

"What's great is that [Film Streams'] mission has not just been about film, because we all love movies, but rather

film as an alive, breathing instrument of outreach and community and education.

I feel so very lucky to be a part of this organization."

— Academy Award-winning writer-director Alexander Payne

Film Streams
at the Ruth Sokolof Theater
2014 Annual Report

DISCUSSION OF FILM AS AN ART FORM
FILM STREAMS™

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DISCUSSION OF FILM AS AN ART FORM
DEVOTED TO THE PRESENTATION AND

BOYHOOD

Dear Film Streams Supporters:

As Bob Fischbach pointed out recently in the Omaha World-Herald, 46% of this year's 121 Oscar nominees first appeared on-screen in Omaha at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater. Four of the eight Best Picture nominees premiered with us exclusively – BOYHOOD, THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL, BIRDMAN, and THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING.

These excellent, artist-driven pictures were also our most popular films of the year, contributing greatly to our **fifth year in a row of record-breaking attendance numbers.**

And thanks to the **incredible support we receive from community members like you**, we've also discovered and presented smaller films from the US and from around the world. These titles don't have big-studio marketing budgets, but do address tough issues and frequently engage filmgoers in conversation and thought for months following viewing. We're pleased to be able to continue the conversation here at the theater through screenings featuring dialogues with amazing community partners and with the filmmakers themselves. Because we are so well supported, we are fortunate to proudly bring little-seen but important aspects of cinema history to audiences through singular film events, such as our series of Alfred Hitchcock's earliest work featuring live scores composed by local musicians and "Films from Warhol's Factory," 10 films projected from the back of the theater on 16mm prints, their original format.

It's amazing to discover what an incredible, community-building tool the shared experience of watching a film can be. We love presenting hidden gems and both watching and facilitating the reactions that can arise from all of these encounters. We have seen terrific growth, **thanks to the vision of our brilliant board and the marvelous dedication of our incredibly hard-working staff.** Film Streams is so fortunate to be part of a wonderfully engaged and intertwined community, and we are proud of the role we can continue to play: inspiring ideas, creating unique connections, all while celebrating the wonderful art of film.

All my best wishes and happy viewing in 2015,

Rachel Jacobson
*Film Streams Founder
& Executive Director*



I have the honor of serving as the Chair of Film Streams' Board of Directors.

Since joining the board the year Film Streams opened the Ruth Sokolof Theater, I have been so proud to be a part of this important cultural touchstone dedicated to the presentation and discussion of film as an art form.

Through all of our work, we have focused on our strategic goals of exposing new individuals to Film Streams through **expanded outreach efforts, creating transformational experiences for audiences through enriched programs, and engaging more students with the art of film** to create life-long film lovers. In 2014, we surpassed all attendance records, welcoming 61,852 visitors to Film Streams' programs. We offered dozens of special events this past year – unique experiences for audiences, like visits with directors, silent films with live accompaniment, and panel discussions offering tangible information on national and global issues from local experts in diverse fields. In 2014, we hosted a record-breaking 3,816 local students for Daytime Screenings and our monthly Student Night, which is free to all full-time students, surpassing the previous year's record by 20%.

I have been intimately involved with Film Streams' education program, and the feedback we receive from teachers and students continues to be inspiring. After her students viewed FRUITVALE STATION, the powerful film depicting the last day in the life of police-shooting victim Oscar Grant, at a Daytime Education Screening with a post-show discussion moderated by the Empowerment Network's Willie Barney, an Accelere Academy teacher reported: "One student talked with us for 20 minutes about seeing himself in Oscar. The film woke him up. It may have changed him. That is good news."

Film Streams is making an impact, and we are thriving. It's a community hub that gives and provides so much. Building on our previous success by expanding our reach without compromising excellence or our mission is our goal, and I am grateful to everyone who has made this possible and continues to help us grow. Congratulations on another great year, Film Streams!

Best,
Katie Weitz, PhD
Film Streams Board Chair

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First-Run films shown in 2014

Most Popular Premieres Overall

The Grand Budapest Hotel (USA)

Boyhood (USA)

The Theory of Everything (UK)

**Birdman Or (The Unexpected
Virtue of Ignorance)** (USA)

**Oscar Shorts! The Academy
Award-Nominated Short Films**
(various countries)

Inside Llewyn Davis (USA)

A Most Wanted Man (UK/USA/Germany)

Belle (UK)

Calvary (Ireland/UK)

Dear White People (USA)

Most Popular Documentaries

Finding Vivian Maier (USA)

Citizenfour (USA)

Life Itself (USA)

Tim's Vermeer (USA)

Rich Hill (USA/Germany)

21 foreign features from Australia, Chile, China, Denmark, France, Hungary, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Poland, Sweden, and the UK.

