

# **RUNNING WILD**

→ THE LIFE OF DAYTON O. HYDE ←

## **Screen Media Films Rides Off With “Running Wild”**

**New York, June 13, 2013** – Screen Media Films announced they have acquired North American rights to the documentary **RUNNING WILD: THE LIFE OF DAYTON O. HYDE**, which follows the remarkable life of activist, best-selling author, and cowboy Dayton O. Hyde as he maintains his sanctuary for wild horses and works tirelessly to protect the vanishing landscape of the American West. Screen Media President Suzanne Blech plans to release this very timely film nationally in theaters and on VOD day-and-date in October 2013.

Blech said about the deal: “We feel honored to bring this truly amazing story of Dayton Hyde to the American public. Suzanne Mitchell has captured the beauty, the soul and the spirituality of this American Hero as he continues his work in conservation and saving the wild mustang.”

Filmmaker Suzanne Mitchell said: “After 11 years in the making, Screen Media is the perfect partner to release our film and to spread the word about what Dayton Hyde is doing to save wild horses for the last quarter century. Now everyone can finally see what we knew all along: Dayton’s story is universal and gives everyone permission at any age to not only do what makes you happy but also accomplish what you truly believe in.”

**RUNNING WILD: THE LIFE OF DAYTON O. HYDE** examines the inspirational life of Dayton O. Hyde as a modern-day renaissance man and one of the last old-style cowboys. Through heroic determination, he is preserving part of the American West and its heritage. For the last 25 years, Dayton has managed the breathtaking 12,000-acre Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary in South Dakota, where more than 500 mustangs now run free – all rescued from the controversial wild horse roundups.

The film chronicles Dayton’s dramatic journey of challenges and successes that began in Michigan and took him across the West. Filming over the course of 11 years, director Suzanne Mitchell and her team interviewed Dayton, his family and the volunteers at the sanctuary to reveal Dayton’s extraordinary life and vision to convey the emotional healing that the sanctuary nurtures in him, the volunteers, and each and every horse.

He continues to fight to protect the land and reveals his current effort against a uranium mining company that is poised to pollute the water and contaminate the ecosystems that support the residents, wildlife, and horses of the Black Hills. Combined with additional footage of government-captured wild horses, the film presents a stark contrast between Dayton’s success in wildlife management and protection, and how poorly the environment is managed outside of his sanctuary.

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This exuberant, hard-fisted, often humorous portrait of a rancher's life is told the way it ought to be told. From cattle drives, rodeos, conservation battles, wild horse rescues, personal heartbreak, and new-found love, this is the tale of a colorful 6'5" cowboy who is an inspiration and assures each of us that we can truly make a difference at any age if we try.

The deal was negotiated by Blech and Seth Needle, Manager of Acquisitions and Marketing, on behalf of Screen Media with Peter Broderick on behalf of the filmmakers.

RUNNING WILD: THE LIFE OF DAYTON O. HYDE is directed by Suzanne Mitchell, executive produced by two time Oscar winner Barbara Kopple along with executive producers Alejandro Perez and Robert Johnson of UK-based Telecom 2, produced by Suzanne Mitchell of Free Running Films, with cinematography by Mauro Brattoli and editing by R.A. Fedde. The film also features an original soundtrack by award-winning composer Steve Poltz that will be available in conjunction with the theatrical opening. For more information about the film, please go to [www.runningwildfilm.com](http://www.runningwildfilm.com) or <https://www.facebook.com/runningwildfilm>.

#### **ABOUT SCREEN MEDIA**

Screen Media acquires the rights to high quality, independent feature films for the US and Canada. Screen Media's theatrical releases include "Heleno," starring Rodrigo Santoro; "La Mission," starring Benjamin Bratt; "The City of Your Final Destination," starring Anthony Hopkins and Laura Linney; "Lymelife," starring Alec Baldwin, Emma Roberts and Cynthia Nixon and "The Private Lives of Pippa Lee" starring Robin Wright and Keanu Reeves. Since 2001, Screen Media Films has released more than 250 titles including "Noel," starring Penelope Cruz and Susan Sarandon; "Sherrybaby," starring Maggie Gyllenhaal; Kevin Bacon's directorial debut, "Loverboy;" and Emmy nominated "Dog Whisperer" with Cesar Millan. Upcoming theatrical releases include the recent Sundance favorites "The Lifeguard," starring Kristen Bell, and Kyle Patrick Alvarez's "C.O.G.", the first film adaptation of famed author David Sedaris, and "Secret Disco Revolution."

Screen Media Films is a division of Screen Media Ventures, LLC. With a library of over 1,500 motion pictures, Screen Media Ventures is one of the largest independent suppliers of high quality motion pictures to U.S. and international broadcast markets, cable networks, home video outlets and new media venues. For more information, visit [www.screenmediafilms.net](http://www.screenmediafilms.net).

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