



# *Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum*

200 SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Abilene, KS 67410-2900

<http://eisenhower.archives.gov>

James (Jim) Hill  
(785) 263-6700

## NEWS RELEASE

February 26, 2008

### **The Paul H. Royer Film Series**

**All films begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Visitors Center auditorium**

The Paul H. Royer Film Series is presented annually on the first three Thursdays of March. The film series is sponsored by Hank Royer in memory of his grandfather, Paul H. Royer. This year's selection consists of American films produced in the year 1958. The 1950's decade was known for post-war affluence, with an increased choice of leisure time activities, a baby boom, and youth reaction to middle-aged cinema. This year's selections are listed below:

#### **March 6, 2008                      GIGI**

Starring: **Maurice Chevalier, Leslie Caron, Louis Jourdan, and Eva Gabor**, 1958, 116 minutes. This motion picture won nine Academy Awards including Best Picture. Directed by Vincente Minnelli, the film is based on a bestselling novella by the French author Colette. "Gigi" is considered the last great MGM musical. Set in Paris, France, Gaston Lachaille (Louis Jourdan) plays a rich playboy, much like his uncle Honore (Maurice Chevalier).

#### **March 13, 2008                      THE DEFIANT ONES**

Starring: **Tony Curtis, Sidney Poitier, Theodore Bikel, and Lon Chaney Jr.**, 1958, 97 minutes. This film won Academy Awards for Best Cinematography and Best Writing and received seven other nominations. Directed by Stanley Kramer, the story line involves two prisoners, African-American Noah Cullen (Sidney Poitier) and white racist John "Joker" Jackson (Tony Curtis), who escape from a chain gang.

#### **March 20, 2008                      THE BIG COUNTRY**

Starring: **Gregory Peck, Jean Simmons, Carroll Baker, Charles Bickford, and Charlton Heston**, 1958, 166 minutes. This Academy Award winning film, directed by William Wyler, is a sprawling saga of a cattleman's battle for water rights. A newly retired sea captain, James McKay (Gregory Peck), gets caught in the middle when two patriarchs, Major Terrill (Charles Bickford) and Rufus Hannassey (Burl Ives), struggle for control of the land

**ALL MOVIES ARE FREE! FREE SODA AND POPCORN SERVED!**  
**THERE WILL BE A PRIZE DRAWING EACH NIGHT JUST BEFORE MOVIES BEGIN!**  
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