

MARTHA'S VINEYARD AFRICAN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL SETS CLOSING NIGHT KNOCKOUT PROGRAMMING WITH PEACOCK'S UPCOMING FIGHT NIGHT

STAR-STUDDED PREMIERE OF LIMITED SERIES *FIGHT NIGHT* TO INCLUDE STARS TARAJI P. HENSON, DON CHEADLE, CHLOE BAILEY AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS WILL PACKER AND SHAYE OGBONNA

MARTHA'S VINEYARD, MA – JULY 18, 2024 – Peacock's upcoming limited series *Fight Night: The Million Dollar Heist* will lead closing night festivities at the Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival, on Saturday, August 10th. Culminating an impeccable nine days of featured content and conversations celebrating Black Excellence the evening will include "The Power of Legacy and Influence: A Conversation with Will Packer" followed by a screening of *Fight Night: The Million Dollar Heist* and A Color of Conversation with Will Packer (Executive Producer), Shaye Ogbonna (Creator, Writer, Showrunner, Executive Producer) and cast Taraji P. Henson, Don Cheadle and Chloe Bailey. A variety of rare groove vinyls, mashups, and iconic Hip Hop & Soul hits from the 1970s and today will be played by DI Trauma throughout the evening.

Fight Night: The Million Dollar Heist, based on the acclaimed iHeart true-crime podcast, follows the infamous story of how an armed robbery on the night of Muhammad Ali's historic 1970 comeback fight changed not only one man's life but ultimately transformed Atlanta into the "Black Mecca." When a hustler named Chicken Man (Kevin Hart) hosts an afterparty to celebrate the fight with a guest list of the country's wealthiest, the night ends with the most brazen criminal underworld heist in Atlanta's history. Suspected of masterminding the crime, Chicken Man is hellbent on clearing his name but must convince his old adversary, J.D. Hudson (Don Cheadle), one of the first Black detectives in the city's desegregated police force, who is tasked with bringing those responsible to justice. The limited series will be released on Peacock on September 5, 2024.

The 22nd Annual Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival begins on August 2 and runs through August 10. All screenings and events will take place at Martha's Vineyard Performing Arts Center (MVPAC) 100 Edgartown Road, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557 unless otherwise noted. Please be advised that all screenings and events are subject to change without notice.

For more information on the MVAAFF and a complete schedule of screenings and special events, please visit www.mvaaff.com.

About Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival

The MVAAFF, established in 2002, is an OSCAR®-qualifying film festival in the short film category. It is a nine-day event where independent and established African American filmmakers can showcase, screen, and promote emerging feature, documentary and short films from across the world. The brainchild of the husband-and-wife team Floyd and Stephanie Rance, the MVAAFF provides a nurturing environment for African American filmmakers to test their creativity while giving sponsors a captive audience to promote their brands among a highly discerning community of people of color.

About Run&Shoot Filmworks

Run&Shoot Filmworks, the producer of the Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival (MVAAFF) and the Color of Conversation Film Festival (COCFF), is a film production company credited with creating outstanding visual work for several clients, including HBO, Martell Cognac, Reebok, NBC Sports, Hallmark Channel and Footlocker. For the past 20 years, Run&Shoot Filmworks has produced the MVAAFF and the COCFF with the primary goal of providing a positive environment where filmmakers can share their thoughts, ideas, and aspirations.

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