Film Streams
At the Ruth Sokolof Theater

2010 Annual Report
Dear Film Streams Supporters,

**I am so pleased to report** that 2010 was a phenomenal, record-breaking year at the Ruth Sokolof Theater. We increased our audience by 20%, welcoming close to 52,000 visitors for powerful film experiences.

Film Streams patrons participated in some of the most intimate 150-person dialogues imaginable. We welcomed three filmmakers with their autobiographical documentaries: transgender director Kimberly Reed with PRODIGAL SONS, activist Judith Helfand with a retrospective of her work, and Jessica Gerstle with THE ACCIDENTAL ADVOCATE. We partnered with community groups and organizations as diverse as Lutheran Family Services’ At Ease Program, Lauritzen Gardens, Project Interfaith, and the City of Omaha Planning Department. Wonderful academic programs expanded their reach into the community through our 3-film partnership with the Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution, Conflict in Films, and our biennial month-long series with UNO’s department of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS), Cinemateca.

And, we launched a brand new program last year: our very first Local Filmmakers Showcase, featuring the work of 16 local artists.

Special, enlightening moments are happening here at the Ruth Sokolof Theater every day. Omahans are engaging with stories they never imagined and meeting the people who have lived them. Other nonprofits and community groups are expanding their missions and reaching new audiences through the power of film. Students are seeing their first subtitled film and realizing that movies can be good in black and white, too.

We are still such a young organization, and I want to thank our board, staff, partners, and supporters. You all have helped to define us.

This year, I hope each of you will commit to coming down to the theater for something that you might not typically be driven to see. I’ll look forward to hearing from you about your experiences. It’s kind of the best part of an awesome job. Thank you so much for your continued support.

All my best,

RACHEL JACOBSON
Film Streams Executive Director
A riveting American indie that became one of the most acclaimed films of 2010 (Debra Granik’s WINTER’S BONE), an endlessly fascinating documentary from the world’s most famous unknown graffiti artist (Banksy’s EXIT THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP), and a brilliant 5 ½ hour globetrotting foreign film that felt half as long as its running time (Olivier Assayas’ CARLOS)—these are just three of the films we opened this past year, but they demonstrate the tremendous diversity of premieres seen in 2010.

Altogether, 48 new films from more than a dozen countries screened at the Ruth Sokolof Theater (up from 32 in 2009), including work by big-name directors (Werner Herzog, Pedro Almodovar, Roman Polanski, Claire Denis) and emerging filmmakers to keep an eye on (Andrea Arnold’s FISH TANK, Kimberly Reed’s PRODIGAL SONS, Maren Ade’s EVERYONE ELSE, Ben Steinbauer’s WINNEBAGO MAN).

In 2010, our repertory program featured two legendary filmmakers within our ongoing “Great Directors” series, Orson Welles and Charlie Chaplin, and the second installment of our biennial Spanish-language series Cinemateca, presented with our terrific partners at UNO’s Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OL-LAS). We were proud to present a series of classics relating in various ways to the LGBT experience (Out in Film), and to continue our year-round Family & Children’s programming with more than two dozen selections for audiences of all ages.

It was also a great year for new 35mm print restorations, including week-long runs of Francois Truffaut’s SMALL CHANGE, Jean-Luc Godard’s BREATHLESS, and Vittorio De Sica’s BICYCLE THIEVES. Last but not least, in our most popular repertory event of the year, a sold-out theater sat back in awe as the incredible Alloy Orchestra performed a live score to the new, complete version of Fritz Lang’s silent-era masterpiece METROPOLIS (look for a return visit from Alloy in Fall 2011!).

In 2010, our repertory program featured two legendary filmmakers within our ongoing “Great Directors” series, Orson Welles and Charlie Chaplin, and the second installment of our biennial Spanish-language series Cinemateca, presented with our terrific partners at UNO’s Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OL-LAS). We were proud to present a series of classics relating in various ways to the LGBT experience (Out in Film), and to continue our year-round Family & Children’s programming with more than two dozen selections for audiences of all ages.

It was also a great year for new 35mm print restorations, including week-long runs of Francois Truffaut’s SMALL CHANGE, Jean-Luc Godard’s BREATHLESS, and Vittorio De Sica’s BICYCLE THIEVES. Last but not least, in our most popular repertory event of the year, a sold-out theater sat back in awe as the incredible Alloy Orchestra performed a live score to the new, complete version of Fritz Lang’s silent-era masterpiece METROPOLIS (look for a return visit from Alloy in Fall 2011!).

