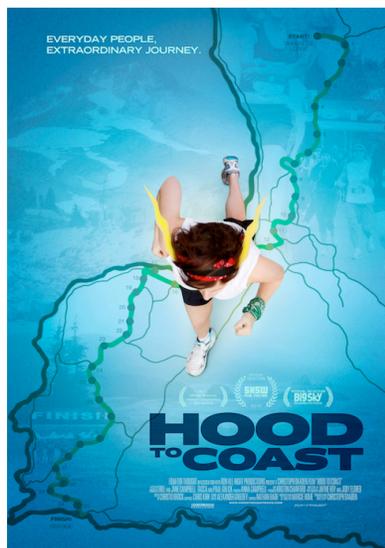


FILMFOR THOUGHT in association with
presents

**RUN ALL NIGHT
PRODUCTIONS**



HOOD TO COAST

Directed and Produced by Christoph Baaden
Produced and Co-Directed by Marcie Hume

USA, 2011, 102 minutes
HD Digital 1.85
Not Rated

CONTACT:

Anna Campbell / Producer
contact@filmforthoughtinc.com
(310) 502-1988

PHOTOS & PRESS DOWNLOADS:

<http://hoodtocoastmovie.com/press.html>

Website: <http://hoodtocoastmovie.com>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/HoodToCoast>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/HoodToCoastMovie>

SYNOPSIS

HOOD TO COAST follows four teams on an epic journey to conquer the world's largest relay race. A 67-year-old heart attack survivor returns to conquer the race that nearly killed her, a family in mourning runs to honor the memory of their beloved, a group of film animators test the limits of their athleticism (or lack thereof), and a group of aging jocks show they still know how to have a good time. A celebration of personal determination and the power of family, HOOD TO COAST proves that you're never too old or too young to attempt the extraordinary.

ABOUT THE RELEASE

On January 11, 2011, HOOD TO COAST was released nationwide as a special event screening in 380 theaters in over 150 cities, and all 50 states, by NCM/Fathom. The film event sold over 30,000 tickets, and covered all 50 DMA markets, with shows in New York, Los Angeles, Boston, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, and Atlanta completely sold out. The event was one of Fathom's most successful documentary releases.

Shortly after, the film began a tour of independent theaters for theatrical runs in Portland (where it recently finished a 10-week engagement), Eugene, Nashville, Seattle, and Ashland.

The film opens in **New York City** for a one-week theatrical engagement **July 15-22, 2011** at IndieScreen in Williamsburg, with additional engagements in other cities, to be announced shortly.

The film will be released on **DVD and Blu-Ray** on **August 10, 2011**—exclusively through **AMAZON.com** and from the film's official website:
<http://hoodtocoastmovie.com>

New Video will release the film on **Cable VOD** and on **Apple's iTunes** later this year.

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

We have always been drawn to character-driven films that reveal the world through the eyes of seemingly everyday people, showing something special about their perspective that is not otherwise apparent. The Hood to Coast Race provided a common ground for us to follow 4 running teams, each at different phases of their lives, and with differing motivations for committing to such a grueling event. Each team, however, shares a yearning for something larger—whether it's healing, personal achievement, extreme play, or a dive into the unknown.

From the moment we first spoke to Kathy, we felt her incredible determination to get back to the race that she loved so much. Running had been such a part of her life before her heart attack and she had a perseverance to continue running, while learning to live with a change in her abilities. We picked the team of animators because they expressed the universal desire to throw themselves into a new experience and shake off the complacency of the day-to-day. The Dead Jocks shared a dynamic, heartened way of coming to grips with aging, and Team R. Bowe allowed us to capture an intimate piece of their family's journey to go on living, despite unbearable grief.

But beyond all of their stories, we aimed to illuminate something that we all experience in one form or another: the drive to put oneself into uncharted territory with the potential to expand and inform the rest of one's life.

It took us more than six months to prepare to capture the event which unfolds over nearly 40 hours—not to mention a crew of 110, 30 cameras, 3 jibs, and a Cineplex helicopter. Much of the 197-mile course winds through deep Oregon backcountry with no cell phone reception. Every technical and creative decision we made was beholden to the spirit of the event: the personal journeys of each character would be the focus, not their finish times. Our goal was to uncover the small triumphs, the subtle absurdities and the personal victories of each of our subjects—illuminating the fundamental human traits that reliably emerge in the context of such unbounded determination and tenacity.

At its core, the film focuses on the resilience of the human spirit, and like in any good road movie, the journey is more important than the finish line. All of us must forge our own path through both the day-to-day, and the immense challenges that we face—as we each find our way out there, in the middle of the night.