14 documentaries on subjects as diverse as whistleblower Edward Snowden, gonzo director Alejandro Jodorowsky, outsider artist Vivian Maier, Broadway legend Elaine Stritch, art-rock godfather Nick Cave, and beloved critic Roger Ebert.

The latest films from Wes Anderson, Catherine Breillat, Ethan & Joel Coen, Alejandro G. Iñárritu, Steve James, Jim Jarmusch, Richard Linklater, Jafar Panahi, Kelly Reichardt, Isao Takahata, and Jia Zhang-ke.

Films that garnered 60 Academy Award Nominations, 28 Independent Spirit Award Nominations, 13 L.A. Film Critics Awards, 10 Boston Society of Film Critics Awards, 7 New York Critics Circle Awards, 6 Village Voice Poll Awards, 5 Gotham Independent Film Awards, and 4 National Board of Review Awards.

THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL

2014 Income & Expenditures

Contributed support (58%)

Individuals	\$242,000
Corporations	\$17,000
Foundations	\$248,500
Government grants	\$85,500
Special events	\$337,500

Total contributed **\$930,500**

Earned revenues (42%)

Box office	\$391,000
Concessions	\$185,000
Merchandise	\$1,000
Sales tax on taxable revenues	-\$47,500
Membership dues	\$125,500
Interest-sav/shortterm inv	\$1,000
Rental revenue	\$7,000
Program Services fees	\$4,500

Total earned revenues **\$667,500**

To/from unrestricted net assets - \$389,000

Total income **\$1,209,000**

Expense

General programming	\$433,500
First-Run films	\$374,500
Repertory films	\$69,500
Education programs	\$33,500
Community Dev. & special programs	\$46,500

Total programming expense (79%) **\$957,500**

Management & general (11%) **\$136,500**

Fundraising & special events (10%) **\$115,000**

Total expense **\$1,209,000**

*Figures have not yet been audited at time of publication.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

JEAN ANN BALLINGER & WARD PETERS

**How many films did you see
at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof
Theater in 2014?**

We average about two films a month.

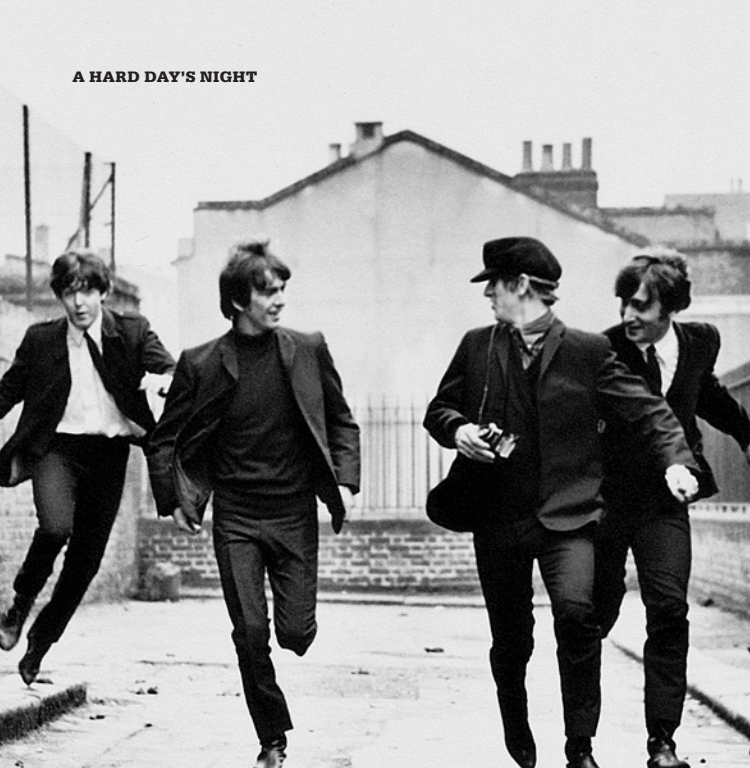
What were your favorites?

THE GREAT BEAUTY, BOYHOOD, BIRDMAN, THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL, and STOP MAKING SENSE were my top five for 2014.

What do you get out of Film Streams?

When we attend a screening at Film Streams we are always aware of how fortunate our community is to have such a venue. In addition to quality First-Run films we are given the opportunity to see films shown at Film Streams that are not shown anywhere else in town. It is evident that the folks behind the scenes at Film Streams genuinely enjoy and care about the cultural service they provide to our community. We have observed that they are constantly interested in raising the bar year after year. They make it look easy ... they make it look like fun ... we are the beneficiaries of their commitment.