First-Run Films

Top 10 Most Popular Premieres of 2010

1. Black Swan (USA)
2. A Single Man (USA)
3. The Girl who Played with Fire (Sweden/Denmark/Germany)
4. The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (Sweden/Denmark/Germany)
5. The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet’s Nest (Sweden/Denmark/Germany)
6. The Ghost Writer (France/Germany/UK)
7. Babies (France)
8. Cyrus (USA)
9. Get Low (USA/Germany/Poland)
10a. Oscar Shorts – Animated & Live Action (Various countries)
10b. Winter’s Bone (USA)

Top 10 Most Popular Classics of 2010

1. Metropolis 1927 (Germany)
2. Citizen Kane 1941 (USA)
3. Breathless 1960 (France)
4. Back to the Future 1985 (USA)
5. Casablanca 1942 (USA)
6. House 1977 (Japan)
7. Sin Nombre 2009 (Mexico/USA)
8. Bicycle Thieves 1948 (Italy)
9. ET: The Extra-Terrestrial 1982 (USA)
10. Machuca 2004 (Chile)
Community Development & Special Programs

Partnerships with Community Organizations, Director and Artist Visits, and Panel Discussion

**Throw Down Your Heart**
February 2, 2010
Special screening presented with Omaha Performing Arts and featuring pre-show music courtesy of the African Culture Connection.

**Conflict in Films series**
February 2010
Screenings and discussions of THE STORY OF QIU JU, THE SWEET HERE AFT ER, and 9500 LIBERTY, presented with the Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution at Creighton University School of Law.

**Guys & Dolls / How to Succeed in Business...**
March 19–25, 2010
Week-long run and sing-along screening, presented with Opera Omaha.

**In Person: Judith Helfand**
March 26–28, 2010
Opening night retrospective, Q&A screenings (A HEALTHY BABY GIRL, BLUE VINYL), and “Story Leads to Action Workshop” with filmmaker and United States Artist Fellow Judith Helfand, generously supported by the Todd & Betiana Simon Foundation and United States Artists.

**The Secret Garden** 1993
April 15, 2010
Screening and panel discussion about the importance of nature in childhood development, presented with Lauritzen Gardens.

**Voices Unbound**
April 20, 2010
Special screening and Q&A with Erin Gruwell, presented and made possible by The Sherwood Foundation.

**No Impact Man**
April 27, 2010
Screening and panel discussion on sustainability and low or no-impact lifestyles, presented with Verdis Group and the Earth Day Omaha Coalition.

**Race Across the Sky**
June 24, 2010
Screening and panel discussion on the benefits of developing off-road trails in the Omaha-Council Bluffs area, presented with Trails Have Our Respect (T.H.O.R.)

**Longtime Companion**
June 30, 2010
Special screening with an introduction by Nebraska AIDS Project Public Policy Manager Jordan Delmundo.

**The Art of the Steal**
May 26, 2010
Screening and panel discussion moderated by Omaha World-Herald columnist Mike Kelly and featuring Jack Becker, Executive Director and CEO of Joslyn Art Museum; Hesse McGraw, Curator at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts; and Lyn Wallin Ziegenbein, Executive Director of the Peter Kiewit Foundation and Film Streams Advisory Board Member.

**Director Screening:**
**Prodigal Sons**
May 28, 2010
Screening and post-show Q&A with director Kimberly Reed.

**Word Is Out**
June 3, 2010
Special Screening and panel discussion, presented with GOgibt – Greater Omaha GLBT Network.

**The End of Poverty?**
June 8, 2010
Screening and panel discussion on global and local poverty, presented with inCOMMON Community Development.

**Restrepo**
September 16, 2010
Screening and panel discussion on the treatment of post-combat trauma and stress, presented with Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska’s At Ease program.

**Beautiful Losers**
June 15, 2010
Screening and panel discussion about art and the wide-sweeping influence of youth, presented with The Kent Bel lows Center & Studio for Visual Arts.

**In Person: Judith Helfand**
March 26–28, 2010
Opening night retrospective, Q&A screenings (A HEALTHY BABY GIRL, BLUE VINYL), and “Story Leads to Action Workshop” with filmmaker and United States Artist Fellow Judith Helfand, generously supported by the Todd & Betiana Simon Foundation and United States Artists.

**The Secret Garden** 1993
April 15, 2010
Screening and panel discussion about the importance of nature in childhood development, presented with Lauritzen Gardens.

**Voices Unbound**
April 20, 2010
Special screening and Q&A with Erin Gruwell, presented and made possible by The Sherwood Foundation.

**No Impact Man**
April 27, 2010
Screening and panel discussion on sustainability and low or no-impact lifestyles, presented with Verdis Group and the Earth Day Omaha Coalition.

**Race Across the Sky**
June 24, 2010
Screening and panel discussion on the benefits of developing off-road trails in the Omaha-Council Bluffs area, presented with Trails Have Our Respect (T.H.O.R.)

