



NEWS RELEASE

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REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUNDOWN FILM FESTIVAL WRAPS UP WITH *TWISTER*

Film has Kansas connection other than tornadoes

TOPEKA, KS—The Kansas Historical Society will finish its 2008 Sundown Film Festival Friday, August 8, 2008 with the movie *Twister* (PG-13). The festival has included films with a weather theme and each film has had a Kansas connection. Admission to the Kansas Museum of History is free from 5 to 9 p.m. on Friday. The weather theme was chosen to coincide with the current exhibit, *Forces of Nature*, depicting weather extremes in Kansas. The exhibit will run through January 4, 2009.

The 1996 thriller *Twister* stars Bill Paxton and Helen Hunt, part a team of storm-chasing scientists trying to understand tornadoes by getting as close to them as possible. The movie is set in Oklahoma, but the film crew included several Kansas freelancers. Bill Gilbert of Johnson County and his company, the Gilbert Group, were hired to help with the visual effects. He and his team provided one of two camera cars that filmed some of the intense weather scenes in the movie, including rain, hail, and flying debris. Gilbert drove the camera car himself.

Friday's event will include drawings for prizes, concession sales, and the Museum Store will offer promotional discounts for moviegoers. The movie begins at sundown and is shown outside, so attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets. In case of rain, the movie will be shown indoors.

The Kansas Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs. The Historical Society requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with special needs or disabilities.

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