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT



72

Repertory classics and revivals shown in 2014

The Hitchcock 9

February 13–April 3, 2014

We kicked off the year with one of our most ambitious series ever. Combining the best of world cinema and local talent, we presented the surviving silent films of Alfred Hitchcock scored by beloved Omaha musicians—plus world-renowned silent film accompanist Donald Sosin. The Hitchcock 9 was generously supported by Sam Walker.

Hitchcock 9 musicians: Ben Brodin, Amanda DeBoer Bartlett, The Ghosts Collective (Kevin Donahue, Mike Friedman, Simon Joyner, Michael Krassner, and Megan Siebe) Joe Knapp, James Maakestad, Aaron Markley, Dan McCarthy, Alex McManus, Luke Polipnick, Jim Schroeder, Donald Sosin, and Ted Stevens Unknown Project (Ian Aeillo, Lincoln Dickison, David Ozinga, and Ted Stevens).

Seventh Annual
Members Select Winner

**Monty Python
and the Holy Grail**
January 3–9, 2014

Great Directors: Jacques Demy

May 16–June 12, 2014

Spring was an appropriate time to celebrate the vibrant works of French New Wave director Jacques Demy, best known for exuberant musicals like *UMBRELLAS OF CHERBOURG* (1964) and *THE YOUNG GIRLS OF ROCHEFORT* (1967). The series featured seven titles by the auteur, all meticulously restored by Janus Films, and *THE WORLD OF JACQUES DEMY* (1995), by Demy's widow Agnes Varda.

The Films of David O. Russell

October 12–November 25, 2014

In honor of Feature VI, the sixth gala in support of Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater, we celebrated the films of our special guest, writer-director David O. Russell. Best known for *THE FIGHTER*, *SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK*, and *AMERICAN HUSTLE*, Russell spent years making less-seen, though equally lauded films, like *FLIRTING WITH DISASTER* and *I ♥ HUCKABEES*.

Restorations & Revivals

Ongoing

El Topo 1970
The Holy Mountain 1973
Stop Making Sense 1984

Celine and Julie Go Boating 1974
Godzilla: The Japanese Original 1954
Je t'aime je t'aime 1968

Films from Warhol's Factory

November 30–December 17, 2014

Presented with the Joslyn Art Museum, this sampling of Warhol's far-out, experimental films was both weird and beautiful. All ten films were on loan from the Museum of Modern Art and presented on rare 16mm prints, a new format for the Ruth Sokolof Theater.

Forever Young Family & Children's Series

Ongoing

A fantastic year for film-lovers of all ages began and ended with films by Frank Capra—starting with a four-film series in January and closing with our annual run of *IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE* in December. Between were family favorites like *BIG*, *PAPER MOON*, and *THE PARENT TRAP*, plus films by Charlie Chaplin and Hayao Miyazaki. Janus Films' fiftieth anniversary restoration of the Beatles' *A HARD DAY'S NIGHT* was our biggest repertory film of 2014! *Made possible with the support of the Lincoln Financial Foundation.*

Most Popular Classics of 2014

A Hard Day's Night 1964 (UK)

Eleanor's Secret 2009 (USA)

Monty Python and the Holy Grail
1975 (UK) *Members Select Winner*

Stop Making Sense 1984 (West Germany)

It's a Wonderful Life 1946 (USA)

Trouble in Paradise 1932 (USA)

Godzilla: The Japanese Original 1954 (Japan)

The Lodger 1926 (UK)

The Parent Trap 1961 (USA)

The Farmer's Wife 1929 (UK)



Cinemateca 2014

August 29–September 30, 2014

For our fourth biennial celebration of Spanish- and Portuguese-language cinema, presented with our friends at UNO's Office of Latino/Latin-American Studies (OLLAS), we decided on a program of recent films, almost all with documentary elements. Featuring movies set in Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala, Spain, and Uruguay, this year's Cinemateca truly was a celebration of film without borders. Two director visits and five special events

featuring post-film discussions and food from local restaurants complimented this year's films.

Cinemateca 2014 committee members: Lourdes Gouveia, Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, Claudia Garcia, Steven Torres, Eugenio Di Stefano, Claudia Lucero-Mead, Yuriko Doku, Clare Maakestad, Mariela Bahena, and Film Streams Board Member Betiana Simon.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

KERRI DIETZ-PILLEN

How many films did you see at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater in 2014?

So many great films, so little time! I am guessing I attended about 30 films.

What were your favorites?

