



'Brownstones' Premieres at Seattle International Film Festival

Filmmakers Partner With the Seattle-Based Nonprofit, Schools for Salone

Brooklyn, N.Y. — May 10, 2010 — Remember writing letters to a pen pal when you were in school? Even today, in the age of e-mail and video chats, students are still putting pencil and crayon to paper to connect with children around the world.

For inner city kids in Bed-Stuy, New York and war orphans in Freetown, Sierra Leone, this type of connection was just what they needed. BROWNSTONES TO RED DIRT, a Copper Pot Pictures documentary, captures the friendships among eight pen pals. Divided by more than 4,000 miles, the kids expected their differences to be vast. But with each new letter, as the pen pals share favorite colors and hobbies, stories about lost loved ones, and their hopes for the future, they come to realize that their new friends are more like them than they ever thought possible.

Inspired by the children, Copper Pot Pictures has raised more than \$53,000 to build a school in Sierra Leone and create a library in Bed-Stuy. The filmmakers have also partnered with the Seattle-based Schools for Salone to construct the building in Freetown. The nonprofit is committed to helping Sierra Leoneans rebuild the many rural schools that were destroyed during their country's ten-year civil war.

BROWNSTONES TO RED DIRT will hold its West Coast premiere at the Seattle International Film Festival on Sat., May 29 at 6:30 pm at SIFF Cinema and Mon., May 31 at 3:45 pm at Pacific Place Cinemas #10. Question and answer sessions with the filmmakers and the director of Schools for Salone will follow each screening.

Contact: Dave LaMattina, 860.287.1525, dave@copperpotpictures.com
www.brownstonestoredirt.com