

**Kansas City Gay & Lesbian  
Film + Video Festival**  
June 27 - July 3, 2008 • Tivoli Cinemas in Westport



Watch Film Trailers and Sign up for Festival Updates & Special Offers at [www.KCGayFilmFest.com](http://www.KCGayFilmFest.com)



**OPENING NIGHT PREMIERE**  
Friday, June 27 - 7:00pm  
**ASK NOT**

ASK NOT offers a rare and compelling exploration of the effects of the US Military's "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy. A provocative portrait of bravery amidst exclusion, ASK NOT reveals the personal stories of Americans willing to risk their lives for a country that criminalizes the act of coming out. Current and veteran gay soldiers reveal how "Don't Ask Don't Tell" affects them during their tours of duty, as they struggle to maintain a double life, uncertain of whom they can trust.

This timely, award-winning film also explores how gay veterans and youth organizers are working to overturn the policy. How can the United States military claim to represent democracy and freedom while denying one segment of the population the right to serve? They went into the closet to serve their country, now they are coming out to save it. **Meet with area gay and lesbian vets at a special, pre-screening reception, included free with your opening night ticket.** (USA, 2008, 72 min)



ASK NOT sponsored by the Kansas City Human Rights Department Gay & Lesbian Task Force

# The 2008 Kansas City Gay & Lesbian Film + Video Festival



## SAVE ME

Friday, June 27

8:45pm

This exceptionally layered, intelligent and sensitive drama stars not one, but two openly gay actors: Chad Allen & Robert Gant. Allen plays a self-destructive addict hooked to anonymous sex and drugs who finally hits bottom. Concerned for his welfare, his brother checks him into

Genesis House, an ex-gay Christian ministry overseen by a compassionate husband and wife team, Judith Light and Stephen Lang. Initially rebellious and suspicious of the ministry's work, Allen's character develops a close bond with a resident and "level 5" mentor (Gant) charged with guiding him through the steps. As Allen & Gant's affinity for each other strengthens, Light's character is forced to confront the values that she holds true, and finally face some truths about love. (USA, 2007, 93 min)



## THE NEW WORLD

Saturday, June 28

4:45pm

Lucie and Marion want to have a baby. They've watched their best lesbian friends do it, so it can't be that hard, can it? They have no idea – from the hunt for sperm to dealing with the unusual and hurtful reactions from family members and friends, they soon wish they had been

better prepared. But even when things start looking better, their lesbian moms role models split up, and their parents still don't seem to be coming around. What kind of world will they be bringing their baby into? THE NEW WORLD is charming and funny. (France, 2007, 90 min) In French with English subtitles

## TRU LOVED

Saturday, June 28

7:00pm

You'll love this thoroughly modern high school romantic comedy.

16 year-old Gertrude aka Tru is a typical high school teenager from an atypical home - she is raised by her two moms, who have just moved to a new town in suburban southern California, while her two dads remain in San Francisco. At school, Tru catches the eye of Lo, the closeted star quarterback who soon makes a deal with Tru to pretend they are an item. It seems like a perfect solution – it keeps Lo's friends and family from asking too many questions, and it allows Tru to instantly find a place to belong in her new school. But when Tru befriends picked-upon openly gay student Walter and decides to join him in forming a Gay-Straight Alliance, she falls for GSA member Trevor, a handsome metrosexual who has been raised by his gay uncle.

Her new love affair threatens to expose Lo's true desires and standing as big man on campus. Funny, fresh, and endearing, and featuring breakout performances from its young cast, plus appearances by Alexandra Paul, Jasmine Guy, Bruce Vilanch, Marcia Wallace, Dave Kopay and many others. (USA, 2008, 99 min)



## BOYSTOWN

Saturday, June 28

9:15pm

Dark and sexy real estate agent Victor is making a killing – literally! In an attempt to transform Madrid's Chueca neighborhood into the next Chelsea, he's come up with the perfect plan – murdering elderly women, making it look like suicide, buying up their property, and selling to upwardly-mobile gay couples. But when his latest victim leaves her apartment to Rey and Leo, the friendly working-class bear couple next door, Victor must hatch a scheme to get his way... no matter what. BOYSTOWN is a wickedly funny black comedy. (Spain, 2007, 100 min) In Spanish with English subtitles



## CENTERPIECE SCREENING



## A JIHAD FOR LOVE Sunday, June 29 4:45pm

Featured on NPR, The New York Times and Democracy Now

Filmed in 12 countries and spanning 9 languages, A JIHAD FOR LOVE is the world's first feature documentary to explore the complex global intersections between Islam and homosexuality. In Arabic jihad means 'struggle', and in this groundbreaking documentary, you witness first-hand how gay and lesbian Muslims attempt to live their lives as devoted Islamic believers in a world in which they are unwelcome. Go inside the lives of gay men and women at various crossroads. Some living openly. Many others are not so fortunate. Producer Sandi DuBowski (the Jewish director/producer of TREMBLING BEFORE G-D) and Director Parvez Sharma, (a gay Muslim himself) treat Islam and those interviewed with reverence and delicacy. This internationally acclaimed film goes where the silence is the loudest to serve as a profound catalyst for change. (USA, 2008, 81 mins)

A PANEL DISCUSSION with KC Star Columnist Rev. Vern Barnet and representatives of the Kansas City Muslim Community follows the screening.

