

BHERC To Honor Prolific Film Director Michael Schultz and Commemorate 45th Anniversary of Film “Cooley High”

Original cast members and industry icons join virtual event free to the public online at www.BHERC.TV with screening and online special celebration and tribute.

LOS ANGELES, CA, USA, October 18, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- (Hollywood, CA) - [The Black Hollywood Education and Resource Center \(BHERC\)](#)

announced today the dedication of the 26th Annual African American Film Marketplace and S.E. Manly Short Film Showcase (AAFM SEMSFS) in honor of

TV and film director Michael Schultz (Cooley High, Black Lightning). AAFM SEMSFS will take place online on BHERC.TV October 23, thru Sunday, November 29, 2020. Mr. Schultz will be honored along with the commemoration of the 45th Anniversary of the ground-breaking film Cooley High

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Michael Schultz is the ‘best of the best’ in Hollywood, a true genius. His ‘Cooley High’ is a ‘Classic’ that launched the careers of several phenomenal actors inspiring a generation of filmmakers.”

*Sandra J. Evers-Manly,
President and Founder BHERC*

at the BHERC signature event “A Great Day in Black Hollywood” a festival favorite, Saturday, October 24th. The film Cooley High screens at 3:00pm PDT and the online tribute and celebration featuring the cast and industry icons begins at 5:30 pm PDT. Both virtual events stream online at www.BHERC.TV

Hosted by veteran actor William Allen Young (Code Black), the special event will pay tribute to the impact Mr. Schultz has had in the stage, television and film industry beginning with his first feature film the record-breaking Cooley High. A film so important during its time because of the cultural content as well as the box office performance. The

comedy turned drama coming-of-age story of high school friends that reached beyond communities and lines of color and gave voice and validation to lives never explored on the “Big” screen. “Cooley High” treated the audience to number a of actors the pubic had seen too little



Top Row (left to right): Jackie Taylor, Actor, *Cooley High, Chi-Raq*; Michael Schultz, Director, *Cooley High, Black-ish*; Glynn Turman, Actor /Director *Cooley High, Fargo*; Lawrence Hilton Jacobs, Actor/Director *Cooley High, The Jacksons: An American Dream, Garrett Morris, Jackpot*; **Bottom Row** (left to right): Oz Scott, Director *Black Lightning*, Charles Floyd Johnson, Producer *NCIS*, Bill Duke, Actor/Director *Black Lightning*, Warrington Hudlin, Director *Boomerang* and William Allen Young, Actor/Writer *Code Black, Moesha*

Schultz Tribute Participants

of or had not seen prior such as Garrett Morris "Jackpot", Steven Williams, "X-Files", Lawrence Hilton Jacobs, "The Jacksons: An American Dream", and Glynn Turman "Fargo" to name a few. Original cast members - including those listed prior - along with other actors such as Gloria Schultz, "Cooley High", Brandon Schultz, "Cooley High" and Jackie Taylor, "Chi-Raq" Michael has directed. Industry professionals Bill Duke, Director "Black Lighting", Director Warrington Hudlin, "Boomerang", Director Oz Scott, "Black Lighting" will also join in the celebration.

26th Annual
African American
Film Marketplace
 &
 S.E. Manly Short Film Showcase

SAVETHEDATE
October 23rd -
November 29th 2020

Tickets Available October 9th

\$25 All Day Pass | \$75 Full Access Pass | \$10 Film Block (5 Films)
 All Panels & Events Complimentary | Over 140 films from across the globe!

STREAMING ON **BHERC TV**

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2020 AAFM Flier

Michael Schultz's career in theatre, film, and television spans five decades and he is as active and prolific as ever. He directed his first play, *Waiting for Godot*, at Princeton University going on to join the world famous NEC (Negro Ensemble Company) in 1968 winning the Obie Award for Best Director. He cast Al Pacino in his first Broadway play, *Does a Tiger Wear a Necktie?* for which he and his wife Gloria and Al Pacino were nominated for Tony Awards which Pacino went on to win. As a television director, Schultz established himself as a pioneer directing early episodes of *The Rockford Files*, *Starsky and Hutch*, and *Baretta*. His breakthrough production *To Be Young, Gifted, and Black* was filmed for television in 1971.

As a feature filmmaker, he helmed several '70s classics such as "Cooley High", "Car Wash", "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band", "The Last Dragon" and several films starring Richard Pryor. "Car Wash" won two awards at the '77 Cannes Film Festival, for Best Music and the Special Jury prize for Superior Technique. He continued his stride between television and film with "Carbon Copy" bringing a young Denzel Washington to Hollywood's attention, as well as "Krush Groove", one of the first films to feature hip-hop artists. L.L. Cool J and Run DMC; Blair Underwood headlined. Schultz would go on to focus on television, directing many network movies and several two-hour films of George Lucas' "Young Indiana Jones Chronicles". Some of his episodic credits include: "The Practice", "Ally McBeal", "Touched By An Angel", "JAG", "Everwood", "New Girl" and "Arrow".

"Michael Schultz represents the 'best of the best' in Hollywood, a true genius at what he does," states Sandra Evers-Manly, President of BHERC. "His film 'Cooley High' is a 'Classic' that launched the careers of several phenomenal actors and inspired a generation of filmmakers. A renaissance professional, Michael has placed an indelible imprint on the stage, film and television industries." In early 2000, Mr. Schultz co-founded ImajiMation Studios, a Santa Monica based animation concept studio specializing in urban youth content with a client list including

Adidas, Toni Braxton, The Source, and Cartoon Network to name a few. He currently lists TV series Black-ish, Black Lightning and All American; and is developing an animated feature based upon his highly successful Comic Book Series Blokhedz.

This year's festival commemorates the 45th anniversary of Cooley High and is dedicated in honor of prolific director Michael Shultz. The festival opens Friday, October 23rd thru Sunday, November 8, 2020 streaming online at www.BHERC.TV. The Opening Night Welcome event introduces the individual filmmakers and their films, Friday, October 23, 5:00PM PDT. Films With A Purpose Premiere of the film I'm Not Special with Q and A with filmmaker and cast Larry Ulrich Sunday, October 25, 5:00PM PDT.

The festival boasts 140 films from 20 countries and runs October 23, thru Sunday, November 29, 2020. Tickets for the festival include a Festival Pass at \$75.00, a day pass for \$25.00, or select a Block of (5) films at \$10.00. Tickets and registration are available now. Log on to www.bherc.org to register and a list of the 2020 class of filmmakers, films and synopsis's or for more information call (310) 284-3170.

About [BHERC TV](http://www.BHERC.TV)

In February 2020 BHERC launched BHERC TV BHERC a leading world-wide provider of narrative and documentary short films about the African American experience, as well as content from across the diaspora and diverse populations. Offering an affordable streaming entertainment service with paid memberships in over seven countries, BHERC TV members enjoy a wide variety of genres and languages and may watch as much as they want, anytime, anywhere, on any internet-connected screen. Film lovers can play, pause and resume watching without commercials. Find out more on BHERC.TV

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