Christoph Baaden & Marcie Hume
June 2011

ABOUT THE "HOOD TO COAST" RACE

It's an indescribable feeling, becoming part of a community that forms like a flash flood for the two days of the race and then disappears again for a year. The love and support that the runners show, not only for their own team, but for the other runners on the road, only exists sporadically in a day-to-day life, but for the length of this adventure, the individual becomes part of a magical whole.

The annual Hood To Coast Relay has taken place annually since 1982. Race Founder Bob Foote ran track at the University of Oregon with the famous coach Bill Bowerman and the Men of Oregon, and was looking for a running adventure. Short 10Ks and even marathons had lost their appeal, so to keep himself interested in the sport he loved, he set out to organize a relay race from Timberline Lodge on Mount Hood to the Oregon Coast.

The idea was that 12 people would divide themselves into two groups of six, run three legs of 5-to-7 miles each, and cover the nearly 200-mile distance from the mountain to the ocean. It was an adventure designed for hard-core runners—in 1982, only 8 teams ran, but within a decade, the race had grown to the point where they had to cap the number of teams at 1,000 (with 12,000 runners), making it the world's largest relay race.

With 2,000 vans jamming the rural Oregon countryside, the outdoor adventure component became as important of an aspect as the running itself. More importantly, the race had become an adventure not only for serious athletes, but amateur runners and thrill seekers. Team names began to describe not only the teams' origins, but the attitude they would carry on the course. These days, each team decorates their vans and takes on a race persona, lending a joyous, carnival atmosphere that lasts 197 miles.

The race has become a worldwide phenomenon among runners with teams traveling from all 50 states and more than 40 countries. As Bart Yasso of *Runner's World* describes it, "Hood To Coast is a must-do in a runner's life." But it's not about the competition—it's about the camaraderie.

"HOOD TO COAST" FACTS
The World's Largest Relay Race

Total Runners: 12,000

Number of Teams: 1,000

Number of Runners per team: 12

Youngest Runner: 12

Oldest Runner: 86

Overall Length: 197 Miles

Average Run per Runner: 17 Miles (3 legs of 5-8 miles each)

Elevation at Start (Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood): 6000 feet

Elevation at Finish (Seaside, OR): 0 feet

Duration of Event: 30+ Hours

Number of Volunteers: 3,500

Number of Vans: 2,000

States Represented: 50

Countries Represented: 40+

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Christoph Baaden (Director, Producer) is a film and television professional as well as the Executive Director of Film For Thought, Inc. Born in Germany, he worked in Berlin as a TV Producer until 1999 when he moved to the US to study Film and Television Production. An Emmy winner, he has been hired by Sony, Universal Music Group, the Discovery Channel, the Science Channel and the History Channel as editor, director, or producer. Christoph ran the HTC race for the first time in 2007 and it changed his life.

Marcie Hume (Producer, Co-Director) began her career in documentary television in London. She has worked in both development and production on BBC and Channel 4 factual programs. Before embarking on Hood to Coast she worked on the acclaimed prime-time current affairs series Dispatches on Channel 4 (UK). She most recently served as Development Producer for BBC factual entertainment, and as Producer on the Channel 4/National Geographic series *Rebuilding Titanic*, airing soon on National Geographic.

Anna Campbell (Producer, Creative Director of Film For Thought, Inc.) served as a producer for *Hood To Coast*. She graduated from Vassar and moved to Los Angeles to pursue acting. She has appeared in series (Mad Men, NCIS Los Angeles, Veronica Mars, Without a Trace) and films (*Journeyman*, *Order of Chaos*). She is currently producing an independent thriller. A Portland native and Hood To Coast veteran runner, she is committed to bringing more film production to Portland.

Jayme Roy (Director of Photography) moved his entire family to Portland for the entire summer before the race, and became an integral part of the HTC family. Highlights from his resume include *Sicko* by Michael Moore, which received an 2008 Oscar Nomination for Feature Documentary, the *Star Wars Legacy* for Lucas Art (Emmy Nomination 2007 Best Documentary), and the TV documentaries *Art of the Athlete* and *The Science of Superman*.

Jody Eldred (Director of Photography) has been a cinematographer for over 30 years. He has shot and directed documentary features and news reports throughout the world for ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, and the BBC. His segments have aired on *20/20*, *Dateline NBC*, *48 Hours* and *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*. He won an Emmy for his camerawork on ABC's *Nightline*.

