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# Academy of Visual & Performing Arts Culver City High School

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## AVPA's Short Film Screens at SONY

Culver City, CA, May 19, 2005:

The Academy of Visual and Performing Art's (AVPA) Young Filmmakers have been burning the midnight oil lately to get "The Sky is Falling," this year's 16mm film project, ready for its debut at SONY studios. This short 15 minute film will screen every half hour between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> in SONY's Jimmy Stewart Theater.

AVPA film students wrote several scripts for consideration for this film. The script, "The Sky is Falling," was selected for the film project. The story follows a reclusive man who learns from the local TV news that the sky is falling. When a piece of the sky falls into his apartment, he is forced to question his relationship with the world around him.

But the student's tasks didn't stop with the script. The 35 students involved also built sets, ran cameras, and directed the seven professional actors who donated their talents to the project. Several Culver City High School seniors got first hand experience of the responsibilities involved in creating a professional film, including director, Eon Mora, director of photography, Tiffany Livingston, editor, Jason Adler and student producers Tiffany Livingston and Amy Friedman.

The executive producer and artistic director of AVPA's film department, James Bentley found his first 16mm film project with AVPA students challenging, but also exciting and fun. According to Bentley, "So many sponsors were generous both with their time and resources. Without their help, we could never have produced this terrific piece of visual story-telling." Those sponsors include SONY Pictures Entertainment, Kodak, Ultravision, GAM, ELS, Kino-Flo, and Laser Pacific.

The screenings will be held from 9-3 on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at SONY Pictures Entertainment in the Jimmy Stewart Theater, near the Overland security gate. This event is free and open to the public, although seating is limited so reservations for specific time slots are required.

## Press Release

Reservations must also be made for each person attending the screening because names will be verified at the gate, where all attendees must present identification. Security guards will direct cars to the appropriate parking on the SONY lot. Call 310-842-4200 x3306 and leave names for everyone in your party and the preferred time slot as well as your telephone number. Someone will call to confirm the reservation.

According to AVPA producer Stacey Wilson, "Producing a film is an exciting process on its own, but the real excitement is passing along what you've learned to teenagers who are just starting out."

The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) at Culver City High School offers a comprehensive arts curriculum after regular school hours for students who are committed to excellence in Art, Film, Theatre, Dance, and Music. Established in 1996, AVPA enjoys tremendous community support from SONY and other design, recording, and theatre companies in the area. For questions about this screening, call the Artistic Director for Film, James Bently at 310-842-4200 x3306. For more information about AVPA, call Executive Director Darryl Hovis at 310-842-4200 x6009. (END)