



MEDIA CONTACT: Catherine Tarleton
808-883-0669, CatherineTarleton@gmail.com

"MAD MEN" AND "SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE" STARS SHINE ON HAWAII ISLAND
Vincent Kartheiser and Kate McKinnon join Big Island Film Festival, May 23-27

For immediate release

KOHALA COAST, HAWAII—From sinister to seriously funny, this year's Big Island Film Festival (BIFF) celebrity honorees bring some of the best talent in television to Hawaii in May. Vincent Kartheiser, who plays "Pete Campbell" on the Award-winning drama series "Mad Men" will appear in person, as will Kate McKinnon, featured player on the legendary "Saturday Night Live," known for hilarious impressions of Ann Romney, Ellen DeGeneres and Penelope Cruz.

Named after Vincent van Gogh, Kartheiser began acting as a teen, in "Untamed Heart" with Marissa Tomei. His many film credits include "Little Big League," "Ironwill" and "Another Day in Paradise" with James Woods and Melanie Griffith. Most recently he appeared in the sci-fi thriller "In Time" with Justin Timberlake. On television, Kartheiser previously starred in Joss Whedon's "Angel," and has guest-starred in numerous other series including "ER" and "The Cleveland Show," before joining the skyrocketing success of Mat Weiner's "Mad Men" on AMC.

Kate McKinnon joined the cast of "Saturday Night Live" last April and has cracked up fans with creatively wacky characters and killer celebrity impressions ever since, one of which earned an invitation to "The Ellen Degeneres Show" April 24. McKinnon also earned a spot on *Forbes'* "30 Under 30" list for 2012. Prior to "SNL," McKinnon performed with numerous at the Upright Citizens' Brigade Theatre, becoming beloved by the New York comedy community for the three one-woman shows she wrote and performed at the UCB: "Disenchanted," "Best Actress" and "Kate McKinnon On Ice."

BIFF 2013 celebrity events:

- Friday, May 24, 5-6:30 p.m., “Meet the Stars: Aloha Hollywood” reception in the Kilohana Room. \$75 VIP admission includes heavy pupus, Kenwood wines and other beverages. Or—new this year—the “Paparazzi Pass” at \$15 allows attendees to bring their cameras and watch for photo ops as celebrities and filmmakers arrive on the red carpet, then mingle with the stars, and enjoy a no-host bar. Party-goers are encouraged to dress up in aloha wear and join in the fun of celebrity buzz and Hollywood style “Aloha glam.”
- Saturday, May 25, AND Sunday, May 26 4:30-6:30 p.m., celebrity Reception & Salute to Kate McKinnon (Saturday) and Vincent Kartheiser (Sunday). Advance tickets required at \$35 per person for either day, including elegant pupu reception with chef’s different cuisine each evening, plus wines from Kenwood Vineyard and other beverages, followed by a film retrospective, award presentation and in-depth interview with the celebrity honoree in the Amphitheatre. Tickets are available online or from the Concierge Desk at The Fairmont Orchid, Hawai’i as a room charge or credit card purchase.
- Monday, May 27, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Golden Honu Awards Brunch in the Kilohana Room. \$50 per person, reservations required. Posh buffet brunch, Awards presentations and announcement of the Audience Choice films that will be screened at Best of the Fest Monday evening.

The Big Island “Talk Story” Film Festival is a celebration of independent narrative films and filmmaking, taking place May 23-27. Major sponsors include The Fairmont Orchid, Hawai’i and The Shops at Mauna Lani and Hawaii Tourism Authority/Hawai’i County CPEP.

For complete schedule information and tickets, visit www.BigIslandFilmFestival.com or call (808) 883-0394.

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