

## Tipton Becomes an “Eastern Iowa Hollywood”

*Filmmakers from around the country visit for Film Festival*

While the Tipton community is expecting an influx of visitors this weekend for Ridiculous Days and the Hardacre Film & Cinema Festival, some of these visitors will not be the garden-variety folks you normally see at small town events. Tipton residents will have their own “little Hollywood” as filmmakers from around the country will be in town for the film festival.

“I’m really happy to see filmmakers making the trip,” says Travis Alden, first year festival director. “It’s great for the community and it’s great for the filmmakers. They get to see how their film plays to an Eastern Iowa audience – which is actually quite valuable.”

Those who will be in attendance include:

Neil Mandt – director/producer/actor – “Last Stop For Paul”

Alan Abel – subject – “Abel Raises Cain”

Ruth & Wolf Hatch – directors & animators – “Mannyapolis”

Eric Scholl & Cyndi Moran – co-directors and co-producers – “It’s In The Blood”

Mark Huelsbeck – director/producer – “Me & Mom”

Kevin Kelley – director – “Healing Iraq: A Tale Of Two Doctors”

Keya Lea Horiuchi – director/producer – “Considering Democracy”

The filmmakers hail from across the US: Mandt from Los Angeles; Abel from New York; the Hatches from New Jersey; Scholl and Moran from Illinois; Horiuchi from Colorado; while Kelley and Huelsbeck hail from the Iowa City area.

“The filmmakers are all going to host question & answer sessions after their films are shown,” notes Alden. “It’ll be an opportunity for both the filmmaker and audience to interact with each other directly – something you don’t see at larger festivals.”

While the small Hardacre festival provides an intimate setting for both audience and filmmaker, it doesn’t yet have the resources to directly bring directors and producers out for the festival.

“We’d love to be able to fly everybody out here for the festival, like larger ones can. Our budget is super-shoestring.” Alden says. “But, I hope to be able to build on our success year after year to hopefully get to that point. Having filmmakers present at your festival is really important – it puts it on the map.”

More information about the thirty films to be screened, as well as advance tickets to the festival, are available by visiting [www.hardacrefilmfestival.com](http://www.hardacrefilmfestival.com).

“You never know – you might sit next to Alan Abel in the theatre.” Alden smiles. “That would be awesome!”

For more information please contact festival staff at [hfcf@tiptoniowa.us](mailto:hfcf@tiptoniowa.us) or 563-886-6350.