

TENTH ANNUAL

sidewalk

MOVING PICTURE FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY REGIONS



For immediate release:

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Celebrating 10 Years of Independents **Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival** **Announces Closing Night Film**

'Bama Girl To Shutter Sidewalk '08

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – The Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival, recently recognized as one of TIME magazine's "Film Festivals for the Rest of Us" and featured on STARZ! network, is pleased to announce its competitive feature film line up. "I am extremely excited about this year's closing night film. 'Bama Girl promises to be a very provocative film," says Catherine Pfitzer, the festival's Executive Director.

The 2008 Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival presented by Regions Bank will celebrate "Ten Years of Independents." This year's festival will be September 26-28 and is located in downtown Birmingham's historic Theatre District. Venues include the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, historic theatres such as the Alabama and Carver Theatres, Birmingham Museum of Art, the McWane Science Center, the recently completed Alabama Banquet Room in the Alabama Theatre, Regions Hall and the Sidewalk Music Lounge at the Speakeasy.

'Bama Girl follows a young black woman's quest to become the Homecoming Queen at the University of Alabama, one of the great Deep South institutions. Homecoming has a rich history there, tied into centuries of privilege, tradition, and racial exclusivity. We follow Jessica Thomas' campaign for Queen, running against not only 15 other co-eds, but a strictly segregated Greek system, internal black politics, and a secret all-white association called 'The Machine' that has been controlling politics at the University for most of the past century. This is a film about the light and the dark sides of heritage -- and an unexpected microcosm of electoral politics that reflects much of what is happening across our country today.

For more information about 'Bama Girl please visit www.sidewalkfest.com

~More~

Press kits, hi resolution images and DVD screeners of festival films are available (on a limited basis) upon request. Please contact David Barry or Natalie Hummel to request specific screeners and make arrangements to pick films up at the Sidewalk office. Please only request what you can view and return within 48 hours.

This year's festival will be September 26-28, 2008. Opening Night tickets are \$12 in advance / \$15 at the door. Weekend Passes are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door. Discounts are available for Sidewalk members and students with valid ID. Tickets will be available online at www.sidewalkfest.com. Single film tickets will be available for \$8 each or three for \$20 during the festival weekend. Additional information is also available online at www.sidewalkfest.com.

The 2008 Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival presented by Regions Bank is sponsored Alabama Power, Ebsco Industries, Sloss Real Estate Group, Fox 6, Charter Media, Birmingham Weekly, Bright House, Birmingham Magazine, al.com, Vulcan Materials, Baker Donelson, Slaughter Group, Whole Foods, McWane Science Center, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Clarus Consulting Group, and is made possible, in part, by the Hugh Kaul foundation.

The Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival Presented By Regions Bank is a project of the Alabama Moving Image Association, Inc., a publicly supported 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created to inspire, encourage and support films and filmmaking in Alabama.

About Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival Presented By Regions Bank

The Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival Presented By Regions Bank is a celebration of new independent cinema in downtown Birmingham. This year's festival will be September 26-28, 2008. Since its debut in 1999 filmmakers from across the country and around the world have come to Birmingham to screen their work at Sidewalk and have been thrilled to discover fresh, enthusiastic crowds eager to devour new independent cinema. The atmosphere at Sidewalk is electric with creativity and collaboration as film-lovers and filmmakers mix and mingle between screenings, participate in panel discussions, or simply enjoy food at the Sidewalk Café or live music at the Sidewalk Music Lounge. Don't miss your chance to be a part of what the Ultimate Film Festival Survival Guide calls "One of the Top 10 Film Festival Vacations."

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**For more information about the Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival
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Visit us online: www.sidewalkfest.com**