



Nathan Mielke behind the camera.

Kiggins to show Clark College graduate's short film

Cinematographer Nathan Mielke, who is not related to Clark County Commissioner Tom Mielke, is bringing his film project home to Vancouver for two screenings Monday at Kiggins Theatre.

Mielke, a 2005 Prairie High School graduate and North Hollywood, Calif., resident, served as director of photography for "Cardboard Dreams," a 30-minute family-friendly film that he described as being "about two kids and the importance of imagination and friendship." It's Mielke's seventh short-film stint as director of photography, or DP, as it's known in the film biz.

After graduating from Clark College, Mielke received a bachelor of arts degree in cinema and media arts from Biola University in La Mirada, Calif.

"I went to film school to become a director. But I fell in love with light and composition, and the collaboration a DP has with the director."

"Cardboard Dreams" was the thesis project for Mielke and a team of other students. They spent two years and \$15,000 making the film.

At his day job at Panavision in Woodland Hills, Calif., he helps camera assistants prepare camera gear for TV shows, films, commercials and music videos. "It's a great environment to learn some of the technical knowledge I need as a DP."

After hours, Mielke pursues his own film projects. In the works are a music video and a low-budget independent feature about zombies.

"Cardboard Dreams" will be shown at 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. Aug. 14 at the Kiggins, 1011 Main St. Tickets are \$4 for adults and teens; ages 12 and younger are free. To learn more, visit <http://www.cardboard-dreamsmovie.com>.

—Susan Parrish