

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“HOLLYWOOD MAKES HILLSBORO --‘HILLYWOOD’”

August 1, 2008, Hillsboro, New Mexico

LouAnne Johnson, the New York Times best-selling author of “Dangerous Minds”, and indie-filmmaker, Rod McCall, director/writer/producer of the Sundance Film Festival premiere films “Lewis & Clark & George” and “Cheatin’ Hearts”, were very surprised to find each other living in the same tiny New Mexico village of Hillsboro, which has a population of just under 200 (if you count the dogs and cats). Johnson and McCall’s surprise meeting is about to become the new movie, “Becoming Eduardo.”

McCall and Johnson collaborated on a screen adaptation of Johnson’s newest book, “Alternative Ed.” Filming of “Becoming Eduardo”, which started production on July 14th—in Hillsboro and Truth or Consequences, New Mexico—with cast and crew of seasoned film vets and exciting new faces.

“The film was shot on a shoe-string. Just one shoe-string. We couldn’t afford two,” says McCall.

Producer, Brad Littlefield commented, “We were also surprised to discover that we didn’t need a big budget to attract a great cast. We’ve managed to get Elizabeth Pena (“TransAmerica,” “Rush Hour”, “Lone Star”, “Jacob’s Ladder,” “La Bamba”), A. Martinez (“CSI”, “Huff”, “JAG”), Gary Perez (“Oz” “Numb3rs”), and hot young new-comers, Julian Alcaraz, Mike Dunay and Elizabeth Blanco. It’s because of the script. Everyone seemed to respond to it positively. In this case, just a great story was enough!” Littlefield explains.

The story is about Eddie Corazon, a young rural New Mexico alternative high school student, who is at risk--of becoming a drug-selling, gang-banger. It’s a tough “urban story”, set—and contrasting with--a bucolic rural setting.

Hillsboro, New Mexico is not new to film production. Both “Cheatin’ Hearts” and “Lewis & Clark & George” were shot in the tiny village. Hence, Hillsboro has become so accustomed to shooting (with the likes of stars like Kris Kristofferson, James Brolin and Rose McGowan) that it has been nicknamed “Hillywood.”

“ ‘Becoming Eduardo’ was created as a film project only two months ago, and because it’s a classic ‘labor of love’, everyone--from the award-winning Alma D’Arte alternative high school in Las Cruces (where several roles for young students have been filled), to a famed doc cameraman,

Dale Sonnenberg, to the new Creative Media Institute at New Mexico State University, to MTV vet producer, Gentry Stanley--are all involved because they were turned-on by the story," McCall says.

Open Range Pictures in association with The Creative Media Institute presents
a film by Rod McCall
~ **BECOMING EDUARDO** ~
Julian Alcaraz Elizabeth Blanco Mike Dunay
A. Martinez Josh Cruze Gary Perez Holly Riddle
& Elizabeth Pena as Leticia Corazon
Screenplay by LouAnne Johnson & Rod McCall
based on the novella "Alternate Ed" by LouAnne Johnson
Director of Photography Dale Sonnenberg ~ Production Design Stephen Hansen
Editor Michael Colin ~ Co-Producer David Adams
Field Producer Gentry Stanley
Executive Producer Garland Bills
Producers Brad Littlefield, LouAnne Johnson, Rod McCall
Directed by Rod McCall