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**BBLIFF Presents Acting Award of Excellence to Lou Diamond Phillips**

The Big Bear Lake International Film Festival (BBLIFF) is pleased to announce that Lou Diamond Phillips' will be presented with the Acting Award of Excellence at the 2009 Film Festival held on the weekend of September 18-20<sup>th</sup>. The celebrated actor will be recognized for his work at an Awards Presentation held at the Big Bear Lake Performing Arts Center on Friday, Sept. 18. Awards presentations will immediately follow the Gala Reception. The catered reception is at 6 p.m. with the awards being presented at approximately 7 p.m. Lifetime Achievement honors will also be given to Cinematographer Philippe Rousselot and Screenwriter David S. Ward. The Community Appreciation honoree is John Grandi.

Lou Diamond Phillips' versatility has allowed him success in theatre, television and feature films as well as directing, writing and producing.

Phillips first came to the public's attention when he starred as Richie Valens in 'La Bamba.' He then solidified his reputation in 'Stand and Deliver,' for which he won the Independent Spirit Award for Best Supporting Actor and received a Best Supporting Actor Golden Globe nomination. Phillips also co-starred in Ed Zwick's critically acclaimed drama, 'Courage Under Fire,' where he received strong reviews and a Blockbuster Award for Best Supporting Actor. Recently he starred in 'CHE,' alongside Benicio Del Toro and Benjamin Bratt. Other notable film credits include 'Supernova,' 'Hollywood Homicide,' 'Young Guns,' 'The Big Hit,' 'Brokedown Palace' and 'El Cortez.'

Phillips earned a Tony nomination for Best Actor, for his performance as the King of Siam in the Broadway production of Roger & Hammerstein's, "The King and I," which received six Tony nominations in all. He recently starred in the national tour of "Camelot," as "King Arthur."

Phillips can next be seen on the SyFy series 'Stargate: Universe' alongside Robert Carlyle and Ming-Na and Lou also continues appear on the hit series 'Numb3rs' as Agent Ian Edgerton. A few of his other memorable television credits include: 'Psych,' 'Law and Order: SVU,' 'Wolf Lake,' 'The Beast' and 'The Triangle.'

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As a director, Phillips most recently helmed the Hallmark Channel movie 'Love Takes Wing.' He made his directorial debut with 'Dangerous Touch,' a psychological thriller that he co-wrote for HBO. Lou has also directed episodes of 'Resurrection Blvd.,' 'The Outer Limits,' and 'The Twilight Zone.'

Phillips, originally born in the Philippines, was raised in Texas. He currently resides in Los Angeles with his wife Yvonne. He has four daughters Indigo, Grace, Isabella and Lili..

