

## **A chicken in every plot?**

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"Mad City Chickens," a documentary film by Tarazod Films, will screen Saturday, Aug. 8, at Davis High School's Richard Brunelle Performance Hall, 315 E. 14th St., Davis.

The Davis Food Co-op and Slow Food Yolo are sponsoring the screening, a benefit for the Davis Farm to School Connection.

The filmmakers will attend a reception in the lobby at 6:30 p.m., followed by the film screening at 8 p.m. and a post-film question-and-answer session.

The 79-minute documentary, which took three years to make, is a sometimes-serious, sometimes-whimsical look at the people who keep chickens in their urban back yards.

The film is timed to coincide with a movement taking place across the country, to legalize backyard chickens and help city dwellers reconnect with the source of our food, a news release said.

Filmmakers Tashai Lovington and Robert Lughai explore the backyard experience as you've likely never seen it before: from chicken experts and authors to a rescued landfill hen, or an inexperienced family that decides to take the poultry plunge, and a "mad professor" and giant hen taking to the streets.

"It's a humorous and heartfelt trip through the world of backyard chickendom," the filmmakers said.

They made their film on location in California, Wisconsin, Iowa, Texas, Kansas and Michigan. They met with chicken experts and poultry enthusiasts, and gathered more than 40 hours of interviews and chicken footage. Lovington and Lughai have appeared on Public Television and the CW Network, and on numerous talk radio shows in the United States and Canada.

"I never thought I would sit here mesmerized, open-mouthed, over a chicken movie," declared one audience member, at the end of an evening presentation.

For more information about the film, visit <http://www.tarazod.com/filmsmadchicks.html> or contact Jacqueline Clemens at [jacqueline@jkclemens.com](mailto:jacqueline@jkclemens.com).

The event's beneficiary, the Davis Farm to School Connection, works to create an educational and cultural environment in local schools that connects food choices with personal health, community, farms and land. For additional information, visit <http://www.davisfarmtoschool.org>.

Tickets — \$10 general, \$7 seniors and students, free for children under 11 — are available online at <http://www.davisfarmtoschool.org> and <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/74389>. They also will be available at The Davis Food Co-op after Tuesday, and at the door.

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