



## **The New Mexico Film Office Announces Feature Film, Blaze You Out, Shooting in New Mexico**

**The film is co-written and directed by Espanola Valley native, Diego Joaquin Lopez, and local New Mexican resident, Mateo Frazier.**

**Contact:** Angela Heisel  
(505) 827-0309

September 26, 2011, SANTA FE —Nick Maniatis, the New Mexico Film Office director, announced today that the feature film, *Blaze You Out*, is shooting for four weeks in New Mexico. The production began principal photography in Rio Arriba County and will employ at least 80 crew members and more than 100 principal and background talent from New Mexico.

“We are very proud to announce this particular film as the writers, directors, producers and local stars are all homegrown talent,” said Nick Maniatis. “From conception to creation, these are New Mexicans creating jobs for New Mexicans.”

The film is co-written and directed by Espanola Valley native, Diego Joaquin Lopez, and local New Mexican resident, Mateo Frazier. Diego and Mateo began their creative partnership in 2009 on the award-winning short film *Torcida*. Both bring a wide range of experience to the project and have helped to define the burgeoning film and television movement in New Mexico by writing and directing locally based stories.

The production team includes: producer, Alicia Keyes Touche, executive producer, Peter Touche (*Goats*) of Sandia Media, co-producers Brent Morris (*Monster*, *Smoke Signals*) and O’Shea Read and associate producer, Kerith Lemon. Alicia Keyes Touche of Sandia Productions stated that, “We are excited to be a part of a new wave of filmmakers who are unearthing contemporary stories that draw from the rich culture and history of New Mexico. We feel blessed to be able to live, work and create in New Mexico.” *Blaze You Out* is the first feature produced by Sandia Productions.

*Blaze You Out* features New Mexico talents Jeremy Ray Valdez (*Constantine*, *La Mission* and *Walkout*) and Raoul Trujillo (*Cowboy’s* and *Aliens*). Other cast members include Veronica Diaz-Carranza (*Mamitas*, *Taco Shop*), Melissa Cordero (*Language of a Broken Heart*), award-winning actress Elizabeth Pena (*Jacob’s Ladder*, *The Incredibles*, *Tortilla Soup*), Mark Adair Rios (*Along Came Polly*) and Q’orianka Kilcher (*The New World*, *Princess Kaiulani*). Local supporting cast members include Diego

Joaquin Lopez, Ryan Begay, Juliet Lopez, Omar Paz Trujillo, Jose Griego, Arianna Rodriguez, Jeremiah Bitsui and Manny Chavez.

Blaze You Out tells the story of Lupe, an aspiring DJ, and her sister Alicia; two young women struggling to make a living in the Esperanza Valley, a community that has been suffocated by generations of heroin use. Ever since the death of their parents, Lupe has looked out for her rebellious sister and kept her on track. When Alicia suddenly disappears, Lupe is forced into the heart of the town's dark underworld. She quickly discovers that in order to survive and save the person that matters most, she must not only harness the power that exists within her, but also that surrounds her.

For more information visit [www.blazeyouout.com](http://www.blazeyouout.com) or [facebook.com/blazeyouout](https://facebook.com/blazeyouout)  
Visit the New Mexico Film Office online at [nmfilm.com](http://nmfilm.com)