



RUTH SOKOLOF THEATER
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FILMSTREAMS.ORG



OMAHA'S OWN
NONPROFIT CINEMA
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**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS ANNOUNCES
GRANT TO FILM STREAMS**

\$25,000 grant will support the exhibition of repertory film and special programs

December 9, 2010—OMAHA, NE—Rocco Landesman, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, announced that Film Streams has been approved for a grant of \$25,000 to support the nonprofit cinema's exhibition of repertory film and special programs.

"I continue to be impressed with the creative, innovative, and excellent projects brought forward by arts organizations across the country," Landesman said. "Our grantees are not only furthering their art forms but also enhancing their neighborhoods by making them more vibrant, livable, and fun."

"To receive a supporting stamp of approval from the National Endowment for the Arts is a tremendous honor and major institutional milestone for our young nonprofit," said Rachel Jacobson, founder and director of Film Streams. "The NEA receives proposals from outstanding arts organizations throughout the country. It is truly rewarding to know that Film Streams' programming is recognized on such a national scale. There are major metropolitan areas, with populations significantly greater than Omaha, that don't have access to the sort of dedicated, year-round repertory film program we are so proud to offer."

A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Film Streams is 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, Film Streams opened the Ruth Sokolof Theater, a two-screen cinema located at the corner of 14th & Mike Fahey (formerly Webster) Street within the Saddle Creek Records complex in North Downtown Omaha.

Since then, Film Streams has presented over 500 films, including more than 140 first-run premieres of new American independents, foreign films and documentaries—the vast majority of which would not have played to Omaha audiences otherwise.

The NEA grant will support Film Streams' Repertory Program, a year-round calendar of classic films, themed series and director retrospectives.

To date, Film Streams has returned more than 330 classics to the big screen within more than two dozen repertory series. In the past year alone, Film Streams' Repertory Program has featured a 7-film series devoted to legendary filmmaker Orson Welles (*Great Directors: Orson Welles*), an 8-film series about the LGBT experience (*Out in Film*), a biennial, 10-film series of Latino, Latin American and Spanish cinema presented with the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (*Cinemateca II*), a 10-film series celebrating cinema and comedy icon Charlie Chaplin (*Great Directors: Chaplin*) and week-long revivals of such masterpieces as

Francois Truffaut's *SMALL CHANGE*, Jean-Luc Godard's *BREATHLESS*, Vittorio De Sica's *BICYCLE THIEVES* and Fritz Lang's *METROPOLIS*. Film Streams' presentation of *METROPOLIS* also featured a special screening with live musical accompaniment by the renowned Alloy Orchestra.

The NEA grant also supports Special Programs at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater, including Q&A screenings with visiting filmmakers and guests. In 2010, Film Streams presented nine special screenings with visiting filmmakers and guests and partnered with more than two dozen community organizations on collaborative film events.

Film Streams is one of 1,057 nonprofit organizations recommended for a grant as part of the NEA's first round of fiscal year 2011 grants. In total, the Arts Endowment will distribute \$26.68 million to support projects nationwide.

As a nonprofit committed to screening films based on their creative, artistic and social merits, Film Streams depends on the support of its membership program, individual donors, grants from foundations, corporations and government organizations, and community volunteers. For more information about Film Streams and its programs, visit www.filmstreams.org.

The National Endowment for the Arts was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government that has awarded more than \$4 billion on projects of artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector. To join the discussion on how art works, visit the National Endowment for the Arts at arts.gov.

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