



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **SPY HOP PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS THE SEVENTH ANNUAL LOCOMOTION YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL**

**Salt Lake City, UT** – Spy Hop Productions, in partnership with the Utah State Office of Education, presents the 2008 LocoMotion Youth Film Festival on Friday May 9<sup>th</sup> at the City Library, located at 210 East 400 South. Film production workshops will be ongoing from 9:00am to 2:30pm. Festival screenings will run from 11:30am to 1:00pm, and Spy Hop films will show throughout the day. All festival activities are offered free of charge.

The LocoMotion Youth Film Festival, now in its seventh year, is dedicated to the celebration and endorsement of a youth voice. Festival screenings will include some of the best youth produced media from around the country. Workshops, aimed specifically at youth ages 15-19, will cover a wide range of film production topics. By creating a space in which to showcase youth voices through film, the hope is to promote youth perspectives and concerns at large. By providing access to media production skills, the hope is to foster an opportunity for the amplification of youth voices in our local community.

This year's workshops include Acting for Film, Foley, Film Music, Make-Up Special FX, Cinematography, Directing, History of Science Fiction Film, and Claymation. All workshops will be taught by locally and nationally recognized professionals in the field. Workshop instructors include, but are not limited to: Ryan Purcell, a foley artist and sound editor with over 22 years experience; Michelle Wright of W Talent whose many credits include "NYPD Blue," "General Hospital," HBO, *The Singles Ward* among others; Max Weiss, a teacher and leading talent in the industry having worked on *Darkroom* (2008); Marty Patch of Cosmic Pictures; and Stephen Williams, a local teacher and filmmaker, having directed *Blessing* (2003).

Though most of the content for the screenings has been handpicked from youth media studios around the country, there is one competition open to any local youth interested in participating – the **24-Hour Filmmaking Competition**. Parameters for the competition will be released at 5pm on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> both on location at Spy Hop Productions and online at [www.spyhop.org](http://www.spyhop.org). After the guidelines are released, the contestants will have 24

hours to plan, write, edit, and produce their films. All films must be returned or postmarked back to Spy Hop Productions by 5pm on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. The films will be judged according to artisanship, technical merit, and originality. The top entries will be screened at the festival on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Spy Hop Productions is a not-for-profit youth media arts and educational enrichment center located in the historic Art Space district of downtown Salt Lake City. Its mission is to cultivate the visions and voices of an emerging generation via the big screen, the airwaves, and the world-wide-web. Spy Hop offers programs in filmmaking, interactive design, and sound engineering. Since its inception in 1999, Spy Hop has served more than 10,000 young people from all backgrounds in the Wasatch community and with the help of professional mentors, the work produced by Spy Hop's young artists has reached a national audience in the millions.

**Presenting Sponsor:**  
Utah State Office of Education



**Major Sponsor:**  
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