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Project Rebirth Short Film Highlighted at 9/11 Memorial Preview Site

August 31, 2009, New York, NY – Project Rebirth, a chronicle of the strength of the human spirit coping with 9/11, has premiered a four minute piece that will be shown daily to visitors to the National September 11 Memorial & Museum’s Preview Site near Ground Zero. Created by Rebirth’s Founder and Director, filmmaker Jim Whitaker, it represents the first opportunity for the general public to experience seven years of time lapse film footage of the rebuilding of the WTC site, entwined with the journeys of nine people directly affected by 9/11.

Along with the piece screened at the 9/11 Memorial Preview Site, which will be viewed by hundreds of thousands of visitors, the planned 2010 release of its feature length documentary and the opening of the Project Rebirth Center continue Rebirth’s long term commitment to honoring the resilience of the New York City community in the face of the trauma and grief of 9/11. Founded six months after the 9/11 attacks, Rebirth has fourteen 35mm time lapse film cameras recording the minute-by-minute rebuilding of the World Trade Center site. One of these custom-designed 35mm film time lapse camera units - which captures one frame of film every five minutes, 24 hours a day - is sited in the St. Paul’s Chapel graveyard directly across from the entrance of the Preview Site.

Jim Whitaker and Director of Photography Tom Lappin have worked together since Rebirth’s founding, and envisioned and implemented the world’s largest

time lapse film effort. Jim has also conducted annual interviews with - and followed the journeys of - nine people over seven years following 9/11. Rebirth's 800 hour film library will serve as a rich source for its documentary and related media, and today impacts Rebirth's constituencies through the National September 11 Memorial & Museum, Columbia and Georgetown Universities and a number of first responder units and counseling centers. Already managing Rebirth's footage for classroom environments, Georgetown's Center for New Designs in Learning and Scholarship and Columbia's Center for New Media Teaching and Learning have established the Project Rebirth Educational Initiative. This collaboration represents a major step towards the creation of the Project Rebirth Center, which will deliver interactive multi-media teaching and learning tools, and therapeutic content, to first responders, disaster response teams, and health care professionals.

To learn more about how you can support our film and philanthropic efforts to honor those who suffered through 9/11 and those who sacrificed -- and the many who continue to serve in response to 9/11 -- please visit www.projectrebirth.org.

Project Rebirth is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization supported by the generous contributions of individuals, corporations and foundations.

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