



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRIDE: In Several Short Cinematic Acts will take place on January 31 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater in Bloomington, Ind. *PRIDE* is Bloomington's first film festival devoted entirely to issues and situations concerning the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities. The festival is an opportunity to celebrate artistic achievement, as well as to strengthen community-wide attitudes of awareness, acceptance and appreciation of diversity. The same ten films will be shown at each screening, many of which are Indiana premieres.

"Queer film has become an important cultural force at every major independent film festival," says Dr. Joan Hawkins, professor of communication and culture at Indiana University. The films chosen for this year's festival represent a wide range of human experiences, and are a true celebration of the diversity of the LGBT community. Subjects range from a young Surinamese woman who must come out to her mother, to a man who discovers a "Gaydar" gun that will detect the sexual preference of his office crush, to a woman who is battling the courts to claim rights after her partner, a Florida police officer, is murdered. Numerous prestigious awards have been granted to these films, from festivals including Toronto Lesbian & Gay Film Festival, San Francisco International Film Festival and Sundance Film Festival.

Professor Hawkins and doctoral candidate Jeff Bennett from the Indiana University Department of Communication and Culture will deliver introductions to the screenings. In addition to the films, Bloomingfoods Encore Café is sponsoring a reception for all ticket holders from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. There will also be a chance to win handcrafted jewelry that has been custom-designed for *PRIDE* by Fossil Rain. Each set includes a combination of bracelets, necklaces, rings or earrings, and is set in sterling silver with a variety of fossils, gemstones and minerals.

Tickets for *PRIDE* are on sale now at the Sunrise Box Office, which is located at 114 E. Kirkwood Ave. They are \$5 for students and \$7 for non-students, and can be purchased at the box office or by calling (812) 323-

3020. Further information about *PRIDE* can be found by visiting www.buskirkchumley.org or www.indiana.edu/~pride.

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*The Buskirk-Chumley Theater is a 600 seat, historic theater located at **114 E. Kirkwood** in downtown Bloomington. Beautifully restored by the Bloomington Area Arts Council, the theater is currently managed by a private non-profit organization, BCT Management, Inc. The theater is a valued community resource, available for public or private events. Upcoming events information can be found at www.buskirkchumley.org or by calling (812) 323-3020.*

*Tickets for all events at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater are available at the **Sunrise Box Office**, located at the theater, and open 7 days a week from 12pm – 5pm. Tickets can be purchased by phone during business hours with a Visa or Mastercard at **(812) 323-3020**.*

***Bloomingfoods Theater Café** provides high quality concessions during all performances. Beer and wine are also available at appropriate events. The Café is open for breakfast, lunch, snacks, and organic Fair Trade coffee, Monday - Saturday 7am-7 pm.*

***The Textillery Gallery**, located on the second floor of the theater, features local and regional artists, is open to the public Monday – Saturday 7am – 7pm and during scheduled performances. Access to the Textillery Gallery at non-performance times is through the Theater Café located next door to the Theater. Enjoy coffee or a snack as you peruse each month's exhibit!*