81m) Directed by Rob King, Regina, Saskatchewan
From 1949 to 1989 the Soviet Union exploded 500 nuclear bombs in northeastern Kazakhstan. 200,000 villagers living close to the test site were exposed to high levels of radiation. Deliberately unprotected from the explosions, they were treated as human guinea pigs, instruments of study in the event the cold war turned "hot." *A Cruel Wind Blows* is an intimate portrait of the Kazakh villagers of the Polygon region. This tragedy has particular resonance in today's era of nuclear proliferation and weapons of mass destruction.



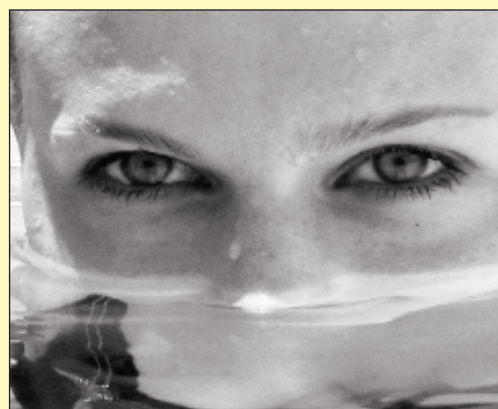
A Cruel Wind Blows

3:00 p.m. **Under Our Skin** **DF**

Best Documentary Feature

Recipient of The Bill Snyder Award

(103m) Directed by Andy Abrahams Wilson, Sausalito, CA – A gripping tale of microbes, medicine and money, *Under Our Skin* exposes the hidden story of Lyme disease, one of the most controversial and fastest growing epidemics of our time. Each year, thousands go undiagnosed or misdiagnosed, often told that their symptoms are "all in their head." Following the stories of patients and physicians fighting for their lives and livelihoods, the film brings into focus a haunting picture of the health care system and a medical establishment all too willing to put profits ahead of patients.



Under Our Skin

Saturday Evening • March 6th



Pre-Party • 5:00 - 6:45 p.m.
101 Broadway, Downtown Fargo



The Terrible Thing of Alpha-9!



Anomie



California King

6:40 p.m. **At the console of the Mighty WurlitZer - Steve Eneboe**

Evening Host: **Doug Hamilton, Fargo Theatre Board Member - "Best of Festival Films"**

Best in Show Awards

**2010 Ted M. Larson Award
presented to Tony McRae**

7:00 p.m. ***The Terrible Thing of Alpha-9!* A**
Honorable Mention

(6m) Directed by Jake Armstrong, New York, NY
A space bounty hunter travels to a lonely planet to kill a terrible monster.

7:05 p.m. ***2-Minute Movie Contest Winner***

7:10 p.m. ***Anomie* E**
Best Experimental Film

(3m) Directed by Denah Johnston, San Francisco, CA
Denah Johnston employs optical printing and hand development in her filmmaking, leaving a certain degree of her process to chance operations. *Anomie* explores various methods of re-photography, sound construction and manipulation with found footage source materials.

7:15 p.m. ***California King* S**
Best Student Film

(21m) Directed by Eli Akira Kaufman, Venice, CA
A mattress salesman who employs faux science to get female customers into bed falls for a skeptical insomniac who knows her science better than her heart.

• FILMMAKER PRESENT

7:35 p.m. **Winning the Peace** **S**

Honorable Mention

(18m) Directed by Eli Akira Kaufman, Venice, CA
An Iraqi-American Marine returns to Iraq to redeem his place of birth, only to destroy the very people he hoped to save. • **FILMMAKER PRESENT**



Winning the Peace

8:05 p.m. **Lebensader (Lifeline)** **A**

Best Animation

(6m) Directed by Angela Steffen, Ludwigsburg, Germany
A little girl finds the whole world inside a leaf.

• **FILMMAKER PRESENT**



Lebensader (Lifeline)

8:15 p.m. **Mildred Richards** **NS**

Honorable Mention

(19m) Directed by Marc Kess, New York, NY
Mildred Richards, an egomaniacal, nearly bankrupt actress, enlists the assistance of her reluctant brother Gerald to wrest away the fortune of their elderly, ailing aunt. Mildred has nothing short of murder on her mind as she and her brother drive to their aunt's country estate, but things get complicated by the aunt's doctor, lawyer and maid! • **FILMMAKER PRESENT**



Mildred Richards

8:45 p.m. **True Beauty This Night** **NS**

Best Narrative Short

(10m) Directed by Peter Besson, Sherman Oaks, CA
Last night, Rhett Somers met the love of his life. Now all he has to do is convince her she's the one. Not an easy feat considering how they met.