TICKETS ON SALE JUNE 9

Order Online [www.KCGayFilmFest.com](http://www.KCGayFilmFest.com)

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# COME OUT TO THE MOVIES June 27 - July 3



## THE EDGE OF HEAVEN

Sunday, June 29  
7:00pm

Gifted German-Turkish director Fatih Akin (HEAD-ON) returns with a border-hopping, gender-bopping, culture-clashing drama of sneaky power and uncommon grace. Interweaving six characters and three

stories, Akin ably depicts the fluidity of 21st century European political and sexual identity. Winner of the Best Screenplay award at Cannes last year, Akin effortlessly transforms coincidences and contrivances into a profound tale of redemption and reconciliation. Hamburg professor Nejat is at first suspicious of his elderly father's unlikely paramour, a middle-aged Turkish prostitute named Yeter. But he and Yeter form a bond, and after tragedy strikes he treks to Istanbul to locate her daughter. It turns out that Ayten is a political activist who's had to flee to Germany. Stranded and broke, she's befriended by Lotte, a college student who lives with her mother (Fassbinder favorite Hana Schygulla). Ayten and Lotte become lovers, their complicated relationship fraught with secrets. When Ayten returns to Turkey, the smitten Lotte defies her mother and follows. A stranger in a strange land, willing to do anything for her gal, Lotte makes a grievous mistake. Eventually the threads are untangled, the missed connections get patched through and a new circle — and a new family — is created. Rated A- by *Entertainment Weekly*, THE EDGE OF HEAVEN is stunningly acted and beautifully photographed. (Germany, 2007, 122 min)  
In German with English subtitles.



## GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES

Tuesday, July 1  
7:00pm

Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell star in one of the gayest musicals ever made. Presented as part of *The Great Movie Musicals Series* offered by UMKC and the Tivoli this campy classic's showing happily coincides with festival week. Learn from UMKC film professor Dr. Thom Poe what makes it great and enjoy the glittery fun on the big screen. (USA, 1953, 97 min)

**ALL SEATS \$3.00**  
Free for UMKC Student & Staff with ID. Tickets Available at the Door Only

## Get Tickets in Advance!

Order Online at [www.KCGayFilmFest.com](http://www.KCGayFilmFest.com)  
with **NO SERVICE FEE** or purchase  
in person at the Tivoli Box Office

TICKET PRICES: \$6.50 - Shows Before 6:00pm  
\$8.50 - All Shows After 6:00pm



## THE HOUSEBOY

Monday, June 30  
9:15pm

Twenty-something Ricky is feeling abandoned. He's learned that the couple he has maintained a threesome with over the past year is planning on dumping him when they return home from Christmas holidays. In the meantime, he's expected to house-sit for them

during the most depressing time of the year to be alone. To pass the time, and to attempt to feel human connection, he engages in anonymous hook-ups, but is left feeling empty. Has he reached the end of his rope, or could salvation await in the form of a friendly neighbor. (USA, 2007, 82 min)



## WRANGLER: ANATOMY OF AN ICON

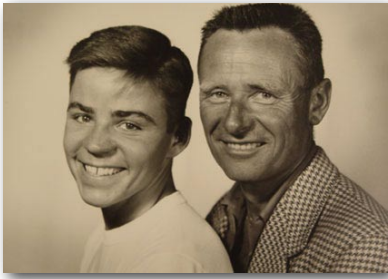
Tuesday, July 1  
9:15pm

There have been dozens of gay porn stars, but only one Jack Wrangler. Bursting onto the scene in the early '70s, he wasn't the typical obscure object of desire but a full-bodied, self-confident stud.

