

Holly Caughron, Marketing Coordinator  
Spy Hop Productions  
801-532-7500, [holly@spyhop.org](mailto:holly@spyhop.org)  
[www.spyhop.org](http://www.spyhop.org)



"Empowering youth through multimedia"

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## News Release

### **MOVE OVER SUNDANCE, HERE COMES SPY HOP!** *SPY HOP PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS LOCAL YOUTH FILMS IN THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PITCH NIC PREMIERE*

**Salt Lake City, UT – October 11, 2007**

After a year-long intensive production period by eleven of Utah's most talented and ambitious young filmmakers, the *Spy Hop Productions' Pitch-Nic Premiere* will showcase four, twenty minute films with all the celebration of a Hollywood opening. The students and their inventions are the highlight of the night, and it is considered the crowning moment of their young careers. Two documentary films and two narrative films, written, directed, and produced by students ages 16 to 19, will debut at the Broadway Theater (111 East 300 South) on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The screening will begin at 7:30pm. Admission: \$8/adults and \$5.50/students. All proceeds from the evening will go directly towards supporting the local youth participating in Spy Hop programs.

The pieces to be screened are as follows:

- **The Neighbors**, a drama about four neighbors and what happens when they question their social responsibility, by Sasha Vitelli, Jenirae Reynolds, and Matt Haight.
- **Two Loves**, a documentary exploring the conflict between homosexuality and religion, by Michelle Ripplinger and Hannah Long.
- **Jerry**, a comedy about your everyday Zombie facing the trials of the workplace: disrespectful co-workers and a love for the prettiest girl in the office, by Richard Herbert, Conor Long, and Gary Hansen.
- **Big Bad Wolf**, a documentary exploring fears and phobias and how they are perpetuated by the world around us, by Dan Tham, Lauren Everton, and Stacey Murguia.

Each film was produced by funds raised at Spy Hop's Annual Benefit, *an Unconventional Auction*, in March. The most generous bidders from the auction earned Associate and Executive Producer titles for the films to which they contributed.

Conceived in 2002, the Pitch-Nic Young Writer and Director program was developed to be an exciting, hands-on way to unite talented and passionate young filmmakers with community members interested in supporting youth film and the resources needed to create a top-caliber film. With the guidance of professional mentors, these budding talents truly experience every aspect of the production process. The Pitch-Nic Young Writer and Director program is the only one of its kind in the country, giving the students involved a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop and produce their own screenplays from beginning to end.

We invite you to come and delight in these high caliber works of our community's youth during the public screening.

A sincere thank you to the generous and continued support from the 2007 Pitch-Nic Premiere sponsors:

**Salt Lake Film Society, Display Business, TV Specialists, Inc., Carlucci's Bakery, Redman Movies & Stories, Inc., Systematic Printing, Tony Caputo's Market & Deli, Red Rock Brewing Company, and Delta Limousines.**

*Spy Hop Productions is a not-for-profit youth media arts education center, and provides out-of-school programs in the documentary arts, film/video production, audio engineering, and interactive media, whose mission is to cultivate the visions and voices of an emerging generation via the big screen, the airwaves, and the world-wide-web.*

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