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***First-ever librarian documentary film announces
nationwide release beginning September 29***

MADISON, WI – The producers of *The Hollywood Librarian: A Look at Librarians Through Film* announced today the documentary film will screen in 87 locations across the U.S. and Canada beginning September 29, but *not in theaters*. Instead, filmgoers will head to their local library to see the first-ever film about librarians. In addition to libraries in thirty-one U.S. states from Maine to Alaska, the film will be also be shown in six locations in Canada and one in Bermuda.

The 2007 documentary is the first look at the real work and skills of the more than 60,000 librarians working in the U.S., a well-loved but little understood profession. It weaves together documentary footage and interviews with movie clips of often stereotypical librarians. The filmmakers expect the documentary to find a broad audience, given the fact that libraries receive over a billion visits each year. “Just about everyone has a childhood librarian story,” commented Ann Seidl, the writer/director of the 96-minute film and a librarian herself.

The film’s release coincides with the annual American intellectual freedom celebration known as Banned Books Week (September 29 through October 6). *The Hollywood Librarian* contains scenes from well-known films like Ray Bradbury’s *Fahrenheit 451* and *Storm Center*, starring Bette Davis. “One of the hallmarks of a healthy society is the unfettered flow of all kinds of ideas and materials, and nurturing that flow is the librarian’s mission,” said Seidl. The documentary includes scenes about how John Steinbeck’s books were burned during the 1930’s, the controversial USA Patriot Act and an interview with Ray Bradbury himself.

“This is a remarkable scope of venues for an independent distribution,” said distribution coordinator Melissa McGuire, “and the screening libraries are reporting *The Hollywood Librarian* is getting much more attention than they expected.” McGuire went on to say that at least two libraries have moved to a larger auditorium to accommodate demand for

extra seating, and others have ordered additional tickets due to the high number of requests for their screenings. The full list of screening libraries is available at www.hollywoodlibrarian.com.

The Hollywood Librarian: A Look at Librarians Through Film, an original, full-length documentary by and about librarians, is an Overdue Productions film in association with BiFolkal Productions. This film was made possible in part by a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. It was shot in HD on the Panasonic Varicam high definition digital camera, and features an original music score composed for the documentary. Running time is 96 minutes. Screening DVDs are available upon request.

To schedule an interview with Ann Seidl, the film's writer/director, contact Melissa McGuire at 608.334.9823 or melissa@hollywoodlibrarian.com.