



Zero Waste in Film Industry Aim of New Steward Initiative

Proof that the family that recycles together can do extraordinary things, this week Emmy-award nominated art director Karen Steward—who is the daughter of Joslyn Institute founder, president and CEO W. Cecil Steward, and the sister of EcoStores director Craig Steward—established a new initiative for recycling in the film industry.

Her **Film Industry Materials Exchange** is intended for use by everyone, not just film industry workers.

“The reason I’m opening this to everyone is to encourage those theater groups and non-profits, among others, to join the site as well and to post items they might be looking for or can take or pick up,” Steward said. “I hope this new forum will grow and become valuable to us in the Art Directors Guild and beyond, as it is ultimately a healthy practice for the film industry, as with all industries.”

She said the Facebook page is intended to be an open forum for discussion and information to be shared about giving and receiving of material that would otherwise be tossed in the landfill. “If you know of a resource on the receiving end—a school, non-profit, or theater group,

for instance—that could benefit, I hope you’ll share this information,” she said. “I will be posting privately a spreadsheet with specific info based on who takes what kinds of things in the Los Angeles area. Though this site is not necessarily meant to be LA-centric, it will probably start out that way. If we get enough discussion we might consider a stand-alone page for specific cities.”

Steward, who has worked on such lauded productions



as *The Newsroom* and *Veep* on HBO and *McFarland, USA*, said she aims to achieve Zero Waste in the film industry.

“Many people in Los Angeles know me as that annoying Art Director who works feverishly at the end of a project to find second homes for all of the materials from a shoot or a Season of shooting that are destined for the dump,” said Steward. “This is a practice that I have taken on quite naturally. It is my hope that

one day in our business this will not feel like an annoyance, but instead an embedded practice shared by all departments.”

At the end of a film production, she said, “the producers typically just want to see the sets and the materials gone, and there is never an assigned person to handle dispersion of materials to say schools, non-profits, theater groups, homeless shelters, prop houses, or Habitat for Humanity.”

Steward’s new Facebook page is “a place where we can all post, for instance, the name of a non-profit who will bring a truck to pick up carpet, or a school who will take your office supplies, or a theater group who could use the extra lumber or hardware.”

“It is also a place where we can share resources regarding industry materials of any kind,” she said, “for example ‘Does anyone have extra linoleum for my music video shoot?’ ...or ‘Does anyone know who would take food from leftover catering today?’ ...or ‘We are wrapping a show this week and have these items available...’”

Recycling in the theater and film sectors is certainly laudable and can have ripple effects for so many others. Perhaps this is something video and advertising producers, theatre production companies, and others will want to adopt here.

Reel to Real Film Festival is October 27

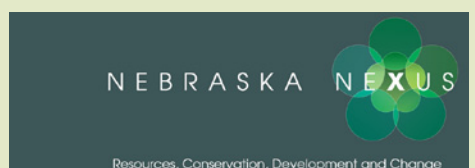
Green Omaha Coalition and Aksarben Cinema will host the 2016 Reel to Real Film Festival on Thursday, October 27, at Aksarben Cinema. The feature film this year will be *Minimalism: A Documentary About the Important Things*.

How might your life be better with less? *Minimalism: A Documentary About the Important Things* examines the many flavors of minimalism by taking the audience inside the lives of minimalists from all walks of life—families, entrepreneurs, architects, artists, journalists, scientists, and even a former Wall Street broker—all of whom are striving to live a meaningful life with less.

After its successful theatrical run, *Minimalism* has become the #1 indie documentary of 2016.

More information on the Reel to Real Film Festival is forthcoming here:

<http://www.greenomaha.org/events-calendar/>



Nebraska Nexus Is Available Online

What do construction waste, global population migration, food processing and distribution, the Ogallala Aquifer, Omaha and O’Neill, climate change, and economic development have to do with one another? The Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities’ video, *Nebraska Nexus: Resources, Conservation, Development and Change*, shows how interconnected and interdependent all of these factors are, and how addressing the nexus of global and local changes and pressures on our critical resources is essential.

The video explores five critical resources—food, water, energy, land and materials—and how global pressures affect their conservation and development. Nebraska Nexus was produced with the support of Humanities Nebraska and the Nebraska Environmental Trust, with the administrative support of Nebraska Academy of Sciences. View it and find supportive resources here: http://joslyninstitute.org/nebraska_nexus.html

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