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## **Come on, Tallahassee. Help name next year's new film festival**

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Tallahassee's new film festival is in need of a name.

The inaugural edition of the three-day event, which is sponsored by Knight Creative Communities Initiative, takes place May 15-17, 2008, and will showcase professional and emerging local talent in film, music and related arts endeavors. The fest needs a title, and organizers are soliciting Tallahassee's creative minds for ideas.

Entries, which can be submitted by e-mailing [kccitallahassee@gmail.com](mailto:kccitallahassee@gmail.com) by July 27, will be narrowed down to three finalists. The entire community will then be invited to vote to determine the winner, who will receive complimentary tickets to all festival events and VIP access to visiting filmmakers, celebrities and dignitaries.

After a name has been chosen, festival organizers will ask local artists and graphic designers to submit logo ideas.

Gloria Pugh, one of the festival's three directors, said the planning committee has already received many suggestions for the festival's name.

"We want the community to know that this is their festival," said Pugh. "We have such a wealthy environment in relation to the arts - from filmmakers to glass blowers."

She said next year the festival hopes to include participants from nearby counties and one day grow into a statewide or nationwide event.

KCCI is a community-driven economic development organization established by the Knight Foundation. The festival is one of four local "community catalysts" launched by the foundation, according to KCCI program director and former *Tallahassee Democrat* publisher Mike Pate.

Pate said events such as the film festival add to the city's cultural landscape and make it better overall.

"Young professionals today are choosing where they will live before they are deciding what company they want to work for," Pate said. "So from an economical development standpoint, we need to think about developing the community to keep them here - give them reasons to stay."

The May festival will host educational seminars and workshops throughout the three days. There will be a variety of film presentations, including some award-winning films and those produced by local residents and college students. The event's planning committee will present a Lifetime Achievement Award as well as an Emerging Talent Award at the event's opening reception.

There will also be a party called "STARFEST," which will showcase artistic talent in Downtown GetDown-style. The festivities will conclude on the third day with an "It's a Wrap" party.

Pate said implementation of the foundation's other community catalyst initiatives for Tallahassee - Greenovation (promoting residential and commercial green construction), Get Gaines Going (speeding up redevelopment and revitalization in the Gaines Street area) and Jump Start Plan X (assisting local entrepreneurs in creating successful independent businesses) - has already started.