



THE CENTER FOR HOME MOVIES  
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### **Sixth International Home Movie Day Puts Home Movies on the Big Screen**

*Annual bring-your-own-film event celebrates historic amateur works and home film preservation*

Los Angeles, CA: On Saturday, October 18, 2008, the Sixth International Home Movie Day will be observed in over fifty cities worldwide. The Center for Home Movies initiated Home Movie Day as a means of highlighting both the cultural significance of home movies and the need to properly preserve these important artifacts.

CHM spokesperson Dwight Swanson describes the significant discussions and new discoveries that are an important outcome of Home Movie Day's public film screenings. He cites the 2006 HMD in New Orleans, where a curated screening and special community events brought attention to "Think of Me First as a Person," a powerful home movie documentary made by a father who recorded his developmentally disabled son's early childhood. The film was subsequently named to the Library of Congress National Film Registry in 2007 and is being released on DVD this year. In 2007, a second Home Movie Day rediscovery, "Our Day," by 1930s Kentucky filmmaker Wallace Kelly, was also named to the Registry.

Cory Doctorow, author, blogger and co-editor of the website BoingBoing.net describes Home Movie Day as "a fantastic idea ," adding "culture isn't just the stuff that the studios make, it's what we make of it. Content isn't king, conversation is—and what better conversation-starters than the significant moments of your neighbors' lives?" Telluride Film Festival co-director Gary Meyer says home movies offer an essential and unique view on personal, community and cultural histories. Referring to one of the hits of the 2008 Telluride Festival, a series of films called "Private Century" by Czech filmmaker Jan Sikl, Meyer explains that Sikl "has found collections of home movies and then researched the family diaries and archives to learn the fascinating stories behind the films. He now can tell the powerful stories covering multiple generations exclusively using the actual footage of the people involved." Sikl is just one of an increasing number of documentary filmmakers making use of vintage 8mm, Super 8, and 16mm films in new productions.

Home Movie Day, free and open to the public, is the world's leading effort to honor and preserve small-format films. Intended as a "bring-your-own-film" event, people can bring their home movies to a designated venue where equipment to inspect and project the film is provided. The event encourages audience discussion of the films, the filmmaker, and the images shared. Most events also include a "film clinic," where experts can assess film condition, offer proper storage and care for film, and discuss important considerations for film-to-video transfers.

To view a list of 2008 venues worldwide, go to [www.homemovieday.com](http://www.homemovieday.com). For press inquiries or for an information package on how to schedule a Home Movie Day in your area, contact Katie Trainor at [film@homemovieday.com](mailto:film@homemovieday.com).

The Center for Home Movies is a registered not-for profit organization supported through grants and donations. CHM's primary mission is to promote, preserve and educate the public about amateur films.

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