

WHAT'S UP, DAWG? SAUSAGES  
AND FRITZ AT BARGAIN PRICES  
IN OAKLAND. PAGE 30

'SHANGHAI SAN FRANCISCO'  
MYSTERY STARS THE AUDIENCE.  
PAGE 14

SPORTS SUNDAY: HORSE  
RACING AND FOOTBALL IN  
ONE PLACE. PAGE 36

# 96 Hours

San Francisco Chronicle :: 4-Day Weekend Entertainment Guide :: 9.18.08-9.21.08



## HEAD OVER HEELS FOR ART

TOUR THE CITY'S  
MUSEUM ON THE STREETS  
ON A LUNCHTIME WALK.  
PAGE 38

# Big screen



Audra (left) and Chandell prepare to go to the wrestling mat in Lisa Blackstone's "Grappling Girls," a short film that is part of Lunafest 2008.

## CHARITABLE CINEMA

**:: Lunafest ::** Festival featuring short films by and about women raises money for local nonprofits

The eighth edition of the Lunafest short-film festival has girls who wrestle, a woman trying to rid herself of her inner male voice, another who wants to be a man (maybe) and a centenarian who has seen firsthand the progress of women.

"There are some great conversation starters," said festival director Brooke Golden, a Berkeley resident. "We're not the biggest festival, but we've learned a lot in eight years."

Actually, many nonprofit groups could learn a lot from Lunafest's unique model for fundraising. It is a traveling festival, sponsored by Luna, a maker of nutrition bars, of films by and about women. Its carefully selected 90-minute collection of 10 short films premieres tonight at the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco (last year's edition premiered at the Herbst Theatre) and eventually will play at about 150 cities across the country over the next several months. Each showing raises money for charities and nonprofits in the community where the films are shown; tonight's premiere benefits San Francisco's Breast Cancer Fund, which has raised more than \$200,000 during past Lunafests.

Any nonprofit can schedule a Lunafest; the program will play in other Bay Area venues to benefit local charities, including Sebastopol (Nov. 7), San Pablo (Feb. 7), San Francisco again (March 6) and Walnut Creek (March 7).

Actually, there's another "charity" Lunafest benefits filmmakers.

"They gave us a thousand dollars," said San Francisco resident Jessica Sison, whose "Kuna Ni

Nanang (My Mother Said)" is one of two films in the festival from Bay Area directors (Harriet Storm's transgender documentary, "Kaden," is the other).

Sison's film, about her 100-year-old grandmother (who will be in attendance tonight), has been in several film festivals, including Tribeca. You don't get paid for those. But Sison said the exposure of Lunafest is more meaningful than the money.

"The draw is your film will be seen in all these different cities," said Sison, whose friends and relatives in Seattle, Houston and the New York-New Jersey area will be able to see her film.

Lunafest's annual attendance is about 20,000, Golden said. It has raised about \$470,000 overall for local nonprofits.

Tonight's premiere will be hosted by the Discovery Channel's green-living expert, Sara Snow, and will include a preview of an online celebrity auction that includes items donated by actress America Ferrera, Sen. Barbara Boxer and model Christy Turlington, a Bay Area native.

— G. Allen Johnson,  
ajohnson@sfgate.com

**6 p.m. (VIP reception) and 7:30 p.m. (films program) tonight, Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon St., San Francisco, (866) 760-8223, [www.breastcancerfund.org/lunafest8](http://www.breastcancerfund.org/lunafest8) or [www.lunafest.org](http://www.lunafest.org).**

## REP PICKS

**:: "Flow" ::** "Are we doomed?" filmmaker Irena Salina was asked. "I don't like to think that way," she said with a laugh by phone from New York. "But this walks hand-in-hand, like brother and sister, with global warming. ... You kind of have to give people a punch, a wake-up call." Salina's globe-trotting documentary on the very real problem of the decreasing world supply of clean water is super-scary (can you imagine wars being fought over water instead of, say, oil?), super-informative (California has only 20 years of clean water left, apparently) and — a sign it's doing its job — makes you thirsty. One of the most pertinent questions: Do corporations have the right to buy water, as natural a resource as air? Starts Fri. Lumiere Theatre, 1572 California St., San Francisco, (415) 267-4893; Shattuck Cinemas, 2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, (510) 464-5980, [www.landmarktheatres.com](http://www.landmarktheatres.com).

**:: "Red Heroine" ::** One of the earliest surviving martial arts films — actually the sixth episode of a 13-part silent serial made in 1929 — chronicles the rise of a female warrior, and this is 70 years before "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." It has one showing only, with live accompaniment by Boston's Devil Music Ensemble. 8:30 p.m. Fri. The 4-Star, 2200 Clement St., San Francisco. (415) 666-3488, [www.lntsf.com](http://www.lntsf.com).

**:: 12th Annual MadCat Women's International Film Festival ::** Retrospective blasts from past festivals open this year's edition Friday, and it concludes Tuesday with silent films with live musical accompaniment — and free barbecue! — under the stars. Fri. at Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St., S.F. (415) 824-3890; Tue. at El Rio, 3158 Mission St., (415) 282-3325, [www.madcatfilmfestival.org](http://www.madcatfilmfestival.org).

— G. Allen Johnson