

A Creative Writing, Filmmaking Competition



*with late afternoon and evening
classes in writing and film*

Win Awards and Scholarships

**August 8-10, 2005
Gregory, South Dakota**

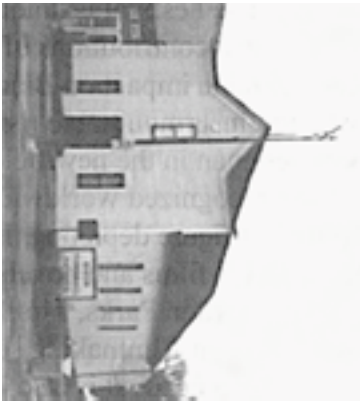
**deadline for application and submission
postmarked by Friday, July 15, 2005**

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Gregory, SD 57533

Sponsored by the
10th Annual
Oscar Micheaux Film & Book Festival
August 10-14, 2005
Gregory, SD 57533

Writing & Film Festival Competition 2005
Oscar Micheaux Center
PO Box 26 • 524 Main St.
Gregory, SD 57533

(Below) The Oscar Micheaux
Homestead Site near Gregory
recreated by Richard
Papousek from the description
in Micheaux' book "The
Conquest".



(Below) The Oscar Micheaux
Center (OMC) of information,
displays, research, classroom-
studios for the Micheaux
Festival, Gregory, Tripp &
Gregory county and world-
wide.



(Above) The home of the
Dixon Town Hall Theatre,
where many of the festival
venues take place, Oscar's star
and stars of other notables on
the Walk of Fame.



Reasons for the Competition & Classes:

1. This competition and classes in creative writing and filmmaking is sponsored by the Oscar Micheaux Film and Book Festival, its 10th anniversary.
2. This first year, duo program is an educational development from the mission statement of the Oscar Micheaux Film and Book Festival Foundation which advocates the multi-educational and multi-cultural integrity to all peoples as applied by Micheaux in his books and films, in his life and career.
3. This is an opportunity to present your writing and filming ideas and skills in a competition before an audience.
4. After the morning and early afternoon competitions, late afternoon and evening classes in writing and filming will be taught by experienced writers and filmmakers.
5. In the coming year, the Oscar Micheaux Center, in Gergory, SD, is planning on a series of classes, by traveling instructors, during the fall and winter, throughout South Dakota, with a spring competition, and more extensive summer seminars at the OMC on skills in writing, story telling, and aspects of making a film. This is for people of all ages and educational levels.
6. We are looking into having students receive academic recognition/credits.
7. We hope this new program will encourage you to make writing/filmmaking a hobby or a career.
8. 1st place winners will receive cash awards/scholarships

The Competition

1. August 8-10 (Monday-Wednesday) is tentatively set for the competition. The starting day will be based on the number of applications/submitted entries received by deadline, Friday, July 15th and those accepted by Friday, July 22nd. You will be sent a complete schedule of the competition: day, time, location of your presentation, and the location of evening classes.
2. The application, including the entry work, must be postmarked by Friday, July 15th, 2005. Late entries will not be accepted.
3. The staff reserves the right to reject any entry using inappropriate language, behavior, dress, movement, symbols, subject matter, and violence at the committee review of your entry.
4. Writer's scripts must be typed, double spaced on clean, white, unlined 8.5 x 11 inch paper with one inch margins.
5. The writer may read their own script or designate an experienced reader at the competition.

6. The film story should be recorded on one of two types of media: DVD or VHS.
7. The applicant's film entry will be shown on the Festival's equipment.
8. The entry fee is \$10.00 to cover judges/instructor's costs.
9. The applicant should include a self-addressed, stamped postcard if you want to receive confirmation of our receipt of your application and entry.
10. Your script or film entry (including rejected entries) will be returned to you following the competition if you send a self-addressed, stamped envelope or container.
11. Your name and title must be on your writing, script or film entry.
12. The writing categories include: short story, short documentary, prose, poetry(s), rap/spoken word, song lyrics, commercial(s). The length of your entry should be 8-10 minutes.
13. The filmmaking categories include: short films, short documentary, music video, or animation. The length of viewing time should be 10-12 minutes.
14. The judging evalutaion of your entry will be based on the merit of your entry work.
15. There are two levels of experience in this competition: the first-time writer or filmmaker and the experienced writer or filmmaker.
16. The competition will be divided by students and non-students.
17. The competition is further divided into three categories: high school students, college students, and beyond (that is, any age, not in school).
18. We will not be responsible for travel, lodging, or food expenses. Upon receipt of your application/entry script or DVD/VHS, we will send you your scheduled appearance time and location, information on restaurants, motels, a map locating events, and a schedule of the August 10-14 Oscar Micheaux Film and Book Festival should you wish to attend.
19. Please enclose on the application the name and address of your local newspaper, radio station to publicize your participation.
20. This program is for independent filmmakers and writers. Professionals and those funded by outside entities, please do not apply for this competition. You may contact the Oscar Micheaux Film and Book Festival for further information on presenting your writing or film.

About Oscar Micheaux (1884 - 1951)

Oscar was born in southern Illinois into a family of 13 children. At age 17, he left home for Chicago, working as a shoeshine boy, and later as a Pullman Porter traveling the USA. He traveled to Gregory (on eastern part of the Rosebud Sioux Reservation). In 1905, he took over a failed homestead. When economic hard times hit the Great Plains, he turned to writing novels and selling them. He left SD and turned to the new movie industry in 1918 filming his first movie, "The Homesteader", filmed in the Gregory area. He wrote 7 book and 44 full-featured silent and soundie films.

About the Festival

The 10th Annual Oscar Micheaux Film and Book Festival will be held in Gregory, SD on Wednesday though Sunday, August 10-14, 2005. The Festival is unique because it celebrates the life and contributions of Micheaux, who made a considerable impact on Black Filmmaking and who took insurmountable risks being a Black businessman in the new field of movie-making. He is now recognized worldwide (as is the Festival) as a historical figure depicting the difficulty of his race through his films and novels. Spike Lee, John Singleton, Gordon Parks, Tim Reid, and others owe much of their filmmaking success to Oscar.

The Festival is also unique because of the multicultural and multi-educational topics by scholars on the location of the raw and beautiful Great Plains of South Dakota as experienced by Oscar, Native Americans, African Americans, and White European immigrants.

Other unique features are the interactions between the audience and scholars socializing together, and community activities coinciding with the Festival.