Former University of the Arts Pre-College Film Student Presents as Part of the Young Artists Series in Hammonton, NJ

PHILADELPHIA (December 4, 2009) – The Young Artists Series at the Eagle Theater in Hammonton, NJ is hosting former University of the Arts Pre-College film student Elena Parker in a presentation and Q&A on the New York Independent Film Industry. The interactive discussion will feature the behind-the-scenes details of the independent film industry and do-it-yourself productions in New York City.

In 2003 and 2004 Parker participated in the University of the Arts Pre-College Saturday School and Summer Institute as a high school student. She took Film Directing, Film Editing and Documentary courses.

A graduate of Hammonton High School and Columbia University with a BA in film studies, Parker is an award-nominated screenwriter, film producer and multi-media storyteller, currently working in New York. Her presentation will feature clips of “Youth Knows No Pain,” a documentary she co-wrote and co-produced. “Youth Knows No Pain” enjoyed its world premiere at Lincoln Center in April and was broadcast on HBO throughout the month of September. It is still playing in national and international film festivals.

“Youmy career at Columbia and, ultimately, my experience on the doc both greatly benefited from my hands-on and highly informative experiences with the Pre-College classes at UArts,” Parker said.

Parker will give an overview of her experiences as a script analyst, production assistant, new media technician and freelancer in the film community and will discuss the recent advances in DIY production, distribution and cross-platform storytelling. Her presentation promises to be a unique opportunity for aspiring filmmakers and film enthusiasts to participate in a comprehensive dialogue on the dynamic and rapidly changing independent film industry. Tickets are $12 for general admission and $10 for students and seniors.

The Young Artists Series presenting local artists in presentation and conversation at the Eagle Theater is in its inaugural year. The historic Eagle Theatre, a non-profit organization, is located at 208 Vine Street in downtown Hammonton. For ticketing information, visit: theeagletheatre.com.

The University of the Arts is the nation’s first and only university dedicated to the visual, performing and communication arts. Its 2,400 students are enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs on its campus in the heart of Philadelphia’s Avenue of the Arts. The institution’s roots as a leader in educating creative individuals date back to 1868.

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