Favorite things in 2015: posing for *Godzilla* scenes at the Omaha backdrop; I always enjoy Oscar-nominated animated shorts; *A HARD DAY'S NIGHT*—I never stopped smiling for the entire movie; other great flicks I loved include *KIKI'S DELIVERY SERVICE*, *SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK*, *STOP MAKING SENSE*, *GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL*, *FINDING VIVIAN MAIER*, *MONTY PYTHON AND THE HOLY GRAIL*, *GLORIA*, *JODOROWSKY'S DUNE*, *TIM'S VERMEER* ... Wow! Thank you, Film Streams!

What do you get out of Film Streams?

I get to see people who were involved in the film, like visiting directors, and I get to see the real excitement they express about who has come out to see their screening. From Film Streams I, as part of my community, get to attend movies co-presented by interested people or groups that are often followed by discussions—movies that relate to issues like hunger, health care, social relations, people in need, art appreciation. I get to volunteer, which is a pleasure and a privilege.



Omaha City Councilman Ben Gray leads students in discussion after a Daytime Education Screening of *A TIME FOR BURNING*.

"I love the educational screening program at Film Streams. I love using visual media to teach course curriculum. My juniors brought up a film that we had attended when they were freshmen in class the other day. Visual media creates an amazing amount of retention of information and concepts."

— Tracey Menten, Central High School IB Teacher

More than 3,800 students attended free programs at our cinema in 2014...

including Daytime Screenings for visiting classes, which provided teachers opportunities to bring their students to the theater for film-based field trips, and our Student Night (presented the first Monday of every month), when full-time students are invited to see films we're showing free of charge.

Education 2014

Much Ado About Nothing

January 8, 2014

Students from South High School, Central High School, and several home schools came together for Joss Whedon's take on the Bard's classic, followed by a discussion led by Nebraska Shakespeare artistic director Vincent Carlson-Brown.

All the President's Men

February 12, 2014

Over 200 students attended this classic film about the power of the pen.

A Time for Burning

March 18, 2014

This Oscar-nominated 1967 documentary about an Omaha church's efforts to integrate played for students from Central and Millard West High Schools and the Accelerate Academy. The post-film discussion was moderated by City Councilman Ben Gray and UNO film professor Mark Hoeger.

Persepolis

April 10, 2014

Students from Burke, Central, and Millard North High Schools attended this animated film about the Iranian Revolution, followed by a talk with Nargess Tahmasbi, an Iranian currently studying at UNO.

Louder Than a Bomb

June 26, 2014

Students from UNO SummerWorks program for at-risk youth saw this documentary on teenagers who express themselves through slam poetry.

Eleanor's Secret

July 21 & 22, 2014

Hundreds of youngsters from the Peter Kiewit Foundation Summer Fun program stopped by for this animated adventure about the world of storybook characters.

Sobre Ruedas (Keep on Rolling)

October 20, 2014

Students from Central High, Westside Middle, Accelerate, Nebraska City High School, and Bennington High School engaged in discussion following this documentary about global car culture, with filmmaker Oscar Clemente, visiting from Spain.

Which Way Home

October 15 & 16, 2014

296 students viewed this touching documentary on immigration. Post-show discussions were led by Lourdes Gouveia and Ramon Guerra, professors from UNO's Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS).

The 400 Blows

November 19 & 20, 2014

Eight high schools from across Omaha sent pupils to François Truffaut's New Wave masterpiece about the pains and triumphs of adolescence. Post-film discussion was led by UNO French culture professor Juliette Parnell.

Fruitvale Station

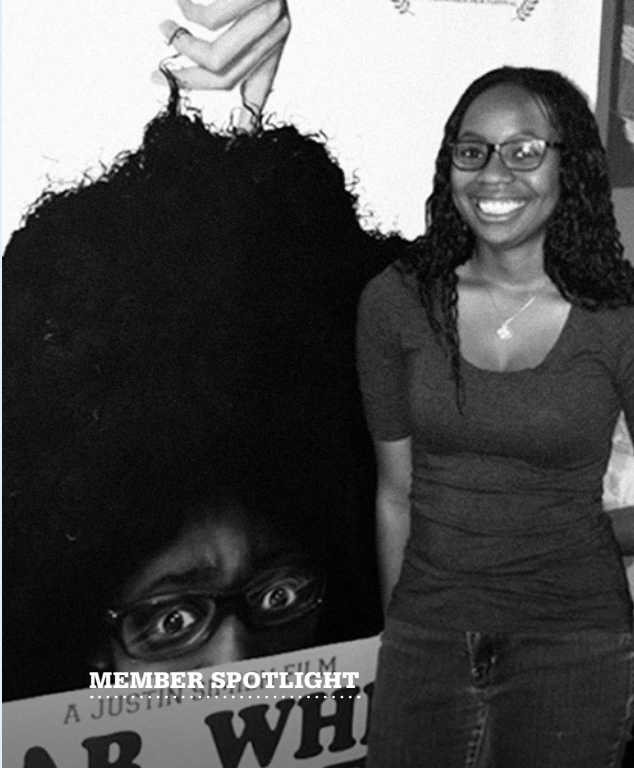
December 2, 3 & 15, 2014

Students from all over the city attended this timely recreation of the last days of a black man who was killed by San Francisco transit police. Post-film discussions led by Willie Barney and Jannette Taylor.

