

# SONOMA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### The Sonoma International Film Festival to Screen "Page One: A Year Inside the New York Times"

SONOMA, CA (October 10, 2011) -- The Sonoma Film Society and Sonoma International Film Festival in partnership with the Sonoma Community Center will co-host a screening of "Page One: A Year Inside the New York Times" on Thursday, October 13, 2011 at the Sonoma Community Center (276 E. Napa Street). The evening will begin with a reception at 6 pm and the 7 o'clock film screening will be followed by a panel discussion of award-winning editors.

"Page One: A Year Inside the New York Times," a documentary by Andrew Rossi, looks at the crisis of American media and the key players at one of the nation's most influential news sources. During the most tumultuous time for media in generations, Rossi gained unprecedented access to the newsroom at The New York Times. For a year, he followed journalists on the paper's Media Desk, a department created to cover the transformation of the media industry. Through this prism, he delivers a complex view of a media landscape fraught with both peril and opportunity.

Following the film, the Sonoma Film Society has assembled a distinguished panel of award-winning editors to discuss the film and related topics as well as take questions from the audience. This eminent collection of journalists from both national and community news sources includes Steve Fainaru, interim editor of The Bay Citizen, which is a nonprofit news organization founded in 2010 that provides local coverage of the Bay Area to The New York Times. The discussion will be moderated by the Film Society's new board chairman, Scott Ware - a newspaper veteran and former editor himself. Panelists also include David Bolling of the Sonoma Index Tribune and one of the co-editors of the Sonoma Sun - Jody Purdom or Val Robichaud. Please see panelist biographies below for more information.

Sponsored by festival partners, Mia's Kitchen and The Other Guys wine, the reception will showcase their delicious food & wine. Mia Sebastiani will be onsite preparing pasta and caesar salad in the Community Center Kitchen. The Other Guys wine, owned and operated by Mia's family, will be poured to compliment Mia's cooking bringing a local, gourmet flair to the event. Food and wine venue sponsors of the Vintage House for last year's festival, both Mia's Kitchen and The Other Guys Wines are returning as sponsors for the 2012 season. Food and wine tickets can be purchased for \$5. Film tickets are \$10.

#### Panelist Biographies:

David Bolling is editor of *The Sonoma Index-Tribune* and *SONOMA* magazine. He is an award-winning journalist, author, editor, publisher and filmmaker. He has received more than 50 state and national awards for his writing, editing and photojournalism, and his documentary film, "Living and Dying on Everest," won a 2004 Award of Excellence from The Videographer Awards. Bolling has been a Sonoma Valley resident for more than 30 years and spent 13 years as Editor and co-publisher of the weekly *Santa Rosa News-Herald*. He was also co-founder and editor of *Sonoma Business* magazine and publisher and editorial director of *Whole Earth* magazine.

Steve Fainaru is interim editor-in-chief of The Bay Citizen, a New York Times affiliate providing local coverage of the Bay Area to the NY Times. He came to the organization from the Washington Post, where

he won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting for a series of stories on abuses committed by Blackwater and other private security contractors in Iraq. Fainaru previously worked at the San Jose Mercury News, the Hartford Courant and the Boston Globe. He is the author of two books: "The Duke of Havana: Baseball, Cuba and the Search for the American Dream" and "Big Boy Rules: America's Mercenaries Fighting in Iraq." He grew up in Marin County and currently lives in El Cerrito.

Scott Ware is chairman of the board of Sonoma International Film Festival. He comes to a leadership role with the film festival after a 38-year newspaper career that began in his home state of Mississippi and later took him to news organizations in Tennessee, Puerto Rico, New Mexico and Washington State. He was editor of the San Juan Star, the Albuquerque Tribune and the Kitsap Sun, leading newsrooms whose work has been recognized at the highest levels of journalism. He is a member of the Journalism Advisory Committee at the University of Mississippi.

### **About the Sonoma International Film Festival**

The Sonoma International Film Festival is one of the top destination film festivals in the world and, located in the heart of Wine Country, is uniquely positioned to be a lively celebration of film, food and wine. An annual gathering for film industry insiders, cinema enthusiasts, filmmakers and critics, SIFF is considered among the most scenic and epicurean places to experience the art of film. Founded in 1997, The Sonoma International Film Festival is a five-day international event that takes pride in showcasing emerging talent, providing a supportive environment for filmmakers and creating a rich cultural asset for the local community.

SIFF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The Festival supports the Sonoma Valley High School Media Arts Program established over a decade ago by the Sonoma Film Society. For information about the 2012 Festival (April 11-15), please contact SIFF:

Phone (707) 933-2600

[www.sonomafilmfest.org](http://www.sonomafilmfest.org)

<http://www.facebook.com/sonomafilmfestival>

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