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TRIAL BY FIRE: Lives Re-Forged Lands Coveted Spot in DocuWeeks 2012

*Inspirational documentary scheduled for World Premiere:
Theatrical runs in NYC and L.A. and will qualify for Academy Award consideration*

TRIAL BY FIRE: Lives Re-Forged has been chosen by the International Documentary Association's (IDA) for its prestigious **DocuWeeks 2012 Showcase**. The film was selected from among a handful of "outstanding new documentaries from around the world" for theatrical screenings this summer, which will allow it to qualify for **Academy Award consideration**.

TRIAL BY FIRE: Lives Re-Forged, celebrates the journeys of burn survivors who rise above their injuries to discover unexpected insights and a transformed worldview. The film, which features U.S. war veteran and popular celebrity, **J.R. Martinez** ("All My Children" "Dancing With the Stars") will be shown twice daily at the **IFC Center in New York City (Greenwich Village) Friday, August 3rd – Thursday, 9th** and at the **Laemmle NoHo 7 Theater in Los Angeles (North Hollywood) Friday, August 10th – Thursday, 16th**.

The film was directed and produced by **Megan Smith-Harris** and executive produced by her husband, **Bill Harris**, a former A&E Television executive. Together, the couple run **Pyewackitt Productions**, a Connecticut-based independent film and television production company committed to socially relevant projects with a unique perspective.

Ms. Smith-Harris, who has developed a reputation for focusing on provocative subjects to challenge and enlighten viewers, had never met a burn survivor before starting **TRIAL BY FIRE: Lives Re-Forged**. She was motivated to make the film after seeing a photograph of burn survivors in a magazine. "As a filmmaker, you don't always pick your subject, sometimes it picks you," she says. "Looking at that photograph, I realized that accidents can happen to anyone at anytime. You think it's just an ordinary day... until it isn't."

The film features emotionally captivating stories - a distraught mother jumps through a window to save her son engulfed in flames; a high school chemistry class explosion derails the life of one of its star students; an oil refinery worker survives a major blast only to face even greater challenges, and a racecar driver makes a miraculous comeback after being pulled from her fiery wreck. Through extraordinary courage, grit, and determination, all re-forge their destinies by first reclaiming their lives, and then their dreams. “The film takes you on an emotional journey,” says Smith-Harris, “one that doesn’t pull any punches but is ultimately, inspirational.”

TRIAL BY FIRE: Lives Re-Forged, also honors the emergency and medical personnel who assist burn survivors in their recovery. The filmmakers have launched an educational and community outreach effort promoting burn awareness and fire safety, including a “Detector in Every Home” campaign with a goal to distribute free smoke detectors through fire stations across the country. The film is a non-profit production, endorsed and supported by various firefighting, medical, and burn community organizations. “Simply put,” says Smith-Harris, “it’s a movement to help save lives and make the world a more welcoming place for everyone.”

When you forge metal with fire, it becomes stronger.

It turns out the same is true of the human spirit.

TRIAL BY FIRE: Lives Re-Forged

For further information, film clips or to schedule an interview, please contact:

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Website: <http://www.TrialByFireDoc.org>

IndieGoGo Campaign: <http://www.indiegogo.com/TrialByFireDoc>

Original Song “Hope Lies Inside”: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBkG-tbQP8>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TrialByFireDoc>