

Oscar weekend, and we're ready to Rock!



Ben Crandell

This is the weekend when we focus on moving pictures, this year's Academy Awards in particular a must-see for what may be historically moving remarks from Oscars host Chris Rock. He's fine and everything, but what's any awards telecast but a stage for you to share uncommon wit and pop culture proficiency with others?

For the telecast of the 88th annual Academy Awards on Sunday, the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival folks, as always, will host an irreverent party to soak it all in on a big screen at Cinema Paradiso Fort Lauderdale (503 SE Sixth St.) beginning at 6 p.m. Still intoxicated by the celebration of its 30th anniversary, the nonprofit FLIFF is hoping you'll come to party like it's 1986, with prizes for best red-carpet fashion and music ranging from Madonna to disco. The evening also offers a buffet, drink specials at the patio bar, raffles and contests, including Oscar balloting (\$5 each).

You'll also find that you have a rooting interest: Former St. Thomas Aquinas High School student Courtney Marsh's film, "Chau, Beyond the Lines," is one of five nominees in the best short-subject documentary category. A story of courage and nobility, "Chau" is a portrait of a teenager Marsh discovered in a Ho Chi Minh City facility for kids disabled by the Vietnam War-era defoliant Agent Orange. Unable to use his arms and legs, Chau clenches a paintbrush in his teeth to create art that he hopes will carry him to a better life.

If you want to check it out before Oscar night, "Chau" will have weekend screenings as part of the

Oscar-Nominated Documentary Shorts Program B series, showing at 7 p.m. Friday and 4:45 p.m. Sat-

urday at Cinema Paradiso Hollywood (2008 Hollywood Blvd.). More of the Oscar-nominated shorts, from live-action to animated films, are screening through March 3 at both Cinema Paradiso theaters.

Admission to FLIFF's Oscar watch party is \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Info: FLIFF.com.

Weekend laughs

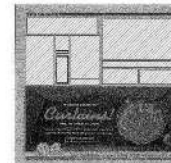
On Friday, when Netflix premieres the reboot of his old show, "Fuller House" (it's now daughter D.J., played by Candace Cameron-Bure, who is widowed with kids to raise), Bob Saget also can be seen at the Palm Beach Improv not being Danny Tanner. Not at all. The comic, who just came off a nine-week Broadway run duking it out with a demonic hand puppet in "Hand to God" ("Sesame Street" meets "The Exorcist," the New Yorker gushed), will perform 7:30 and 10 p.m. Friday and 7 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday. Tickets cost \$30 (plus two drinks). Info: PalmBeach.Improv.com.

One-dog night

Copperpoint Brewing (151 Commerce Road, Boynton Beach) reports: "Our dog-friendly deck is now fully operational!" On Saturday evening, the temperature is expected to dip into the 50s. From 3 to 11 p.m., as the mercury drifts lower, T.C. Melts will be there serving gooey grilled cheese and other comforting food. To recap: You, dog, sweater, beer, grilled cheese. Info: CopperPointBrewingCompany.com, Facebook.com/TCMeltsPB.

Hare piece

Miami City Ballet's Program Three, at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach Friday-Sunday, opens each performance with Justin's Peck's "Year of the Rabbit," featuring an orchestration (by Michael Atkinson) based on Sufjan Stevens' 2002 collection of electronic blips, squawks, scratches and fuzz called "Enjoy Your Rabbit." "Swan Lake" this is not. Performances are 8 p.m. Friday, 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday. Tickets start at \$20. Info: MiamiCityBallet.org, Kravis.org.



Night lights

I'm always looking for something to do with my toughest audience, my kids. On Saturday, the fourth annual Dark Sky Festival at the Okeehchee Nature Center (in Okeehchee Park, 7715 Forest Hill Blvd., West Palm Beach) will celebrate the night with a variety of astronomy-themed activities highlighted by a screening of Boca Raton-based photographer Max Jackson's beautiful short film "Pitch Black Light: A Journey Through America's Darkest Skies." The collection of night-sky time-lapse images that Jackson captured on a cross-country journey to some of the darkest areas of the country is a stunning and spiritual communion with the stars and planets that may make you reconsider your place in the galaxy. The Dark Sky Festival is 6-10 p.m., and includes stargazing with local astronomers, night photography lectures, exhibits, vendors, nature walks, a children's activity area, food trucks, a campfire and more. Admission is free. Info: PBCGov.com/erm/dark-skyfest.

Third Avenue stroll

Saturday brings the Third Avenue Art District's annual art walk, an artists' open house in downtown Fort Lauderdale made even more special by that word "annual." Free trolleys will run 6-10 p.m. with eight stops on or within a block of Northeast Third Avenue, from the NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale (1 E. Las Olas Blvd.) on the south end of the route to studios on the north side of Broward Boulevard, including the space that is home to the works of Francie Bishop Good and the Girls Club Collection (117 NE Second St.), Glavovic Studio (724 NE Third Ave.) and Studio Henning Haupt (823 NE Fourth Ave.). Recommended garage parking is near the museum and between City Hall (100 N. Andrews Ave.) and Third Avenue. For trolley stops, look for the banners and twinkling lights. Info: ThirdAvenueArtDistrict.com.

Sistrunk swinging

The Sistrunk Parade returns to the historic boulevard in downtown Fort Lauderdale

at 9 a.m. Saturday, with marching bands, twirlers, step teams, classic cars and decorative floats leaving from Lincoln Park (600 NW 19th Ave.) and arriving at the Urban Street Festival taking place on Sistrunk between Northwest Ninth Avenue and Northwest Twelfth Avenue from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. You'll find food, drink, vendors and live music from Jimmie "Bo" Horne with N2Nation, Jon Saxx, Brandon Williams (Urban Mystic), Con Funk Shun and T-Soul. Admission is free. Info: SistrunkFestival.org.

Young live, sort of

Neil Young will take part in a live video Q and A during the intermission at screenings of his musical-comedy "Human Highway" and the concert documentary "Rust Never Sleeps" in a handful of South Florida theaters on Monday. Young will be joined by "Human Highway" cast members Gerald V. Casale (Devo), Russ Tamblyn and Charlotte Stewart in a conversation moderated by filmmaker Cameron Crowe. The 8 p.m. screenings, packaged as "An Evening With Neil Young" and co-sponsored by Warner Bros. Records and the AARP, are at the Royal Palm Stadium 18 and Parisian 20 in West Palm Beach, Cinemark Palace 20 in Boca Raton, Cinemark Boynton Beach 14, Silver-spot Cinema @ Coconut Creek, Broward 18 in Pompano Beach, Cinemark Paradise 24 in Fort Lauderdale, Aventura Mall 24 and Sunset Place 24 in Miami. The running time is 3 hours and 45 minutes. Tickets: \$15. Info: FathomEvents.com.

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FRED TANNEAU/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A live video Q and A with Neil Young will be part of a "Human Highway"- "Rust Never Sleeps" double feature in a handful of South Florida theaters on Monday.