Film Streams' Education program is supported by the John W. Carson Foundation and the Gifford Foundation.

"In our post-field trip discussions, it has been neat to hear the students from different cultures make connections between their experiences and the film."

— Diana Saunders, ESL teacher at OPS' Teen Literacy Center



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

ERIKA TAYLOR

How many films did you see at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater in 2014?

The most memorable moments at Film Streams during 2014 came from the experiences that my mother, Jannette Taylor, and I shared. One of these moments happened while we were viewing the film, FRUITVALE STATION, and had a discussion on the film with Burke High School students.

What were your favorites?

My favorite event was the screening of LIFE ITSELF and assisting Jannette Taylor with the discussion on FRUITVALE STATION.

What do you get out of Film Streams?

From Film Streams there are a lot of teachable moments gained from the films being presented. I enjoy the atmosphere that Film Streams has created for the community and the various events that surround films. The staff members at Film Streams create a fun, exciting, and educational experience for the audience. Film Streams is always the first place that comes to mind whenever I am making a trip back home from Regis University. Film Streams reminds me of how much I love Omaha and all the wonderful films I have seen over the years.

In 2014, we presented nearly one special program every week...

including 12 screenings
with filmmakers and special
guest artists in attendance and
partnerships with 16 different
community organizations.

Selected Community Development and Special Programs

Filmmaker's Screening
Medora First-Run
January 9, 2014

"This American Life" contributor
and "Found" magazine founder Davy
Rothbart joined us for a screening of
his documentary about a Rust-Belt
high school basketball team.

The Conformist 1970
January 29, 2014

Screening of Bernardo Bertolucci's
visual masterpiece followed by a
discussion between Oscar-winning
cinematographer Mauro Fiore
and opera director James Darrah,
two artists inspired by the film.
Presented with Opera Omaha.

Filmmaker's Screening
Sick Birds Die Easy First-Run
February 11, 2014

A sold-out screening of the lat-
est feature film from Omaha's
own Nik Fackler, followed
by cast-and-crew Q&A.

Free Valentine's Day Screening
Trouble in Paradise 1932
February 14, 2014

Screening of Ernst Lubitsch's
romantic caper comedy
sponsored by Borsheims.

Filmmaker's Screening
No Place on Earth 2013
February 18, 2014

Screening and discussion with pro-
ducer Rafael Marmor presented with
the Institute for Holocaust Education.

Filmmaker's Screening
Go For Sisters First-Run
March 25, 2014

Actress Yolonda Ross returned to her
native Omaha for a screening of John
Sayles GO FOR SISTERS, for which
she earned a Spirit Award nomination.



Filmmaker's Screening
The Muslims are Coming! 2013
April 10, 2014

Screening and discussion with
co-director Dean Obeidallah pre-
sented with Middle East Cultural
and Educational Services.

Best Kept Secret 2013
April 22, 2014

Screening and panel discussion pre-
sented with the Meyer Foundation for
Disabilities and Ollie Webb Center, Inc.

Free Screening
Matewan 1987
April 28, 2014

Screening and panel discus-
sion presented with Omaha
Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO.

Filmmakers' Screening
Hank and Asha
May 9, 2014

Charming romantic comedy with screen-
ing and Q&A featuring director, co-writer,
and Omaha native James Duff and co-
writer, producer, and editor Julia Morrison.

Rape of Europa 2006
May 21, 2014

Special screening presented
with Inclusive Communities.

A discussion following **RUNNING FROM CRAZY** moderated
by Omaha World-Herald columnist Erin Grace, with
panelists Dr. Howard Liu, Mindy Eggert, and Ciara Warden.

Filmmakers' Screening
Life Itself
July 18, 2014

We were pleased to welcome
back director Steve James (HOOP
DREAMS, THE INTERRUPTERS)
for a special screening of LIFE
ITSELF, his documentary
on critic Roger Ebert.

Anita 2013
July 30, 2014

Screening and panel discus-
sion presented with Drinks
Among Friends and the Women
and the Law section of the
Nebraska Bar Association.

Filmmakers' Screening
**We Always Lie
to Strangers** 2013
August 7, 2014

A documentary that explores
the lives of performers in
Branson, Missouri, this film was
complimented by a visit from
co-directors A.J. Schnack, founder
of the Cinema Eye Honors, and
David Wilson, co-founder of
the True/False Film Festival.

