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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**AMDUR PRODUCTIONS AND BITTER JESTER CREATIVE, INC.
PRESENT 1ST ANNUAL PORT CLINTON FILM FESTIVAL AUG. 21- 24**

Schedule Includes Screenings of Feature Films Shot on Site,
Nationally Submitted Short Films, Talks by Industry Professionals and More

HIGHLAND PARK, Ill. - Coinciding with the 25th Anniversary of the 2008 Port Clinton Art Festival, Amdur Productions and Bitter Jester Creative, Inc. will present the 1st Annual Port Clinton Film Festival, Thursday through Sunday Aug. 21 – 24, at Highland Park's Landmark Renaissance Place Movie Theatre, 1850 Second Street. The film festival begins at 5:30 p.m. each of the four days and will feature nationally-submitted short films, screenings of well-known feature films that have been shot in the City of Highland Park, live filmmaker seminars and talks by industry professionals.

"This year marks the 25th Anniversary of the Port Clinton Art Festival and the perfect time to initiate an exciting new event," notes Amdur President and Founder, Amy B. Amdur. "With Nicolas DeGrazia, Daniel Kullman, and the entire Bitter Jester team on board, we know the 1st Annual Port Clinton Film Festival will be an extraordinary experience for film fans."

The schedule for the four-day film festival is as follows (as of June 17, 2008):

- Thursday, June 21 (Theater #4): 5:30-5:45 p.m. – Festival opening and introductory comments; 5:45-6:20 p.m. – film talk – "Meet the Judges & Overview of Feature Films Shot in Highland Park ; 6:20-6:55 p.m. – Highland Park High School student shorts; 7-8:30 p.m. – feature film, Tom Brickman's *Risky Business* starring Tom Cruise (1983); 8:40-9:00 p.m. – film short, *Hollywood in Highland Park*; 9:05-9:55 p.m. – film talk, "An Insider's View of Film Acting" by *Hollywood in Highland Park* director JoBe Cerny; 10-11:30 p.m. – comedy shorts.
- Friday, June 22 (Theater #1): 5:30-6:50 p.m. – college student shorts; 7-8:45 p.m. – feature film, John Hughes' *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* starring Matthew Broderick (1986); 8:50-10:20 p.m. – comedy shorts; 10:25-11:55 p.m. – dramatic shorts.
- Saturday, June 23 (Theater #4): 5:30-6:55 p.m. – animated shorts; 7-7:50 p.m. – film talk, "The Use and Placement of Fine Art in Film;" 8-9:30 p.m. – dramatic shorts; 9:35-10:25 p.m. – short shorts; 10:25-11:25 p.m. – adult shorts; 11:25-11:55 p.m. – experimental shorts. Saturday, June 23 (Theater #1): 5:30-6:05 p.m. – Bitter Jester shorts; 6:10-6:30 p.m. – film talk, "Shoot Your Family-Memories for a Lifetime;" 6:35-7:55 p.m. – documentary shorts; 8-10:20 p.m. Ed Harris' Academy Award-winning *Pollock*, starring Harris and Marcia Gay Harden (2000) - two short art documentaries and a brief filmmaker/artist Q&A precede the feature; 10:25 p.m.-12:10 a.m. – feature film, John Hughes' *Risky Business* (1983);

- more -

- Sunday, June 24 (Theater #4): 5:30-6 p.m. – filmmaker awards ceremony leading immediately into the 6-7:50 p.m. – “Best of the Fest” film shorts with filmmaker Q&A following; 8-10:05 p.m. – feature film, Robert Redford’s Academy and Golden Globe Award-winning *Ordinary People* (1980).

(Schedule is preliminary and subject to change. For schedule updates visit www.PortClintonFilmFest.com or call 847.433.8662)

Submissions for the Film Festival are still being accepted now through June 30. Eligible short films must be original works completed after Jan. 1, 2006, no more than 15 minutes in length, in a Mini-DV tape, DVD or Beta-SP format. For this inaugural year all entry fees have been waived. A panel of preview judges will view all submissions and will make selections based on criteria including quality and content. Upon selection, all short films will go into competition and will be judged by a different panel of local celebrity judges. Those selected to screen in the competition will be notified by July 21. For a registration packet or more information, visit the film festival website www.PortClintonFilmFest.com, call the film festival hotline at 847.433.8662 or e-mail FilmFest@BitterJester.com.

The 1st Annual Port Clinton Film Festival will take place Thursday through Sunday, Aug. 21 - 24 at the Highland Park Landmark Renaissance Place Movie Theatre, 1850 Second Street. The film festival begins at 5:30 p.m. each of the four days. For more information, visit www.PortClintonFilmFest.com or call the film fest hotline at 847.433.8662.

The Annual Port Clinton Art Festival will take place Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 23 – 24 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at 600 Central Avenue, Highland Park, Ill. This year, for its 25th Anniversary, Highland Park’s Port Clinton Art Festival, in conjunction with the launch of the 1st Annual Port Clinton Film Festival (Aug. 21 –24), and 2nd Annual Taste of Highland Park (Aug. 22-24) creates a phenomenal August “Great Art, Great Taste” celebration on the North Shore. For the Port Clinton Art Festival alone, more than 275,000 visitors are projected to fill plazas, sidewalks, parking lots, and streets to purchase work from more than 260 world-class juried artists. Throughout the popular festival visitors will also enjoy continuous music ranging from acoustic guitar to classical harp music, jazz, and mouth watering food and drink by some of the area’s best restaurants. In the National City Family Art Tent families can collaborate on a variety of art projects and everyone can express their creativity in the Paint-A-Car tent by painting on a real car donated by Fields Auto. There is also an opportunity take in on-site literacy events sponsored by the Highland Park Public Library. Admission and parking are free. For more information: visit www.amdurproductions.com. Sponsors for 2008 Port Clinton Art Festival: CLTV, WBBM News Radio, WNUA, WLIT, Blick, Embodi, Equinox Fitness , Hills Pet Food, National City, Renewal by Andersen, Fields Auto, Maui Wowi, Sunset Foods, Toasted Head, Pepsi and the Pioneer Press.

Founded in 1984, the Highland Park-based Amdur Productions, Inc. is a nationally acclaimed arts festival production company that organizes and directs a selection of the Chicago area’s most prestigious and successful juried summer art fairs. All of Amdur’s festivals have been rated in *Sunshine Artist* magazine’s top 100 with half in the top 50, and the Port Clinton Art Festival and Gold Coast Art Fair in the top 10. For more information about Amdur Productions Inc., including 2008 festival sponsorship opportunities call 847.926.4300 or email info@amdurproductions.com.

Incorporated in 2001, Highland Park-based Bitter Jester Creative, Inc. is a creative content production company. Dedicated to imagination, creative expression, and the exploration of the human condition through storytelling, Bitter Jester’s projects include documentaries, short films, live theater productions, corporate commercials and media packages, family history biopics and innovative product and portrait photography. For more information call 847.433.8660 or visit www.BitterJester.com.