

hGALLERY

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SUNDANCE DAYS

Hundreds of Angelenos flocked to Park City, Utah this past month for the 2008 Sundance Film Festival. Celebrities and civilians alike were taken out of their element and into their winter wardrobes for the biggest independent film festival in the country. What might normally be a small, snow-covered city is transformed into a star-studded mecca of industry A-listers, where mom 'n' pop shops become "celebrity gifting suites," and Park City's Main Street looks more like a Hollywood backdrop. By day, indie lovers trek through the snow to catch a sneak peak at the most anticipated films of the season-to-be. By night, the stars align and let down their hair for the most anticipated party scene of the year.

"It's really hard to get a movie made!" said actress Jodie Foster at one of the Fest's most esteemed soirees, *Variety's 10 Directors To Watch* party. "You don't have to make a movie that appeals to zillions of people. You want to make a movie that stands on its own, and there will always be people like me that will trudge out in the snow and see it!" There to support her friend and honoree, Daniel Barnz, the two quickly became the life of the party. Barnz, being honored for his film *Pheobe in Wonderland*, is a long-time writer with projects attached to major talent (including Foster herself). "I've been writing for ten years but for one reason or another, the movies have not gotten made." Practice makes perfect for Barnz, whose film marked his directorial debut and garnered a great deal of "buzz" by festival goers and industry elite. Also on hand were Andie MacDowell, Colin Firth, Stanley Tucci, Patricia Clarkson, Saffron Burrows, and Eliza Dushku.



Top Directors Receive their awards at the Variety Top Ten Directors to Watch Party, Stein Eriksen Lodge, Sundance Film Festival

(Clockwise from right) Eric Balfour and Leonor Varela, Jodie Foster and Andie MacDowell, Jodie Foster and Director Daniel Barnz, Colin Firth and Saffron Burrows



Nintendo Wii Lounge, Sundance Film Festival



Nick Cannon; Maria Bello, Amy Brenneman and Elisabeth Shue; Bryan Greenberg and Olivia Munn



The Wackness party at Turning Leaf Lounge, Sundance Film Festival

Ben Kingsley and Daniela Lavender; Olivia Thirlby, Josh Peck, and Mary-Kate Olsen