Christo Brock (Editor) earned his Master's degree in film production from the University of Southern California. Christo was Associate Producer on Mark Harris' Academy Award winning documentary *The Long Way Home*. He worked on many network shows and edited sports documentaries for FOX Sports. Since then he moved on to edit the award-winning documentaries *Into the Fire* and most recently the feature *Spirit of the Marathon*.

Nathan Barr (Composer) began studying music at the age of 4 in Beijing. Since his auspicious start, he has been drawn to eclectic, unusual instruments from around the world. He began his film career working with Hans Zimmer, but quickly established himself on his own in Hollywood. He has composed for over 24 feature length films, including the *Hostel* series and *Dukes of Hazard*, but it is his work on the HBO series *True Blood* that has most recently brought him into the spotlight.

THE CAST OF CHARACTERS

"Heart N' Sole"



A team of women over 50, Heart N' Sole train together all year for their favorite relay. However, on the race course in 2007, longtime team-member Kathy collapsed. She has pushed herself, her doctors, and her sense of self in order to return to the sport she loves. With the cautious support of her friends, together they face their age and their own limitations as they try to complete the race that almost killed one of them a year ago.



Kathy Ryan, a newly retired teacher and a 17-year veteran of race, didn't even start running until she was in her 40s. Now the 67 and having survived a massive heart attack during Hood To Coast in 2007, she struggles to make her body live up to her mind's expectations. After two heart specialists told her she would never run again, Kathy finally found a cardiologist who was willing to help her return to the active lifestyle that defines her life, but her own limitations still baffle her.



Dr. Todd Caulfield provided the second opinion that Kathy needed to hear. He is the voice of reason for a woman bound and determined to pursue a level of running that her heart can no longer support. A runner himself, he helps her find a balance between her passion for running and her health.

CAST OF CHARACTERS (CONT'D)

"Thunder N' Laikaning"



Working in the sedentary world of film animation, team Thunder N' Laikaning are stretching their physical abilities— and they're not quite sure what they've signed up for. Their humor and incredible team spirit propel them along the course, and the journey becomes transformative.



Rachel Larsen works as an animator for Laika studios. Having put on 15 pounds at a relatively sedentary job, Rachel signs up on a whim, only finding out later just how much running will be expected of her. She doesn't want to let her team down, even when she realizes that she'll be running 17 miles, putting herself through the most rigorous physical experience she's ever faced. Her never-ending humor and team spirit get her through the race.



Jason Baldwin searches for life experiences. He has his dream job in computer animation at Laika, but finds that the 9-to-5 workday doesn't provide the self-exploration he craves. "I have a cute belly. No one wants their belly described as cute," he laments. Being decidedly out of shape, he finds the physical aspect of running a ridiculous distance more challenging than he was prepared for.

"The Dead Jocks in a Box"



The Dead Jocks are passionate athletes. With great gusto, they participate in the race they have loved for decades, even as the minutes on their mile stretch with age. Their expert knowledge of the race contrasts with the desire to have as much fun as possible on the course, which translates to acting like they did when they were much younger guys. They are a voice of authority on the race, and the experts at making the most of the atmosphere.



Jim Ekberg has run the race 23 times. His expertise of the race contrasts comically with his desire to have as much fun as possible on the course. He runs hard and fast, taking on the mission of making sure his friend and teammate Larry qualifies for the next year's race.

CAST OF CHARACTERS (CONT'D)



Larry Dutko is one of only two men who have run every Hood To Coast since the race began in 1982. An avid runner even at 60, his youthful nature comes through in his excitement about the race.



Bob Applegate is one of the fastest runners on the team, consistently running well under 7 minute miles even though he's pushing 50. Although he seems more mature than some of his teammates, like a true Dead Jock, he appreciates the fun more than his formal demeanor would at first lead you to believe.

"Team R. Bowe"



The unseen force that holds team R. Bowe together is Ryan Bowe, who died suddenly at age 30, just a few weeks before the Hood To Coast one year before. Since he had participated in the race since he was race 12 years old, the course seems the right place to celebrate Ryan's too-short life. His family and friends work through their grief and participate in the race to keep his memory alive, and the film captures his image as a runner, a son, a brother, a husband, and an absent friend.



Travis Bowe is Ryan Bowe's younger brother. Losing his mentor and the person he always wanted to please most has been hard, and keeping his brother's memory alive is extremely important to him. The team captain for the first time, he is also in a new position taking on a leadership role in his family. He feels that the Hood To Coast is where his brother would want him to be.



Vicky Bebb lost her firstborn when Ryan died, and the pain is evident in her eyes. A serious athlete, she describes running as "my medicine," and as we see her push herself physically, we watch her heart begin to heal. A mother in mourning is a woman in deep pain, but her honesty about her emotional situation draws the viewer into her experience and we heal as she does.

