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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Southern City Announces Annual Film Festival & Outdoor Summer Movie Series**

*Bringing an idea to life through the power of film.*



**Aiken, SC, January 11, 2016** – “It all starts with an idea” – the motto behind Southern City, which is now being brought to reality, as Southern City announced today their first annual film festival, set to be held November 4-6, 2016. The Southern City Film Festival will bring an array of films, from amateur to professional in 5 categories: Feature Films, Documentary Films, Short Films, ‘Script to Screen’, and Homegrown, with the winning films receiving a distribution deal to showcase their work.

The Southern City Film Festival will benefit the Southern City Institute, a 501(c)(3), which helps local youth and aspiring actors, writers, producers and filmmakers in the Aiken area to learn and grow in the craft, also benefitting the local community theater, including its youth wing, facilities and programs. “I can’t wait to start this right here in the CSRA, there’s nothing like it in the area!”, said Founder and President Justin Wheelon.

“As the Southern City Film Festival continues to grow, I look forward to bringing aspiring filmmakers to the top and helping them launch their career,” Vice President Chris Schafer said. With submissions from 22 countries, the 2015 Southern City Film Festival is already becoming an international event.

Southern City was founded by Emmy® Award-winning actor, director Justin Wheelon. The southeast is quickly becoming a premier destination for pursuing a career in the film industry. Learn more and submit your films at [SouthernCity.org](http://SouthernCity.org)

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**SOUTHERN NIGHTS - An Outdoor Movie Series** – Are you ready for an outdoor movie experience under the stars? Southern City and the City of Aiken are bringing you an amazing new way to watch your favorite classic family friendly movies. Tentatively to be held at Citizens Park for 4 dates this summer, one in May, June, July, and August. We’re looking at having a large 40’ screen with an amazing sound system. That will be the biggest screen in Aiken!

More details to follow at [SouthernCity.org/southern-nights](http://SouthernCity.org/southern-nights)

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