

Series to explore conflict resolution through cinema

Film Streams and The Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution at Creighton University School of Law present three award-winning films with post-show talks moderated by Werner Institute faculty

Omaha, Nebraska (January 18, 2010)—Conflict is an integral part of life, yet it is not always handled constructively. This February, Film Streams and the Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution at Creighton University School of Law will present three award-winning films, each of which addresses the impact of conflict on individuals and society. All three screenings will be followed by discussions about alternative approaches to conflict resolution, led by faculty members from the Werner Institute.

The three-film “Conflict in Films” series will take place at Film Streams’ Ruth Sokolof Theater, located at the corner of 14th Street and Mike Fahey (formerly Webster) Street. The collaborative series 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.

The three films selected for the series are:

Thursday, February 11, 7 p.m.

The Story of Qui Ju (Dir. Yimou Zhang, 1992): An internationally acclaimed film depicting a Chinese peasant woman’s quest for justice in a highly bureaucratic society.

Thursday, February 18, 7 p.m.

The Sweet Hereafter (Dir. Atom Egoyan, 1997): A powerful adaptation of the Russell Banks novel about a small community in grief following a horrible school bus accident resulting in the death of several local children. The parents are then approached by a lawyer encouraging them toward a class-action lawsuit.

Wednesday, February 24, 7 p.m.

9500 Liberty (Dir. Eric Byler & Annabel Park, 2009): A provocative documentary about an American community at the center of the divisive debate over immigration policy.

Each screening will be followed by a discussion about the film in relation to the dynamics of conflict escalation, the limitations of the adversary legal and political systems for addressing conflicts, and effective methods for constructive conflict resolution. More information about each film, as well as discussion moderators, can be found on the following page.

Tickets for all three screenings are on sale now at the box office inside Film Streams’ Ruth Sokolof Theater (14th and Mike Fahey Streets) and online at www.FilmStreams.org. Tickets are \$9 general admission, \$7 for seniors, students and teachers, and \$4.50 for Film Streams Members. For more information about the series, please contact Casey Logan by phone at (402) 933-0259 x 11 or email at casey@filmstreams.org.

Conflict in Films

A three-film series presented by Film Streams and the Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution at Creighton University School of Law.

Thursday, February 11, 7pm

The Story of Qiu Ju 1992

Directed by Yimou Zhang.

An internationally acclaimed film and winner of the Golden Lion Award at the Venice Film Festival, about a Chinese peasant woman's quest for justice in a highly bureaucratic society after her husband is humiliated by the village head. Qiu Ju, despite her pregnancy, heads out on the road and faces obstacles while attempting to resolve the conflict through various formal and informal processes. In Mandarin with English subtitles. China/Hong Kong; 101 min.



*Following the film will be a discussion highlighting and comparing various processes of conflict resolution and exploring interesting cultural aspects of the film. Moderated by **Arthur Pearlstein**, Director of the Werner Institute, and **Maorong Jiang**, Director of the Asia World Center at Creighton University.*

Thursday, February 18, 7pm

The Sweet Hereafter 1997

Directed by Atom Egoyan.

Atom Egoyan's masterful, beautifully shot adaptation of the Russell Banks novel about a small community in grief following a horrible school bus accident resulting in the death of several children. The parents are approached by a lawyer encouraging them toward a class-action lawsuit. This film earned Academy Award nominations for Best Direction and Best Screenplay, as well as a Palm d'Or nomination at the 1997 Cannes Film Festival. Canada; 112 min.



*Following the film will be a discussion examining the themes of the film and exploring alternatives to formal legal remedies. Moderated by **Ran Kuttner**, Assistant Professor for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution.*

Wednesday, February 24, 7pm

9500 Liberty 2009

Directed by Eric Byler & Annabel Park.

A provocative documentary exploring the people and events surrounding a controversial ordinance requiring police officers to question anyone they had "probably cause" to suspect of being an undocumented immigrant. This public conflict placed Prince William County, Virginia, at the center of a national debate over immigration policy. USA; 76 min.



*Following the film will be a discussion on the value of dialogue and civic engagement in approaching immigration and similar issues. Moderated by **Palma Strand**, Assistant Professor of Law and Werner Institute faculty member, **Jackie Font-Guzman**, Associate Director of the Werner Institute and Assistant Professor of Negotiation and Dispute Resolution, and **David Weber**, Assistant Professor of Law at Creighton Law School.*



THE WERNER INSTITUTE
FOR NEGOTIATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Creighton
UNIVERSITY
School of Law

The Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution is one of the leading centers in the nation for the study and advancement of conflict resolution, collaborative governance and civic engagement. Through its graduate program as well as its Public Issues Collaboration Program (PIC), The Werner Institute aims to enhance awareness, develop innovation, and provide education and service concerning alternative approaches to conflict resolution in an effort to reduce the costs of conflict while increasing opportunities for collaborative gain in interpersonal, organizational and public settings.

For more information, visit <http://www.creighton.edu/werner/>.

FILM  **STREAMS**TM
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. Open 7 days a week, our cinema hosts four principal programs: **First Run Films** – new American independents, documentaries, and foreign films making their theatrical premiere in the Omaha-Council Bluffs metropolitan area; **Repertory Selections** – Classic films, themed series, and director retrospectives; **Arts in Education** – Diverse programming teaching area high school students how to interpret films in a cultural context, empathize with characters in ways that are beneficial to their own personal development, and analyze film as an art form; and **Community Development** – Lectures, forums, Q&A's with film professionals, partnerships with other nonprofits and community groups on film-based events, and other activities that engage the public in a dialogue about film and contribute to a vibrant local arts community.

For more information, visit us online at www.filmstreams.org.

Made possible with the support of



Nebraska ARTS COUNCIL
through funds from
the Nebraska Legislature,
National Endowment for the Arts,
and Nebraska Cultural Endowment.
www.nebraskaartscouncil.org



NEBRASKA
CULTURAL
ENDOWMENT