**Longtime Companion**
June 30, 2010
Special screening with an introduction by Nebraska AIDS Project Public Policy Manager Jordan Delmundo.

**The Art of the Steal**
May 26, 2010
Screening and panel discussion moderated by Omaha World-Herald columnist Mike Kelly and featuring Jack Becker, Executive Director and CEO of Joslyn Art Museum; Hesse McGraw, Curator at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts; and Lyn Wallin Ziegenbein, Executive Director of the Peter Kiewit Foundation and Film Streams Advisory Board Member.

**Director Screening:**
**Prodigal Sons**
May 28, 2010
Screening and post-show Q&A with director Kimberly Reed.

**Word Is Out**
June 3, 2010
Special Screening and panel discussion, presented with GOgibt – Greater Omaha GLBT Network.

**The End of Poverty?**
June 8, 2010
Screening and panel discussion on global and local poverty, presented with inCOMMON Community Development.

**Beautiful Losers**
June 15, 2010
Screening and panel discussion about art and the wide-sweeping influence of youth, presented with The Kent Bel lows Center & Studio for Visual Arts.
**Local Filmmakers Showcase**  
August 6–12, 2010

Curated by an independent jury of local artists and film enthusiasts, our first Local Filmmakers Showcase celebrated the fantastic work being done throughout our region. Fourteen films by 13 area filmmakers were featured in the 120-minute program, which premiered to a full house on opening night and set a high bar for all showcases to follow.

Special thanks to all of our participating filmmakers (Lindsay Trapnell, Rebecca Hermann, Peggy Reinecke, Tom Sain, Patrick Geske, Ryle Smith, Allison Smoler, Kelly Rush, Brian Seifferlein, Tony Costello, Charles Fairbanks, Jorge Gomez, Nik Fackler, and Max Mentzer) and our 2010 jurors: Sara Adkisson Joyner, Jody and Roger du-Rand, Mark Hoeger, Peggy Jones, Maggie and Bob Mundy, and Derek Pressnall.

**Ongoing Collaborations**

**The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD**  
Presented with Opera Omaha, featuring Prelude Talks before all live broadcasts.

**Cinemateca**  
Biennial repertory series presented with and co-curated by the Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS) at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Special thanks to Cinemateca Committee Members: Lourdes Gouveia, Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, María Arbelaez, Michael Carroll, Ramón Guerra, Reven Torres, María Elvira Villamil, Andrea Dominguez, Alejandra Toledo, Yuriko Doku, Lucy Garza, and Film Streams Board Member Betiana Simon.

**Director Screenings:**

**9500 Liberty**  
October 16, 2010  
Special screening and Q&A with director Eric Byler, presented with Liberty Nebraska.

**An Inaugural Ride to Freedom**  
October 26, 2010  
Special screening and Q&A with director Omowale Akintunde.

**Rem Koolhaas: A Kind of Architect and Koolhaas Houselife**  
November 10, 2010  
Screening and discussion led by Omaha-based architect Jeff Day (Min Day), presented with design alliance OMAha and Omaha Creative Institute.

**Taqwacore: The Birth of Punk Islam**  
November 30, 2010  
Screening and panel discussion on diversity within Muslim communities and the complexities of identity, presented with Project Interfaith.

**Education**

Launched in 2009 with the support of the Peter Kiewit Foundation, our monthly Student Night, which grants free admission the first Monday of every month, brought nearly 1,000 students to the Ruth Sokolof Theater in 2010. The impact of this program could be seen throughout the year, with overall student attendance jumping by 20% over the previous year.

Two major scheduling changes occurred within our student programs in 2010. First, our ongoing Film Club screenings (with post-show discussions led by Education Committee members) moved to a permanent place the first Monday each month (Student Night). Second, we now offer an annual, recurring calendar of Daytime Screenings for Visiting Classes. In addition to celebrating the art of film, selections address a range of courses and meet numerous state teaching standards. At our first screening on this new calendar, 88 high school students (representing Central, Mercy, Bellevue East, and Brownell Talbot) visited the theater for a daytime screening and discussion of the 2004 Chilean film MACHUCA (in Spanish with English subtitles). Earlier in the year, 60 students from Bellevue West and Creighton’s Classic Upward Bound program watched and discussed CITIZEN KANE.

Overall in 2010, 1,114 students from over 100 different high schools and colleges visited the Ruth Sokolof Theater through our student programs.

Film Streams’ biennial Cinemateca series presented with UNO’s Office of Latino/Latin American Studies featured weekly post-show discussions led by OLLAS faculty and complimentary cuisine from area restaurants. Pictured: Maria Bonita owner Itzel Anahi Lopez and her daughter.