Filmmaker's Screening
Jayhawkers 2014
August 21, 2014

Director Kevin Willmott (C.S.A:
CONFEDERATE STATES OF
AMERICA) discussed his latest
film, a retelling of basketball
legend Wilt Chamberlain's time
at the University of Kansas.

Local Filmmakers Showcase
October 16–23

Our fifth annual program celebrating area filmmakers, featuring
work by residents of Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota.
Curated by Omaha World-Herald staff writers Bob Fischbach,
Sarah Baker-Hansen, Matthew Hansen, Casey Logan, and
Micah Mertes. Generously sponsored by Mutual of Omaha.

Featured filmmakers: Dalton Coffey, Nik Fackler, Patrick Geske,
Jesse Kreitzer, Mike Machian, Harrison Martin, Sally Nellson-Barrett
for Nebraska Loves Public Schools, Timothy David Orme, Brian
Stanley Allen, Yates, and a group of University of Nebraska at Omaha
students composed of Brittany Crider, Christine Dunn, Amanda
Push, Jamieson Ranallo, Tara Spencer, and Stephen Tatum.

Silents in Concert
**Man With a
Movie Camera**
October 4, 2014

A screening of the 1929 film es-
say, voted the best documentary
ever in a British Film Institute
poll, with live score by the
renowned Alloy Orchestra.

Running from Crazy 2013
October 7, 2014

Screening and panel
discussion presented with
the Kim Foundation.

**Paycheck to Paycheck:
The Life & Times
of Katrina Gilbert**
October 28, 2014

Screening and panel discus-
sion presented with Women's
Fund of Omaha and Coalition
for a Strong Nebraska.

The American Nurse
November 18, 2014

Screening and panel discus-
sion presented with Center
for Health Partnerships at
Nebraska Methodist College.

**The Metropolitan
Opera: Live in HD**

Presented with Opera Omaha,
featuring Prelude Talks
before all live broadcasts.



SUSAN ROTHHOLZ

**How many films did you see
at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof
Theater in 2014?**

By rough count I saw 23
films at Film Streams.

What were your favorites?

My favorites are the Academy Award shorts
and documentaries. It is so exciting to finally
be able to see these in Omaha. And I adore
The Met: Live in HD where there is a cult-like
setting in the theater, greeting friends you
only see here, listening to the lecture before
the opera (which I understand is not done
in other cities – a shame) and having the
Opera Omaha folks there with you. I also love
attending films when the director/actor/etc.
is present and can give his/her explanation
of what they are trying to convey. Some
of the more avant-garde films are beyond
my understanding, but I like to see them
anyway just to know what's out there.

What do you get out of Film Streams?

Film Streams fills such a gap in Omaha
for those who love film. Nowhere else can
you see current works, old films, or docu-
mentaries that are not the usual suspects
with cars exploding, cities blowing up,
or comic strip characters manipulated
by computers. At Film Streams you can
see the world in a whole new way.

Feature VI

An evening with Academy Award-nominated writer-director David O. Russell and Oscar-winning filmmaker and Film Streams Board Member Alexander Payne.

Honorary Chairs Laura & Michael Alley

A new record of \$330,000 was raised in support Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater. A crowd of approximately 1,300 enjoyed a discussion about film, creativity, and life.

Topics ranged from what film each filmmaker would like to remake and the brilliance of CHINATOWN, to what drives Russell and Payne to create. Russell discussed his stable of actors, which includes Bradley Cooper, Amy Adams, Christian Bale, and Mark Wahlberg — and how Jennifer Lawrence's SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK audition moved him to tears.

He also told Payne about his comeback with THE FIGHTER and making his lone action film, THREE KINGS. Later, Russell announced the Record Store Day vinyl release of the AMERICAN HUSTLE soundtrack, and he and Payne threw a copy on the turntable live on stage.

I hope you can agree that Omaha is unique in its treatment of film as an artform — and that we can have captains of industry and the citizenry attend a yearly event like this.

I think it's very, very wonderful.



Laura & Michael Alley.
Photo by Chris Machian.

Photo by Daniel Muller.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

DR. HOWARD LIU

How many films did you see at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater in 2014?

I saw 2 films at Film Streams in 2014 – GONE GIRL and RUNNING FROM CRAZY. Now that I have reliable evening childcare, I plan to see a whole lot more in 2015!

