

Film Festival was FAN-TASTIC



The 1st Annual California Next Gen film festival of 2008 was held at the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium. Opening night was August 28th and ran through August 31st. Both celebrities and film enthusiasts were there to enjoy this one of a kind event. Jaime Gonzales, President of CA Next Gen film festival, hoped to spark public interest in supporting cinematic art at its best, as well as celebrating Sacramento as a world class city with this first festival. Mr Gonzales also gave Sacramento and



L-R: Heather Fargo, Rob Best

the surrounding cities the opportunity to experience high definition, which is an exciting movement in the film industry. A highly recognized panel of celebrities included Rudy Youngblood, who starred in "Apocalypto", Damien Lichtenstien, Adam Del Rio of "The Pursuit of Happiness" and Lauren Greenfield. Also attending were, Will Big-

ham, winner of "On the Lot" reality TV show and Don McAlpine who has been shooting films in Hollywood for over 30 years. Mr. McAlpine is well known for his work with "Moulin Rouge", "The Chronicles of Narnia", "Mrs. Doubtfire", "X-Men Origins" and "Wolverine". Next Gen was an informative and exciting event that will indeed expand the film arts in and around our fine city. This annual film festival will be one event that you will want to watch out for, promising young film makers and audiences of all ages a glimpse into the past, present, and future of film.



L-R: Rudy Youngblood, Hatzune Aguilar, Jaime Gonzales, Adam Del Rio

Exterior Door Replacement

One of the scariest jobs in restoring, renovating, or simple updating a house is replacing an exterior door. Modern exterior doors often fit and insulate better than old ones, and their associated heat losses (or gains) come from opening and closing the door. However, damaged weather stripping can increase energy loss around the door by many times. Check your weather-stripping every year and replace it as needed. After replacing the weather-stripping, check the door seal again. If the door still does not seal tightly to all sides of the jamb you either installed the weather stripping badly or the door is bent and in need of replacement.

Consider an insulated metal or fiberglass door when replacing exterior doors. They are a better investment than wooden doors since they are much more durable, have lower maintenance needs, and seal and insulate better. They also have the added advantage of offering more of a deterrent to intruders.

Most insulated door prices range from \$200 to \$400. One common type has a steel skin with a polyurethane foam core; they usually have a magnetic strip (similar to a refrigerator door magnetic seal) for weather-stripping. If

installed correctly and, if the door is not bent, this type of door needs no further weather-stripping. The R-values of most steel and fiberglass clad entry doors range from R-5 to R-6 (not including the effects of a window.) For example: A 1-1/2 inch (3.81 cm) thick door without a window offers better than five times the insulating value of a solid wood door of the same size.

When you buy a door, it will probably be pre-hung in a frame. Pre-hung doors usually come with wood or steel frames. In most cases, you will need to remove the existing doorframe from the rough opening before you install a pre-hung door. The doorframe must be as square as possible, so that the door seals tightly to the jamb and swings properly. It is a good idea to use expanding foam caulking to seal the new doorframe to the rough opening and threshold to prevent air from getting around the door seals and into the house. You should do this before adding the interior trim.

When replacing patio doors, keep in mind that swinging doors offer a much tighter seal than sliding types. Most modern glass doors with metal frames have a "thermal break," which is a plastic insulator between inner and outer parts of the frame. Glass doors are also optionally manufactured with several layers of glazing, low-e coatings, and low conductivity gases between the glass panes. These options are a good investment, especially in extreme climates. Over the long run, the additional cost is paid back many times over in energy savings.

Weather Stripping

Replacement weather stripping is usually available at most building supply and hardware stores. There are a wide variety of materials to choose from including: foam rubber, EPDM rubber, felt, bent metal, and plastic.

When selecting weather stripping, you should consider the durability of the material as well as what would work best for what you are weather stripping. For example: bent brass and aluminum is found on many older doors and are durable, but they conduct heat easily, don't usually seal that well, and are easily damaged by being bent the wrong way or through poor installation. Bent metal weather stripping is also one of the most expensive weather stripping materials. Bent plastics are similar to the bent metals, but are less expensive. They are also less durable. Most rubber and foam materials stay flexible for years, are inexpensive, easily replaced and effectively seal air leaks. You should choose the appropriate door sweeps and thresholds for the bottom of the doors as well.

For the best possible results from your investment, you should make certain that the weather stripping material will stay flexible under extreme weather conditions. Also be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions. In general, you should: 1) weather strip the entire door jamb; 2) apply one continuous strip along each side; 3) make sure the stripping meets tightly at the corners; and 4) use a thickness that, when the door closes, the stripping tightly presses between the door and the door jamb without making the door too hard to close.

Source: *The Natural Handyman*

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