

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**PHILADELPHIA FILM SOCIETY ANNOUNCES RETROSPECTIVE
HIGHLIGHTING THE CAREER OF WRITER/DIRECTOR ALEXANDER PAYNE**

**PATRONS OF THE WEEKEND LONG EVENT WILL RECEIVE PASSES
TO PREVIEW PAYNE'S NEWEST FILM, *THE DESCENDANTS*,
WHICH HITS THEATERS ON NOVEMBER 18**

(PHILADELPHIA, PA) November 8, 2011 – The Philadelphia Film Society presents a two-day retrospective on the films of Alexander Payne, in anticipation of the theatrical release of his newest feature, *The Descendants* which hits select theaters on November 18th.

The four-film retrospective, made possible thanks to Fox Searchlight Pictures, highlights Payne's directorial accomplishments and brings to light his critically-acclaimed talents as a dark comedy filmmaker. The series will run from November 12-13, concluding with a special preview screening of *The Descendants* on November 14. All retrospective screenings will be held at the Bossone Theater at Drexel University, located at the corner of 33rd and Market Streets, West Philadelphia. Admission is free with a suggested donation of \$5 to the non-profit Philadelphia Film Society and all attendees will receive a complimentary pass to the following Monday's advance viewing of *The Descendants*.

Scheduled films include:

Saturday November 12



***Citizen Ruth* (1996), 6:00pm**

An irresponsible, drug addicted, recently impregnated woman finds herself in the middle of an abortion debate when both parties attempt to sway her to their respective sides. Starring Laura Dern.



***Sideways* (2004), 8:30pm**

Two men reaching middle age with not much to show but disappointment, embark on a week long road trip through California's wine country, just as one is about to take a trip down the aisle. Starring Paul Giamatti, Thomas Haden Church and Virginia Madsen.

Sunday, November 13



***About Schmidt* (2002), 5:00pm**

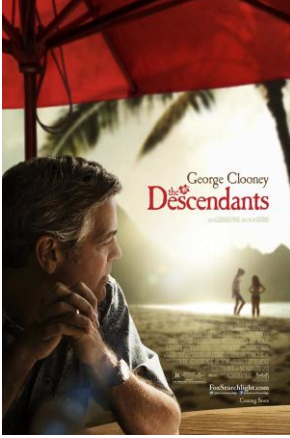
A man upon retirement embarks on a journey to his estranged daughters' wedding only to discover more about himself and life than he ever expected. Starring Jack Nicholson, Hope Davis and Dermot Mulroney.



***Election* (1999), 7:15pm**

A high school teacher's personal life becomes complicated as he works with students during the school elections. Starring Matthew Broderick, Reese Witherspoon and Chris Klein.

Monday, November 14



***SPECIAL ADVANCE PREVIEW SCREENING**

***The Descendants* (2011), 7:30**

Rave Motion Pictures, 40th and Walnut Streets

Payne's first film since *Sideways*, *The Descendants* is a powerful blend of comedy and tragedy, with insightful examinations of marriage, family and community. Starring George Clooney, Judy Greer and Matthew Lillard

For general information, visit PFS on the web at www.filmadelphia.org

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About the Philadelphia Film Society

The Philadelphia Film Society is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit arts organization that values film as a unique form of artistic expression and as a reflection of cultural, social, and economic diversity. It is the mission of the Philadelphia Film Society to promote film as a powerful means for strengthening community education, understanding, and engagement. PFS achieves its mission through various year-round film events, including the annual Philadelphia Film Festival, which ran from October 20-November 3, 2011, and the filmadelphiaEXPERIENCE screening series, which serves to extend the Philadelphia Film Festival throughout the year.

For more information about the Philadelphia Film Festival and the Philadelphia Film Society, please contact the Philadelphia Film Society at 267-239-2941 or media@filmadelphia.org.