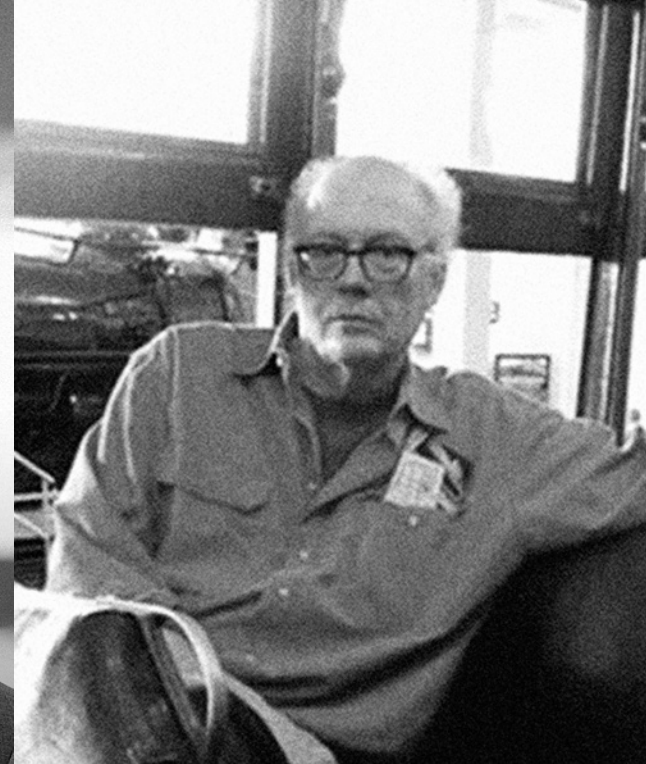
What were your favorites?

As a child psychiatrist and father of three, I was moved by the viewing of RUNNING FROM CRAZY, which was co-presented by the Kim Foundation, and featured the story of the Hemingway family as told by actor Mariel Hemingway. This film event not only exposed viewers to the intergenerational trauma of suicide, but also gave participants a sense of hope that is possible through recovery. I had the honor of participating in the panel discussion afterward with a courageous mother who had lost her son to suicide, Mindy Eggert, and a dedicated social worker, Ciara Warden, who shared her own story of depression and resilience. But what blew me away was the audience's honesty and vulnerability in sharing personal

stories of tragedies and triumphs when dealing with mental illness. It really was an important event for dispelling stigma about mental health.

What do you get out of Film Streams?

I believe that Film Streams is a cultural beacon for Omaha and all of Nebraska. The organization brings deep personal stories from filmmakers all over the world to an intimate space where audience members can view the movie with respect. I think that the venue works beautifully for poignant and emotional films, but also for uplifting and whimsical stories as well. Many of the films selected by Film Streams' leadership are too bold or nuanced to receive a widespread commercial release, so the Ruth Sokolof Theater is often the only location in the state where individuals can watch these visionary films. On a personal level, I feel that Film Streams has deepened my understanding of the human condition and opened my eyes to paradigms from across the globe.



SAM WALKER

How many films did you see at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater in 2014?

60

What were your favorites?

The Hitchcock 9 series was probably my favorite event of the year. In addition to seeing the long-forgotten silent films by the great Alfred Hitchcock, it was absolutely magical to see them with live original music performed by the composer(s) for each film. And certainly the most wonderful testimony to the power of film occurred at a Sunday afternoon screening of Charlie Chaplin silent films. At one point a nine-year-old girl had to go to the restroom and she walked up the aisle BACKWARDS, not wanting to miss a second of Chaplin.

What do you get out of Film Streams?

Film Streams provides us a steady "stream" of the very best new American and international films, many of which we probably would not get to see without Film Streams, retrospectives with great films that are either among our all-time favorites or films we always heard about but never had a chance to see on the big screen.

Film Streams Supporters

Many thanks to the following contributors for their support of the Ruth Sokolof Theater.

Gifts & Donations

\$20,000+

Anonymous
Douglas County Visitor Improvement Fund
The Holland Foundation
Peter Kiewit Foundation
National Endowment for the Arts
Nebraska Arts Council/Nebraska Cultural Endowment
Omaha Steaks
The Sherwood Foundation
The Todd & Betiana Simon Foundation
Paul & Annette Smith
Sokolof/Javitch Family
Weitz Family Foundation

\$10,000–\$19,999

Anonymous
Michael & Laura Alley
John W. Carson Foundation
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Bluestem Prairie Foundation
Gerry & Bruce Lauritzen
Mike & Susan Lebens
Bob & Maggie Mumby
Bruce & Stacy Simon
Katie Weitz, PhD
Barbara & Wally Weitz
The Estate of Annie F. Zinn

\$5,000–\$9,999

Anonymous**
Mogens & Cindy Bay
Chris & Sue Behr
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Echo Group Inc.
The Clifford Foundation
Amy M. Haddad
& Steven S. Martin
Nancy & David Jacobson
Mark Javitch
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Lincoln Financial Foundation
Tina & Dan Lonergan
Kevin McCarthy
Nancy & Mike McCarthy
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Jim & Kathy Simpson
Ann & Ken Stinson
Anne Thorne Weaver
Valmont Industries, Inc.
Sam Walker
Kate & Roger Weitz
Drew & Meredith Weitz
Mike & Brenda Whealy