Film Streams’ Education program, including Student Night, Film Club, and Daytime Screenings for Visiting Classes, is supported by the Tom and Mary Jetton Charitable Fund through the Omaha Community Foundation.
While it technically occurred in 2011, it would be impossible not to report on the wonderful success of Feature III.

Our third fundraiser gala featured a fascinating conversation between Academy Award-winning director Steven Soderbergh and Film Streams Advisory Board Member Kurt Andersen—later broadcast to hundreds of thousands of listeners across the country on the Peabody Award-winning radio program “Studio 360.” Our deepest thanks to our event chairs the Weitz Family and to everyone who supported Feature III. More than 1,500 people attended the event, which raised a record $217,000 for the Ruth Sokolof Theater.

“I want to thank Alexander, thank all of you, thank Rachel Jacobson and Film Streams for giving me a new reason to return to Omaha as often as I possibly can. It makes me absolutely proud to be from here what Rachel and her team and family has done.” —Kurt Andersen

---

**2010 Income & Expenditures**

**Contributed Income (42%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Giving</td>
<td>$89,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Gifts</td>
<td>$14,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Gifts</td>
<td>$159,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants</td>
<td>$52,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>$100,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Contributed** $414,500.00

**Operational Income (58%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box Office</td>
<td>$366,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concessions</td>
<td>$116,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Tax on Taxable Revenues</td>
<td>−$38,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues — Individuals</td>
<td>$105,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest-sav/shortterm inv</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Revenue</td>
<td>$13,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Operational** $565,000.00

**To/From Unrestricted Net Assets** −$3,500.00

**Total Income** $976,000.00

**Expense**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Programming</td>
<td>$245,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Run Films</td>
<td>$408,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repertory Films</td>
<td>$97,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Programs</td>
<td>$17,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Dev. &amp; Special Programs</td>
<td>$33,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Programming Expense (82%)** $800,000.00

**Management & General (12%)** $112,000.00

**Fundraising (7%)** $64,000.00

**Total Expense** $976,000.00

*Figures have not yet been reviewed at time of publication.*
“I really love everything about Film Streams, especially the fact that it’s non-profit... I want to support a gem like this in Omaha!”

Anonymous Film Streams Member
Board of Directors
Scott Anderson
Andy Holland
David Jacobson, Chairman
Rachel Jacobson, Founder/Director
Mark Javitch
Robert E. (Bob) Mundy
Alexander Payne
John P. Schlegel, S.J.
Steven W. Seline
Betiana Simon
Paul G. Smith
Katie Weitz White

Advisory Board
Kurt Andersen
Myriel Boes
Jason Kulbel
Danny Lee Ladely
Robb Mansel
Joel Schlessinger
Lyn Wallin Ziegenbein
Michael B. Yanney,
Director Emeritus

Finance Committee
John Carpenter
Tina Cherica
Mark Javitch
Art McGill
Steven W. Seline
Paul G. Smith
Ted Warin

Education Committee
Steve Brock
Bev Fellman
Mattie Germer
Mark Kratina
Anne Meysemburg
Robert Patterson
Julie Rowse
Timothy Schaffert
Nancy Schlesinger
William Steinke
Lindsay Trapani
David Weisser
Katie Weitz White, Chair

Community Development Committee
Jonathan Benjamin Alvarado
Daphne Aronson
Rabbi Aryeh Azriel
Ward Chambers
Jim Esch
Ben Gray
David Jacobson
Patrick McNamara
Magda Peck
Kristin Williams

Film Streams Staff & 2010 Favorites
First-Run / Repertory
Rachel Jacobson
Founder/Director
Exit Through the Gift Shop / La belle et la bête
Casey Logan
Communications Coord.
A Prophet / F for Fake
Hallie Sharkey
Membership Associate
Winter’s Bone / Breathless
Maggie Wood
Office & Operations Manager
A Prophet / Small Change
Amanda Fehlner
Associate Manager
The Secret of Kells / The Adventures of Prince Achmed
Andrew Bouska
Shift Manager
Winter’s Bone / The Magnificent Ambersons

Aaron Haug
Shift Manager
Cyrus / E.T.
Cooper Moon
Shift Manager
A Single Man / The Triplets of Belleville
Caitie Caughey
Theater Staff
A Single Man / The Great Dictator
Craig D
Theater Staff
Carlos / House
Joe Knapp
Theater Staff
The White Ribbon / City Lights
Chris Viner
Theater Staff
35 Shots of Rum / The Triplets of Belleville
Jim Foyt
Projectionist
Winter’s Bone / Bicycle Thieves
Jeff Jenkins
Projectionist
The Girl Who Played with Fire / Limelight

Connie White
Balcony Booking
I Am Love / Breathless