

GEN SILENT FILMMAKER COMES TO WILMINGTON TO SPEAK ABOUT USING FILM FOR SOCIAL GOOD

“The generation that fought hardest to come out is going back in to survive”

Gen Silent is a critically-acclaimed documentary from filmmaker Stu Maddux that explores the challenges of six LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans) seniors who face the difficult choice of hiding their friends, their spouses, and their entire lives in order to survive in the health care system.

For "Family Fest 2011" the Frank Harr Foundation will open the event with a meet & greet reception for *Gen Silent* filmmaker, Stu Maddux, on Thursday, September 29, 2011, 7:00pm. Local film organization, Working Films, will host the meet & greet at the firehouse located on the corner of Castle Street at 602 South 5th Avenue, Wilmington, NC. The reception is free and open to the public. Filmmakers and media creators whom are interested in learning how to use their projects to create social change are encouraged to attend. Stu will discuss how he is using his film to encourage more hospices and service agencies to address the specific needs of LGBT elders.

The 63-minute film will screen the following day, Friday September 30th 2011, at 3:00pm at UNCW's Warwick Center. There will be a Health Fair starting at 12:30pm that will include vendors that serve the LGBT community, seminars focusing on legal issues facing LGBT individuals and couples, and LGBT sensitivity training for health care providers. The South East Area Health Education Center (SEAHEC) will be sponsoring 4 hours of continuing education credits for nursing professionals for \$15, payable at the door.

Following the screening will be a panel discussion about the movie and the realities that LGBT individuals and couples face today in the health care system. Panelists include: Stu Maddux, "Gen Silent" Director, Gillian O'Reilly, MSW, from Lower Cape Fear Hospice & Life Care Center, Rev. John McLaughlin, St. Jude's Metropolitan Community Church, Connie Vetter, Attorney, Eleanor Covan, PhD, UNCW Gerontology, and Scott French, from SAGE: Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders. This is a free event.

Major sponsors of Family Fest 2011 include: Lower Cape Fear Hospice & Life Care Center, UNCW LGBTQIA Resource Office, SEAHEC, Virginia Hager, Attorney at Law, Connie Vetter, Attorney at Law, St. Jude's Metropolitan Community Church, Level 5 at City Stage, Hampton Inns of Wilmington, and The Frank Harr Foundation.

Additional Information:

Filmmaker, Stu Maddux, is available for interviews and promotional opportunities leading up to the event. Please contact, Mary Anne Hewett @ 910-399-5557

Trailer available at *Gen Silent* website: www.gensilent.com

For information on the Frank Harr Foundation, visit www.thefrankharrfoundation.com

For information on Working Films: www.workingfilms.org