



Film Streams and ACLU Nebraska present INHERIT THE WIND (1960)

Special screening on October 13 to be followed by panel discussion on free speech

Omaha, Nebraska (September 22, 2009)—A classic feature film chronicling the first high-profile trial for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) will be the subject of a special screening and panel discussion at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater.

On Tuesday, October 13 at 6:30 p.m., Film Streams and ACLU Nebraska will present a collaborative screening of INHERIT THE WIND, director Stanley Kramer's 1960 adaptation of the stage play of the same name based on the 1925 Scopes "Monkey Trial."

A post-show panel discussion will follow the screening. Panelists will include: Samuel Walker, Professor Emeritus of Criminal Justice at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and former member of both the ACLU Nebraska and the national ACLU boards of directors; Rosemary Strasser, Associate Professor of Psychology and Courtesy Appointment in Biology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha; Dave Moshman, Professor of Educational Psychology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and member of ACLU Nebraska board of directors; and Lyle Middendorf, Senior Vice President & Chief Technical Officer, Advanced Research & Development, at Li-Cor Biotechnology.

The screening and discussion will take place at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater, located at the corner of 14th and Webster within the Saddle Creek Records complex in downtown Omaha. The collaboration is part of Film Streams' Community Development Program, which facilitates partnerships with other nonprofits and community groups on film-related events that speak to their missions and programming.

Directed by Stanley Kramer and adapted from the play written by Jerome Lawrence and Robert Edwin Lee, INHERIT THE WIND fictionalizes the 1925 Scopes "Monkey Trial," in which a schoolteacher was prosecuted for teaching Darwin's Theory of Evolution in defiance of state law. Much of the film's courtroom dialogue is drawn from the original court transcripts, which pitted ACLU lawyer and defense attorney Clarence Darrow (represented in the movie by Spencer Tracy) opposite prosecutor William Jennings Bryan (Fredric March) in a debate over whether a specific religious view of creation should be taught as a scientific theory.

To this day, creationism vs. evolution (and the teaching thereof) remains a hot topic in some places. The screening and discussion — featuring panelists with differing viewpoints — presents an opportunity to consider what civil liberties are and how they play out in current events.

Tickets for the INHERIT THE WIND screening and post-show discussion are on sale now at the box office inside Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater and online at www.filmstreams.org. Tickets are \$8 general admission, \$6 for seniors, students and teachers, and \$4 for Film Streams Members.

For more information, please contact Casey Logan by phone at (402) 933-0259 x 11 or email at casey@filmstreams.org.



ACLU Nebraska is a locally incorporated 501(c)3 organization with a volunteer board of directors and a diverse membership. We are committed to the protection of civil liberties of all persons. These liberties include the rights secured by the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Nebraska. Individual rights are central to the organizing principles of our nation. Protection of these rights takes priority over government efficiency and the will of the majority. ACLU Nebraska works through its legal, legislative and public education programs to protect and promote civil liberties throughout the State of Nebraska. For more information, visit www.aclunebraska.org.

FILM STREAMS™

AT THE RUTH SOKOLOF THEATER

Film Streams is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the cultural environment of the Omaha-Council Bluffs area through the presentation and discussion of film as an art form. In July 2007, we opened the Ruth Sokolof Theater, our two-screen cinema located within the Saddle Creek Records complex north of downtown Omaha. For more information, visit us online at www.filmstreams.org.

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