



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 16, 2016

DREXEL HOSTS OHIO PREMIERE OF AWARD-WINNING, STAR-STUDED SHORT FILM *THE MAGIC BRACELET*

***Post-Screening Q&A Panel to Include Academy Award Winner Diablo Cody,
Who Adapted Filmmaker Rina Goldberg's Original Story Following Her
Death from Mitochondrial Disease at the Age of 15***

On Thursday, September 22, the Drexel Theatre and Abbott Nutrition will host the Ohio premiere of *The Magic Bracelet*, an award-winning short film produced by the Los Angeles-based non-profit, Make A Film Foundation. The story was written by Rina Goldberg, a young filmmaker who lost her battle with mitochondrial disease in 2010 at the age of 15. The event begins at 7pm with the screening of *Love Life, Dream Big, Be Positive*, a 21-minute, behind-the-scenes documentary chronicling Rina's journey with mitochondrial disease and the making of the film. The documentary will be followed by the Ohio debut of the 18-minute short film, *The Magic Bracelet*, and a Q&A panel discussion.

Panel members will include Ari and Stacy Goldberg (Rina's parents and residents of Bexley); Tamika Lamison, the film's producer and founder and executive director of the Make A Film Foundation; and Dr. Scott Hickey, a specialist in molecular and human genetics at Nationwide Children's Hospital. Joining live via Skype will be the film's director, Jon Poll (*Charlie Bartlett*, *Meet the Fockers*, *Austin Powers*), and screenwriter Diablo Cody (Oscar winner for *Juno*) who adapted Rina's story.

Tickets are \$10 and include admission to the screenings of both the behind-the-scenes documentary and short film as well as the post-screening Q&A. Proceeds will benefit MitoAction, United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation, and the Make A Film Foundation. Tickets can be purchased by phone at (614) 231-1050, at www.Drexel.net, or at the Drexel Theatre box office (2254 E. Main St.) in advance or the night of the event.

This event is taking place during Ohio Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Month and Global Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Week. This screening is made possible through the generous support of Abbott Nutrition, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Plaza Properties and The Ruben Family, ThriveRx, The Pilates Studio, Bexley Yoga, Bexley Bed & Breakfast, and Congregation Agudas Achim.

About *The Magic Bracelet*

When Ashley inherits a totem bracelet from a friend who died of mitochondrial disease, the same illness she herself battles, it leads her on a mystical journey of discovery in which a new level of friendship, family, and healing is revealed. Stars Bailee Madison (*The Fosters, Once Upon a Time*), Hailee Steinfeld (*True Grit, Picture Perfect 2*), J.K. Simmons (*Whiplash, The Closer, Juno*), Jackson Rathbone (*Twilight, The Last Airbender*), James Van Der Beek (*Dawson's Creek, Varsity Blues*), Kaitlin Doubleday (*Catch Me If You Can, Empire*), and Scarlett Estevez (*Daddy's Home*).

www.RinasMovie.com

About Rina Goldberg

Since birth, Rina endured a plethora of medical challenges associated with mitochondrial disease, making hospitalizations and medical procedures a regular routine. In 2009, her disease became more advanced, and she essentially became homebound. During that time, family friend Mitchell Eiven, president of Movie and Theater Corporation, wanted to distract Rina from her medical challenges, and began working with her to conceptualize an idea for a movie. With Eiven's encouragement and professional background, Rina's imagination soared with possibilities, and *The Magic Bracelet* quickly grew into a very real, truly magical movie project.

Rina took her responsibilities as junior producer, junior director, and junior writer very seriously, not letting her disease stand in the way of production even as she faced her most difficult time medically. Working from her bed or couch, she reached out to people around the world for inspiration, her dedication to *The Magic Bracelet* never wavering.

Rina left this world on December 29, 2010, at the age of 15, but her legacy lives on through this film. What started as a therapeutic, creative outlet for one has evolved into a source of inspiration for many. Some of Rina's final words to her mom were, "Promise to take care of my film."

About Mitochondrial Disease

Mitochondrial disease is an inherited, chronic illness that affects the tiny organelles found in almost every cell in the body called mitochondria. Mitochondria are the "powerhouse of the cell," and are responsible for creating more than 90% of cellular energy. When they fail to produce enough energy for cell function (mitochondrial disease), it causes cell injury that leads to cell death resulting in debilitating physical, developmental, and cognitive disabilities. Symptoms including poor growth, loss of muscle coordination, muscle weakness and pain, vision and/or hearing loss, gastrointestinal issues, and organ

failure. It is estimated that 1 in 4,000 people has this disease. It is progressive and there is no cure.

www.UMDF.org

About Make A Film Foundation

Make A Film Foundation grants film wishes to children with serious or life-threatening medical conditions, helping them to create short film legacies by teaming them with noted actors, directors, and writers. The foundation believes the art of filmmaking is not only healing and therapeutic, but also offers hope and builds self-esteem. www.MakeAFilmFoundation.org

www.Drexel.net

CALENDAR LISTING

THE DREXEL THEATRE presents the Ohio premiere of *THE MAGIC BRACELET*

Thursday, September 22, 7 pm

Drexel Theatre (2254 E. Main St.)

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About the Drexel Theatre

For generations, the Drexel Theatre has been central Ohio's first source for independent film and the best of Hollywood and international cinema, striving to specialize in simply the best films from around the world.

About Friends of the Drexel, Inc.

Established in late 2009 by a group of committed community leaders and arts patrons, Friends of the Drexel, Inc. is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to a more creative and prosperous future for the Drexel Theatre. Its mission is to secure and sustain the future of the historic Drexel Theatre as a distinctive cultural asset to Bexley and the greater Columbus community. It envisions the Drexel as a sustainable provider of unique arts content as well as a vibrant community meeting place that preserves the charm and eclectic, neighborhood film-going experience in a warm and inviting, yet technologically-advanced, facility.

Contact: Rolanda Copley
(614) 719-6624
rcopley@capa.com