CAST OF CHARACTERS (CONT'D)



Larry Bowe, Ryan and Travis' father, knows that the race his son loved is the perfect memorial. He remembers the first time he and his son ran the race together when Ryan was only 12, and recognizes that this race had a deep impact on Ryan's sense of self discovery. Though the memories are painful, in some ways it has brought the rest of his family even closer together, and he looks for the positive to escape the pain.



Ryndi Bowe, Ryan's wife, lost her 30-year-old husband to a rare heart condition. "This is not the way we had it planned out," she laughs through her tears. To have her family destroyed just as their life together began has pushed her to run the Hood To Coast even though she has never run before. As her story is revealed, the depth of her pain becomes clear, and her youth leaves her unprepared for the feelings she faces.

CAST OF CHARACTERS (CONT'D)

The Experts



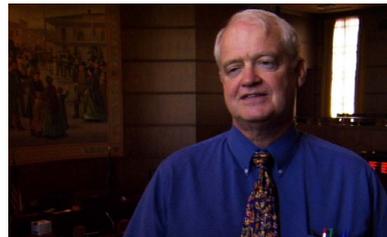
Bob Foote is a local Portland architect and has been an avid runner since his days on the famed University of Oregon track team. Bob has organized the Hood To Coast every year since he first dreamed it up in 1982. The race has become his life's work, and he is passionate about it, and loves the recognition that his baby has received as one of running's biggest adventures.



Bart Yasso, *Runner's World* Chief Running Officer, is one of the most prominent experts and recognizable faces in the running world who takes it upon himself to remind us that running is fun. As passionate about Hood To Coast as he is about the sport of running, he puts the race into perspective, describing it as an epic adventure.



The charismatic **Alberto Salazar** is a huge name in the running world, having won 3 New York City marathons in the 1980s. He also happens to have been on the team that set and holds the course record for the Hood To Coast. Like Kathy Ryan, Alberto suffered a heart attack and has returned to the sport he loves. He represents running and resilience for Nike.



Peter Courtney is the president of the Oregon State Senate and loves the race so much that he had it declared an Oregon State Treasure. A doctor once told him that once a year you should push yourself to your personal physical limits, which gets Peter halfway through leg 1. Even though Peter seems to have a deep love/hate relationship with running, no one adores the Hood To Coast more than he does.



The Nike Elite Team, **Bowerman Athletic Club**, isn't just the favorite to take home the win, they assume that there is no competition (and there isn't). In sharp contrast to our other teams, the competitive spirit is alive and well on this all-star running team.

PARTNERS

HOOD TO COAST is a documentary about motivation and tenacity that speaks to both general film audiences and runners alike. The film's outreach partners include social-philanthropic organizations such as the American Cancer Society, along with sports companies and running organizations.

In the sports world, we have positioned Hood to Coast as a nationwide celebration of running for everyone, from the athlete who can only complete a 5K, to the runner attempting to complete a marathon in all 50 states. HOOD TO COAST speaks directly to the interests of a passionate, supportive, and massive American sub-culture—25 million strong.



REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

"An engaging slice of Americana that almost manages to make backbreaking physical exertion look like a hell of a good time."

THE ONION AV CLUB

"Beautifully shot and heartfelt doc...you can taste the sweat, feel the pain, and relish the humanity."

AUSTIN CHRONICLE

"One of those rare and splendid movies that recognizes the beauty of its story and merely augments it, rather than redesigning it, culminating in a wonderful viewing experience."

BALTIMORE CITY PAPER

"A juxtaposition of emotional terrain as varied as the race itself."

L.A. TIMES

"If one movie captures the runner's high — HOOD TO COAST is it!"

RUNNER'S WORLD

"One stunning sports film!"

HUFFINGTON POST

"Run, don't walk, to HOOD TO COAST!"

THE OREGONIAN

CREDITS

Director and Producer
Christoph Baaden

Producer and Co-Director
Marcie Hume

Producer
Anna Campbell

Executive Producers
Bill and Jane Campbell
Tasca and Paul Gulick

Line Producer
Kristin Cranford

Editor
Christo Brock

Directors of Photography
Jayne Roy
Jody Eldred

Lighting Director/Key Grip
Bruce Lawson

Sound Supervisor
Seth Gilbert

Original Music by
Nathan Barr

Graphics
Christopher Kirk
Mindbomb Films

Sound Mixer
Paul Hackner

Visual Effects
Nathan Koga

Computer Animation by
Jason Baldwin

Stop Motion Animation by
Rachel Larsen