



## NEWS RELEASE

'Niyi Coker, Jr. MFA, Ph.D. (SDC)

E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor  
African/African-American Studies,  
Theatre and Media Studies.  
Fellow – Center for International Studies.  
Department of Theatre, Dance & Media Studies.

**January 23, 2012  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Executive Director – Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame.

### **University of Missouri to hold 5<sup>th</sup> Africa World film festival at the Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame in Birmingham, Alabama.**

The University of Missouri- St. Louis' E. Desmond Lee Africa World Film Festival will hold screenings of more than 25 original features.

The films will be screened at the Carver Theatre, Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame in Birmingham, Alabama from February . 16 through 18. The screenings will take place at various times throughout each day, from 2 – 10 pm, and will be broken down into screening sessions featuring three or four films. No film will be repeated during the festival.

- **Feb. 16 through 18** at the Carver Theatre, Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame.

Visit <http://www.cfis-umsl.com> for a complete listing of times and films.

The festival is the result of an International film competition, which was open to the public and created to promote awareness and understanding of African people, culture and traditions around the world.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners in the two categories of short films and full-length features. The awards included cash prizes ranging from \$200 to \$1,000.

**-MORE-**

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**film festival/ADD ONE**

The Film festival is also hosted annually in Barbados, Bermuda, Cameroon, Nigeria, Great Britain and St Louis, Missouri.

The E. Desmond Lee Africa World Documentary Film Festival is directed and sponsored by Dr. 'Niyi Coker, Jr., the E. Desmond Lee Distinguished Professor & Endowed Chair in African/African-American Studies at University of Missouri, St. Louis; and the Center for International Studies at University of Missouri, St. Louis. Call (314) 516-6977 or visit <http://www.cfis-umsl.com> for more information.