True Beauty This Night

8:55 p.m. **Tahaan** **NF**

Best Narrative Feature

(105m) Directed by Santosh Sivan, New York, NY
Eight-year-old Tahaan will do anything to get his best friend Birbal back. When Tahaan's grandfather dies, much of the family's assets are seized, including their pet donkey Birbal. To regain his beloved friend, Tahaan embarks on a treacherous journey, one that takes him over the same mountains where his father disappeared three years earlier. Tahaan's courage is tested as he interacts with eccentric local personalities and is naively pulled into a terrorist plot to sneak a grenade across a military checkpoint.



Tahaan

Post Party • ecce • 216 BROADWAY



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THE FARGO FILM FESTIVAL
HONORS THE LIFE AND WORK OF

Ted M. Larson

TED LARSON (1940-2000) is best known for his presentations of classical film, seminars and movie series events at colleges, theatres and arts centers throughout the region. He was named Distinguished Alumnus of Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM) in 1998 for contributions to students and film studies.

A Glyndon, Minnesota native, Larson graduated from MSUM in 1962 with speech/theatre and English degrees and taught at Benjamin Franklin Junior High School in Fargo for six years. He then joined the speech and theatre arts faculty at MSUM, where he taught for 32 years. He directed MSUM's International Film Festival and Summer Cinema Film Series for more than 20 years. He also held a master's degree in speech and drama from the University of Kansas.

A long-time member of the Fargo Theatre's board of directors, he was one of the initiators and co-producers of its Silent Movie Night, which began in 1974. He also collaborated with symphonies in Butte and Billings, Montana, as a guest scholar. Ted influenced planning for the first Fargo Film Festival.

Through his work in locating, restoring and reconstructing lost and rare films, Ted and his longtime collaborator and friend, Rusty Casselton, have made donations of valuable motion pictures to The Library of Congress, The George Eastman House, The UCLA film and Television Archive and The Museum of Modern Art. Until his death he also administered the Colleen Moore Film Grant program at MSUM, which funds projects for student filmmakers. He and Rusty have also provided Kevin Brownlow, British film documentarian, with rare film footage for his television productions *Universal Horror* and *Lon Chaney*.

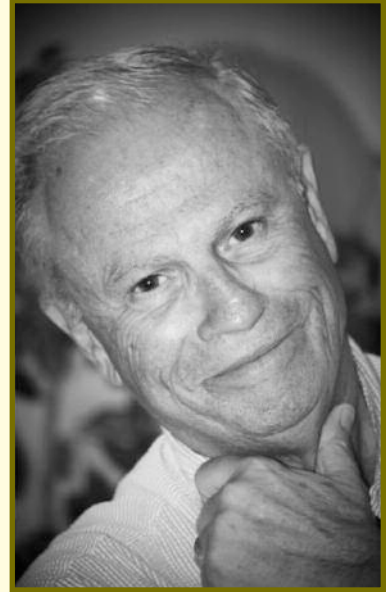
Among his many achievements, Larson has helped a number of talented young filmmakers develop careers. His former students have worked with the likes of Steven Spielberg, David Letterman and George Lucas.

Ted was a unique presence who impacted constituencies, institutions and audiences throughout the United States. The Ted M. Larson Award Celebrates the memory of our irreplaceable Ted.

Tony McRae

RECIPIENT OF THE 2010 TED M. LARSON AWARD

Tony McRae (b. May 19, 1933) is a movie critic and retired professor. McRae taught for many years at Concordia College, and created the class Film, Cinema, Movies in the French department. McRae is a contributing movie reviewer for North Dakota Public Radio 91.9 FM, and WDAY AM Radio 970, has served on the board of directors of the Fargo Theatre, and has participated on many screening committees for the Fargo Film Festival. He is a well-respected historian of international cinema, particularly French film, and he is also an expert on the movies and career of British filmmaker Michael Powell. Tony came out of retirement to teach Film Appreciation at Minnesota State University Moorhead in 2008 following the death of his longtime friend Rusty Casselton.



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