

December 31, 2008

Dear Vanderbilt Colleague,

We are pleased to announce the spring schedule for the *International Lens* film initiative. *International Lens*, a weekly film series with a global perspective, is hosted by the Office of the Dean of Students. Vanderbilt's faculty, staff, and students represent a wide array of nations and cultures. The goal of *International Lens* is to use film screenings as a forum to promote conversation among these diverse constituencies. We believe that through the "lens" of film, we can transcend geographic, ethnic, religious, linguistic, and political boundaries. To this end, we have created this film series as a catalyst for conversation and greater cross-cultural understanding within our diverse community.

The *International Lens* film series is a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students and academic departments, centers, and programs. This spring, 24 films representing 16 different countries will be presented in partnership with 14 academic departments, centers, and programs. A new addition to *International Lens* this spring is the involvement of 9 international student organizations. The student organizations will collaborate with faculty facilitators to present films they have selected, allowing them an opportunity to share their cultures and interact with faculty from across campus.

Please assist us by promoting the series to your students and colleagues. All of the screenings are free and open to the public. All of the films will be screened in Sarratt Cinema at 7 p.m. The spring series opens Tuesday, January 13 with the screening of *Freedom Song*. This film will be presented by the Office of Religious Life in conjunction with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture Series, for which Charles "Chuck" McDew will be the keynote speaker. Lucius T. Outlaw, Jr., Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, Professor of Philosophy and of African American and Diaspora Studies will lead the discussion for this film. The complete schedule is attached.

Event updates and film descriptions are available on the Web site, visit www.vanderbilt.edu/internationalens for additional information. *International Lens* is coordinated by the Office of Arts & Creative Engagement and the Office of International Student & Scholar Services. If you have any questions on the film series, please do not hesitate to contact either <joel.logiudice@vanderbilt.edu> or <heather.a.jones@vanderbilt.edu>.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at an *International Lens* film screening.

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