



For Immediate Release

**2009 INTERNATIONAL BLACK FILM
FESTIVAL NASHVILLE ANNOUNCES ITS
KIDS DAY
at
OPRY MILLS REGAL CINEMAS**

**Featuring the live stage play, “Young Warren Sings!”
by Sonya Sardon.**

**Special appearance by Daniel Curtis Lee aka “Cookie,”
Disney and Nickelodeon Television Star.**

September 21, 2009 (Nashville, TN) **The International Black Film Festival Nashville, (IBFFN)** presents for **FREE, KIDS Day** during the Festival, which runs September 30—October 4, 2009 at the world-famous Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center and Regal Cinema at Opry Mills, Nashville, Tennessee.

The IBFFN KIDS Day series will offer the children’s book and play—*Young Warren Sings!*, written by Nashville-based author, Sonya Sardon; a children’s short film, book signing and CD music and a special appearance by Disney Television Star, Daniel Curtis Lee, who will be featured at **KIDS Day** for the **IBFFN** for all families and children. **The IBFFN** is looking to expose future generations of “storytelling” to young people through plays, films and music. Come and be apart of the **FREE** festivities on Saturday morning, October 3rd at the Regal Cinema Opry Mills. In addition to the impressive lineup of executives and industry professionals from Hollywood, New York and local communities, **IBFFN** will showcase over 50+ films from the USA, South Africa, Senegal, and Ghana.

“As part of the IBFFN mission to serve the interest of the entire community through cinematic arts and arts education, young people are important to us,” said Hazel Joyner-Smith, executive director of IBFFN. “This year’s **KIDS Day** series is an opportunity for the entire family to experience the Festival from

babies to teens with our live stage play **Young Warren Sings!** by Sonya Sardon. In addition, we are honored to have a special appearance by Daniel Curtis Lee of the hit Disney television program, **Zeke and Luther** who will perform by singing. ”

FREE admission to children’s play adapted from the children’s book:

Young Warren Sings! by Sonya Sardon

Being afraid is not much fun. You feel squishy inside, and you’re not sure what to do. Warren knows all about being afraid. When he is asked to sing a solo in his school’s annual spring program, he is struck with “stage fright.” There are butterflies dancing in his tummy. How can Warren sing like that? With help and support from his mother and father, as well as from his music teacher, Mrs. Franklin, Warren practices and prepares for his big night. Watch and see what happens when *Young Warren Sings!*

This is an excellent book for children on how to deal with stage fright. Here is a story that helps children learn to let go of their fears and not let those fears control their lives.



Making a special appearance and performance at the **Kids Day** program is Daniel Curtis Lee, best known as “Cookie” on Nickelodeon’s *Ned’s Declassified School Survival Guide* and as hip-hop/pop artist “Dan-D” now starring as “Kojo” on a new Disney skate-board show titled *Zeke and Luther*. Daniel is from Clinton, MS, but resides in Long Beach, CA when filming. His parents are: Nathaniel, Sr. and Sharial, older sister Yolande and older brother, Nathaniel Jr.

Daniel began his singing career at four years old in Clinton, where he and his brother would frequent local churches singing as a Gospel duo. They performed old Gospel tunes from artists such as Sam Cooke, The Soul Stirrers, Sensational Nightingales and Willie Banks and The Messengers. The family moved to Long Beach, CA in 2001. While living in California, Daniel and his brother, at the ages of 12 and 13 eventually completed their debut Gospel album entitled *Warming*.

They performed these blues-influenced songs under the name “Brother Lee.” Daniel performed all lead vocals, while Nathaniel, Jr. played all the instruments and sang background. Additional background vocals came from Daniel’s father and another cousin, Aaron Young. Daniel started to lean more towards hip-hop/pop music because he had always liked that genre and could recite every hip-hop/pop song that came on the radio.

There will be FREE family fun and entertainment for the entire family, book signings and other events. We will see you there!

The IBFFN officially commences on Wednesday, September 30th and ends on Sunday, October 4th. The new Festival host site is the breath-taking Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center and Regal Cinema Opry Mills 20 & IMAX.

The IBFFN is made possible in part with by our valued sponsors: **Delta Airlines, The Film House, The Documentary Channel, HCA, The Cultural Services of the French Embassy, One Village Entertainment, The Africa Channel, The Tennessee Arts Commission, The TN Film, Entertainment and Music Commission and The Screen Actors Guild.** IBFFN would like to welcome their growing list of new sponsors: **Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center and Regal Cinema Opry Mills 20 & IMAX; Comcast, TV One, Broadway Video, B-Side, Nissan, Infiniti, The Tennessee Arts Commission, and The Nashville Black Chamber of Commerce.** With the support of our corporate partners, the community and its leadership, the **International Black Film Festival of Nashville** is on course to becoming one of the top film festivals in the country.

For up to the minute updates and information about the **International Black Film Festival of Nashville** log onto: www.ibffnashville.com.

Press Contact:

Jessica Johnson, jessica@ibffnashville.com, 615-417-8306
Sherlene Shanklin, sherlene@ibffnashville.com, 502-295-0435
Fax: 615-256-4111