Buff, masculine and clearly comfortable in his own skin, Wrangler was more than just a hot guy to fantasize about — he was a role model. With a screen persona that blended virility with a sly eye for fun, Wrangler was the first out actor to show how a gay man could be strong, secure and lustful. In this entertaining new film, Wrangler describes his journey from skinny Beverly Hills brat to aspiring actor to a brand name with a product line. Fans like Chi Chi La Rue and Bruce Vilanch drop by to sing Jack's praises. Rounding out the package are a wealth of clips of Wrangler strutting his stuff in vintage films. Proving that there are second — and third — acts in American life, Wrangler successfully made the jump to straight porn and, in recent years, established himself as a serious director of legit theater. The most surprising turn in Wrangler's iconoclastic life? Meeting and wooing songbird Margaret Whiting. Creative and vital, and as unconcerned as ever with the limits others would place on him, Jack Wrangler is still a role model. (USA, 2008, 90 min)  
CONTAINS ADULT CONTENT - NO ONE UNDER 18 ADMITTED

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## CHRIS & DON: A LOVE STORY

Wednesday, July 2

TWO SCREENINGS - Matinee 2:00pm & Evening 9:15pm

When 18-year-old Don Bachardy was introduced to 49-year-old Christopher Isherwood in 1950s Malibu, neither man knew it would be the start of a love story that would last for 30 years. CHRIS & DON chronicles their years together, with the vibrant and engaging Don at this extraordinary documentary's epicenter. Don, a UCLA student with artistic talents, became the ideal companion for Isherwood, the celebrated British writer best known for his Berlin Stories. Despite their age difference, a relationship blossomed, and Don soon moved in with Chris. Growing up in the LA suburbs enamored with Hollywood, Don had crashed premieres to take photos with celebrities. With Chris, he suddenly found himself hobnobbing with all manner of luminaries from the arts and literary scene, such as WH Auden, Igor Stravinsky, and Tennessee Williams. Open about their relationship at a time when homosexuality wasn't discussed in polite conversation, Chris and Don weathered the various storms resulting from their different ages, classes, and backgrounds, and remained together until Chris' death in 1986. Combining interviews with Don, Chris' personal journal entries, rare home movies, and archival footage, the filmmakers have crafted a very personal story, best demonstrated through the charming animated sequences depicting the horse and cat alter-egos the couple doodled on their personal letters over the years. CHRIS & DON is a touching, illuminating portrait of the enduring power of love. (USA, 2007, 90 min)



## WHEN DID YOU KNOW?

Thursday, July 3 • 6:00pm • All Seats \$3.00

Remember the moment you knew you were a little different than the other boys and girls? In this uniquely interactive program (inspired by the book WHEN I KNEW and the Cinemax documentary of the same name) men and

women from all across greater Kansas City were asked to discuss the moment they discovered they were attracted to the same sex. KKFI FM 90.1's THE TENTH VOICE began recording people's responses to this evocative question at this year pride festival. It's a simple question. One LGBT person knows, but answers completely differently. You can learn how to contribute your story at our website, but hurry! Local videographer Lisa Marie Evans (THE SAME BUT DIFFERENT) has been asked to take these fascinating stories and compile them into a first-ever KC Gay Film Fest original documentary. You might see yourself or someone you know up on the screen. Be a part of the audience and help choose which person's story will be awarded top honors as most memorable.



## CLOSING NIGHT SCREENING

### WERE THE WORLD MINE

Thursday, July 3 • 8:00pm

The most joyous gay film of the year, WERE THE WORLD MINE, is the perfect closer to our 2008 Festival! As the gay outcast at an all-boys prep school, Timothy (Tanner Cohen) is prone to daydreaming about the handsome jock. But his are no ordinary flights of fancy; they're musical theater extravaganzas, complete with show-stopping



songs, dazzling sets, and pirouetting rugby player chorus boys. So when the drama teacher invites Timothy to audition for *A Midsummers' Night Dream*, we know

that theater is his destiny. With a voice like honey, he's cast as the mischievous Puck, and - in a delicious surprise - shares the stage with Jonathon, the aforementioned handsome jock (Nathaniel David Becker). But the rabidly anti-gay coach wants to shut down the production: some of the school's finest athletes have been cast in female roles, and what could be more hetero-threatening than that?!

Aside from Timothy's "heteroflexible" but dyke-a-licious girl-pal Frankie (Robin William's daughter, Zelda), this small town is teeming with homophobes. Without giving too much away, let's just say that lovestruck Timothy really gets into character and turns all that upside down. The mastermind behind this bedazzled confection is Tom Gustafson who lets his imagination explode. He's assembled a vibrant cast of adorable young talents on the rise. And the way he brings Shakespeare to life via song is genius; from plaintive ballads to brilliantly-choreographed dance numbers, this is musical showmanship that rivals HEDWIG! The best thing, though, is that he doesn't just dabble in brief moments of magic; he lets Timothy's purple-pink fantasies and Puck's erotic spell take over the entire film. (USA, 2008, 95 mins)



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