

'Movie Magic'



KEVIN BARTRAM/The Daily News

Cast members from the "Movie Magic" exhibit at Moody Gardens rehearse. They are, from left, Jessica Hassoun, Cameron Johnston and

Ayla Rosenthal.

Exhibit gives audiences a chance at movie splendor

GALVESTON:
Theater group
teaches the science of
cinematography

By **TOMIE LUNSFORD**
The Daily News

Jack's head did a bobbing number before he went the way of the Titanic, Rhett left Scarlet and John Wayne died in "The Shootist."

Endings like these gyp moviegoers out of their "happily ever after." The injustice gnaws at their brains and tugs at their souls.

That is until they decide

WHAT: "Movie Magic."
WHEN: 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. through Aug. 7.
WHERE: Discovery Pyramid at Moody Gardens, One Hope Blvd., Galveston.
COST: \$5.95.
PARKING: Free.
INFORMATION: Call (800) 582-4673 or go to www.moodygardens.org
DETAILS: Video clips are not available for purchase, but pictures on stage are allowed.

that, if given just one chance, they could prove that conclusions to cine-



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The "Movie Magic exhibit" at Moody Gardens gives visitors a behind the scenes look into making a movie.

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EXHIBIT

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matic tales don't have to make the audience's blood pressure rise.

This summer, they're getting the chance to do just that at Moody Gardens. Visitors may co-star, direct, produce or perhaps rewrite a few Hollywood hits, including "Rocky," "Legally Blonde," "Agent Cody Banks" and "The Pink Panther."

"Movie Magic," a program performed by three Canadian actors, is designed to teach children the behind-the-camera action.

"But it's totally for adults, too," said Ayla Rosendahl, a 22-year-old who plays the part of Dr. Pruvitt. "We want everyone to join in the fun."

Rosendahl and her assistant Crash, played by 24-year-old Jessica Hassoun, demonstrate how humans can set foot in cartoons and how things can disappear.

In an upbeat, Nickelodeon-esque manner, they demonstrate how the green screen works.

The screen is indeed

green and serves as the backdrop for all of the skits and movie outtakes. Anything covered in green is not included in the video image, which is projected on several televisions throughout the auditorium.

Moviegoers slighted by scores of movies gone wrong can "ooh" and "aaah" at the mystique of the green screen while simultaneously, though covertly, tweaking films to suit their tastes.

Guys who think Rocky deserves a good downsizing in the ego department can give him one through improvisation and ad-lib.

"Movie Magic" is educational and geared toward children, but it does offer the cynical adult a sugar-coated chance at retribution, the crew said.

The only script audience participants are required to follow is a two-line passage for the "Legally Blonde" portion of the show. Other than that, the plots are open to audience participation.

"Things can get pretty wild," Rosendahl said. "But we're prepared for where the show will take us."