



Studio Movie Grill Chatham Hosts 6 Weeks of Community Events to Celebrate Remodel

Bud Billiken Grand Marshall Chance The Rapper Returns to Announce Royal Court

CHICAGO (March 13, 2017) – Chatham’s resident first-run movie theater Studio Movie Grill (“SMG”), the leading full-service, in-theater dining concept, is celebrating the completion of its nearly \$3 million recent remodel with a six-week lineup of special screenings and events. Residents of Chatham and communities across the city are invited to experience nearly two months of special community activities at Studio Movie Grill Chatham, 210 W. 87th Street.

“Our success is based on making the world a better place and leaving a positive wake in our communities,” remarked Brian Schultz, founder and CEO of Studio Movie Grill. “We’re extremely proud of the work our teams are doing both inside and outside the theater to bring our mission to ‘open hearts and minds, one story at a time’ to life.”

The robust community and grass-roots event series for its SMG Chatham theater includes:

- A Netflix original movie screening of “**Burning Sands**” with a panel discussion moderated by Robin Robinson sold out on Saturday, March 11, and screenings of “**Hidden Figures**” with Cardinal Blase Cupich were shown this past weekend with the Archdiocese of Chicago.
- **Oak Street Health** will offer a free screening of “**The Shack**” on Tuesday, March 14. Interested parties must RSVP to 844.808.8262.
- To help fill pantry shelves, from March 13-16 the **SMG Cans Film Festival Food Drive** benefitting the **Greater Chicago Food Depository** will offer a free movie pass, good for the day of the donation, for every four cans of food or non-perishable food items donated.
- **Flashback Café** will present “**Love & Basketball**” on Thursday, March 30.
- SMG is extraordinarily excited to launch a screen dedicated year-round to **Black World Cinema** on March 17 with a weeklong showing of “**Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise,**” also in honor of Women’s History Month, followed by a weeklong showing of “**Chapter and Verse**” starting on March 24.

(more)



SMG Chatham Community / Add One

- **A'Vents by August** will host an opening weekend screening fundraiser for "**Beauty and The Beast**" on Sunday, March 19. For tickets call 773.789.7787 or visit www.eventbrite.com/e/movie-date-disneys-beauty-and-the-beast-tickets-32609174920.
- **Real Men Charities** will screen **Che Rhymefest's** film "**In My Father's House**" which includes a Q&A and will take place on March 21. Visit www.realmencook.com for tickets.
- **Senior Talk with Clara Hubbard** offers free health checks from 10:00am-2:00pm. as well as a free screening of "**The Shack**" on March 21. Call 312.428.6919 to RSVP.
- Tuskegee Airmen Day is March 22 and SMG will help celebrate the **Chicago Chapter of The Tuskegee Airmen with a cocktail reception** on March 23. For tickets, contact www.taichicago.org.
- On March 25, the SMG Chatham team will donate an adaptive bike to a local special needs child, alongside non-profit partner Variety, the Children's Charity of Illinois, which has supported the Neil School in Chatham and Beacon Therapeutic. SMG will launch its **Special Needs Screening** program with a screening of "**Beauty & The Beast**" at 11:00am. These screenings are a pillar of SMG's outreach and are offered free for children with special needs and their siblings to encourage families to attend together. In addition, SMG's **Chefs for Children** initiative donates 5 percent of the proceeds of popular menu items to non-profits serving special needs children.
- **Chance the Rapper** will return to SMG Chatham, where he so generously donated all the tickets for "Get Out" on every screen in February, to announce the winners of the **Bud Billiken Royal Court** after a private movie screening on March 25.
- On March 27, SMG Chatham will host **Maranatha Church** for a screening of "**Hope Concert Film**" starring Grammy-nominated singer Candy LaFlora. Visit www.2017hopeconcertmovie.eventbrite.com for details and on March 29 there will be a **Black Star Project** film screening and discussion.
- Watch for live events on the **SMG Live** stage in the lobby for performances by local musicians, spoken word artists during cocktail hour at the bar, DJ appearances and the King of Poetry Blaq ICE and The P.O.E.T. Movement on April 2 from 5:00-7:00pm.
- During Spring Break, help young Jahkil Jackson create Blessing Bags on April 10 starting at 9:00am and see a screening of "**The Boss Baby**." Participants must RSVP to info@iamnaeem.com.
- On April 8, there will be a **Special Needs Screening** of "**The Boss Baby**" at 11:00am.

(more)



SMG Chatham Community / Add Two

Recruiting and hiring from within the community promotes economic stability and enhances community relationships while demonstrating SMG's ongoing investment in local markets. "Having worked in the Chatham neighborhood and with the theater for the past 20 years, I am proud to continue to impact and serve our community as an events manager for Studio Movie Grill," said Venisha White-Johnson. "The newly-remodeled theater, with expansive bar and lobby area, offers the perfect venue for all occasions. Not only is it a great place to see a movie, have a meal, or share a favorite beverage, but it's also a gathering place, a relaxing venue to meet up with family and friends before or after a movie."

About Studio Movie Grill

Studio Movie Grill, the leader in in-theater dining exhibition and named to Inc. Magazine's 35th Annual List of Fastest Growing Private Companies, has modernized the traditional movie-going experience by combining first-run movies with full-service, in-theater dining. Since 2000, SMG has swiftly grown to 24 locations in 9 states. Its long-standing Special Needs Screenings and Chefs for Children community programs continue to help families everywhere. SMG ranks #1 in box offices in in-theater dining concepts. For corporate information, visit:

www.studiomoviegrill.com. For local information, contact vjohnson@studiomoviegrill.com.

###

MEDIA CONTACTS:

ADORN Lewis-Mitchell, (312) 318-9696, ADORN@abmitchellassociates.com

Lynne McQuaker, Studio Movie Grill, Office: (972) 388-7888, lmcquaker@studiomoviegrill.com