\$2,500–\$4,999

Anonymous
Aksarben Cinema
Baird Holm LLP
Norman and Frances Batt Family Fund
Borsheims
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
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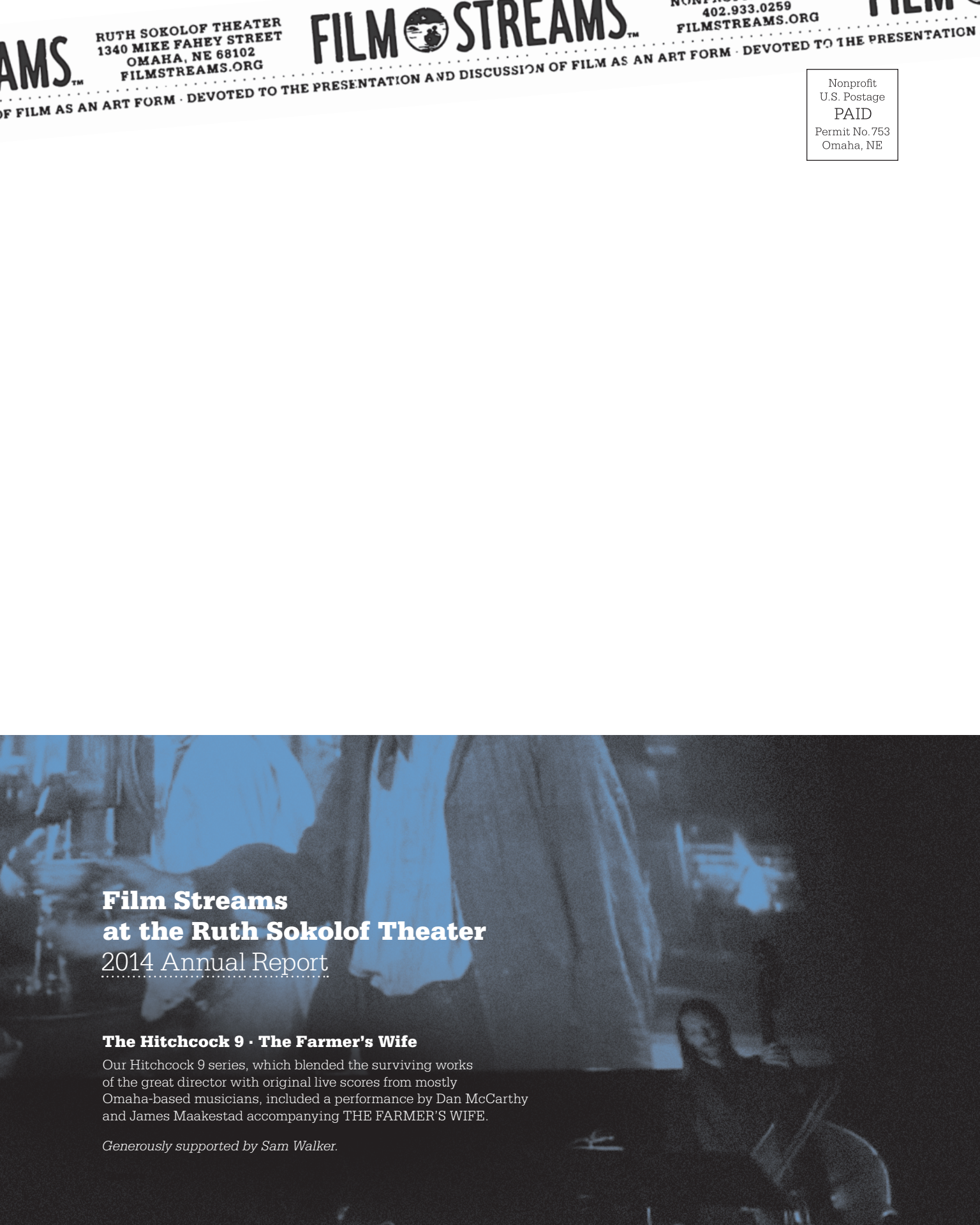
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Film Streams at the Ruth Sokolof Theater 2014 Annual Report

The Hitchcock 9 · The Farmer's Wife

Our Hitchcock 9 series, which blended the surviving works of the great director with original live scores from mostly Omaha-based musicians, included a performance by Dan McCarthy and James Maakestad accompanying *THE FARMER'S WIFE*.

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