FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 34th Annual Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival Launches the 17-Day Event at the Museum of Discovery and Science’s AutoNation® IMAX® Theater Presentation of CUBA, Celebrity Guests, and Latin themed Party featuring Tito Puente Jr and his Latin Jazz Ensemble

Fort Lauderdale (October 18, 2019) - In partnership with the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS), the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival (FLIFF) launches the 34th annual event Friday, Nov 1, with a star-studded red carpet followed by the South Florida Premiere of Cuba on the giant AutoNation® IMAX® Theater screen.

“We’re thrilled to have our opening night at the Museum of Discovery and Science this year and it’s going to be a very exciting evening. The film presentation of Cuba on the giant screen is breathtaking, and the opening night party will continue the vibe with music and Cuban cuisine. Guests will even have an opportunity to experience a few exhibits at MODS,” commented Gregory von Hausch, president and CEO of FLIFF.

“The Museum of Discovery and Science is proud to host the opening night of the FLIFF to bring this gorgeous documentary film to our community. The Museum’s AutoNation IMAX Theater combines stunning visuals and incredible sounds on the largest screen in south Florida for an immersive experience,” said Joseph Cox, president and CEO of MODS.

Cuba Director, Peter Chang and marine biologist in the film, Fernando Bretos, will be on hand for introductions and audience discussions after the three screenings of Cuba. The visually stunning film will transport audiences across breathtaking landscapes, under the ocean surface to iridescent reefs, and into streets of Havana throbbing with music and dance.

Tito Puente, Jr. and his Latin Jazz Ensemble will perform live at the opening night party with an additional performance by Feminafrika World Music Group, and the sounds of DJ Jaime Solis. The party, catered by Cubano’s by Mario, includes: DiVino Wine Imports, Victor George Vodka and Black Cat Rum cocktails, Stella Artois, and Don Delgado Cigars will be rolling cigars. Guests will also have the opportunity to experience MODS exhibits Otters at Play, and Prehistoric Florida where you can take a selfie with a megalodon, an extinct species of shark.

Celebrities, in town for their film premieres opening weekend, who will also attend the opening night festivities include: Karen Allen, known for her roles two Indiana Jones movies, will attend the premiere of Colewell, and Peter Riegert (The Mask) will attend his film Extra Innings. The films screen together Nov 2. Karen and Peter will also attend the tribute screening of Animal House in which they both star. Popular French actress, Camile Chamoux is in town for the U.S. premiere of the comedy Our Happy Holiday, and Mark Patton, who starred in Nightmare on Elm Street 2: Freddy’s Revenge is here for the documentary Scream Queen: My Nightmare on Elm Street.
MODS will continue screening Cuba and 12 more fascinating, giant screen documentaries at the AutoNation® IMAX® Theater during the first week of FLIFF, Nov 1-7. Admission is free to FLIFF Fast Pass holders with their badge. For information about the FLIFF Fast pass, visit fliff.com/festivals-how-to-fliff.

The 34th Annual FLIFF presents more than 150 films, over-the-top parties, and hosts celebrity guests from Nov 1-17, 2019, primarily at Savor Cinema (503 SE 6 Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301) and Cinema Paradiso (2008 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood, FL 33020.) Films will screen on select days at NSU Art Museum, NSU Life Long Learning Institute and at Sunrise Civic Center Theater.

OPENING NIGHT SCHEDULE: Cuba screens Nov 1, at 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.
The Opening Night Party takes place from 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

TICKETS: Opening Night Party, includes the film: $50 Members, $75 Non-members
Film only: General Admission $15, seniors $13, Students and Military $12, FLIFF members $11.
To purchase tickets in advance visit: fliff.com or call 954-525-FILM (3456)

VENUE: Museum of Discovery and Science (401 SW 2nd St, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312)

Find the complete line-up of movies, special guests and purchase advance tickets at fliff.com or call 954-525-FILM (3456).

ABOUT FORT LAUDERDALE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (FLIFF)
FLIFF is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization dedicated to bringing people together through cinema, developing an appreciation of the art, the talent, and introducing audiences to other cultures through film. FLIFF presents both current and classic American Independent and foreign language films, supports local filmmakers and hosts both renowned and aspiring talent via the annual Film Festival and daily programming at two year-round art theaters. For more information visit FLIFF.com

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ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY & SCIENCE (MODS)
Founded in 1976 as the Discovery Center, today MODS is at the forefront of science education, innovation and exploration. The Museum showcases more than 300 interactive exhibits, immersive films and experiential programs. With a designated STEM Center and new aviation-themed makerspace, The Leighton Family Hangar, MODS is committed to engaging, enriching and inspiring tomorrow’s workforce - today.

The Museum celebrates diversity and welcomes more than 400,000 visitors annually from all walks of life. MODS is open every day of the year, except Thanksgiving, one day in the fall for the Annual Gala (October 26, 2019) and one day in the spring for its Annual Wine, Spirits and Culinary Celebration (March 13, 2020). Hours are Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. MODS is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the Museum, please call 954.467.MODS (6637) or visit mods.org.

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