

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: *The Final Gift*, Documentary Film Fundraiser

For more information contact:

Therese Bartholomew, Producer and Director

704-806-1732

tshrew@carolina.rr.com

www.thefinalgiftfilm.com

A new documentary film, *The Final Gift*, is currently in the works by local writer and filmmaker Therese Bartholomew of Charlotte, NC. *The Final Gift* follows Bartholomew's pursuit to find meaning in her brother's death. Her vision for the film grew out of her desire to understand the killer.

The first time I saw my brother's killer in the courtroom, I was torn between feelings of anger and loss and an inexplicable compassion for the shackled young man sitting in front of me.

The Final Gift explores the filmmaker's internal conflict and examines the lives of others affected by the crime. Bartholomew questions a justice system that releases offenders unprepared for life on the "outside," and ponders societal responsibility in dealing with crime, offenders and victimization.

For his experience, vision and work on the documentary, the Director of Photography, Erik Murphy, received the Emerging Artist Grant from the North Carolina Arts and Science Council in 2007.

Other than the funds received from the ASC grant, the film has been financed by dedicated crew members donating their time and talent. The public is invited to learn more about the documentary and the people behind it at a Fundraising Event Nov. 9th at the Evening Muse. Charlotte's very own The Near Misses will provide entertainment. Funds raised will be used to complete the project in 2009.

When: **Sunday, November 9, 2008**
6:30 – 8:30

Where: **The Evening Muse**
3227 N. Davidson Street
Charlotte, NC 28205

Tickets: **\$25 at the door** or in advance at www.theeveningmuse.com .



ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL