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**BOSTON'S SPECIAL BENEFIT SCREENING OF *BEING FLYNN*,
NEW MOVIE BASED ON NICK FLYNN'S MEMOIR *ANOTHER BULLSHIT NIGHT IN SUCK CITY*,
BEING HELD MARCH 7 TO BENEFIT ELDERS LIVING AT HOME PROGRAM**

**Nick Flynn, Director Paul Weitz, Actor Paul Dano, Producer Andrew Miano in post-screening Q
& A moderated by author Michael Patrick MacDonald**

High res photo available on request.

(BOSTON – Feb. 7, 2012) The Boston Special Benefit Screening of the new Focus Features film ***Being Flynn***, based on **Nick Flynn's** acclaimed memoir *Another Bullshit Night in Suck City*, will be held at the Kendall Square Cinema (1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge), on Wednesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. The screening will be followed by a Q & A with Flynn, screenwriter/director **Paul Weitz**, actor **Paul Dano** (who stars as Nick in the movie), and producer **Andrew Miano**, moderated by award-winning author **Michael Patrick MacDonald**. Tickets are \$20, and are available now at <http://www.beingflynnbenefit.com/>. Proceeds benefit Boston Medical Center's Elders Living at Home Program (ELAHP), the agency that is celebrating 25 years of helping people – among them, Flynn's father Jonathan.

Opening March 9 in Boston, ***Being Flynn*** is the new movie from Academy Award-nominated writer/director Paul Weitz (*About a Boy*). Nick Flynn (portrayed by Paul Dano of *Little Miss Sunshine* and *There Will Be Blood*) is a young writer seeking to define himself. He misses his late mother, Jody (four-time Academy Award nominee Julianne Moore), and her loving nature. But his father, Jonathan, is not even a memory, as Nick has not seen the man in 18 years. Jonathan Flynn (two-time Academy Award winner Robert De Niro) has long defined himself as a great writer, "a master storyteller." After abandoning his wife and child, Jonathan scrapes through life on his own terms, and ends up serving time in prison for cashing forged checks. After prison, he drives a cab for a number of years, but with his drinking and eccentricities now accelerating, he loses his job. Despite the occasional grandiose letter to his son, he has remained absent from Nick's life. Suddenly facing eviction from his apartment, Jonathan impulsively reaches out to Nick and the two come face-to-face. The older man is eloquent and formidable; overwhelmed, Nick nonetheless prepares to integrate his father into his own life. But, as

quickly as he materialized, Jonathan flits away again. Moving on, Nick takes a job at a homeless shelter, where he learns from Captain (Wes Studi) and Joy (Lili Taylor) how to relate to the guests who arrive night after night. Seeing the homeless – some permanently, some temporarily so – and hearing their stories, Nick finds purpose in his own life and work. Then one night, Jonathan arrives, seeking a bed, and Nick's senses of self and compassion falter. Evocatively told, ruefully funny, and moving in its depiction of the ties that bind, ***Being Flynn*** tells a story that reveals universal truths.

Nick Flynn grew up in Scituate, Mass. and attended New York University. He spent six years working at Pine Street Inn. He has published two books of poetry, *Some Ether* and *Blind Huber*; a how-to-teach poetry book, *A Note Slipped Under the Door* (with Shirley Phillips); and two memoirs, *Another Bullshit Night In Suck City* and *The Ticking is the Bomb*. His work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Nation*, *The Paris Review*, NPR's *This American Life*, and *The New York Times Book Review*. He has also received a number of prestigious fellowships. He was a member of the Columbia University Writing Project, which trained teachers and taught writing to young people. He currently teaches one semester a year at University of Houston, and lives in upstate New York.

Paul Weitz was an Academy Award nominee with his brother Chris Weitz, and Peter Hedges, as screenwriters of *About a Boy*, adapted from Nick Hornby's novel of the same name. Paul and Chris Weitz also shared Writers Guild of America and BAFTA Award nominations and were the directors of the movie. Paul Weitz next wrote and directed *In Good Company* and the satire *American Dreamz*. He subsequently directed *Cirque du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant*, and the hit *Little Fockers*, starring Robert De Niro. His first directorial credit was on the blockbuster *American Pie*, which was the breakthrough movie for a host of actors, and which he made with his brother.

Paul Dano's breakthrough performance was in the lead role of Michael Cuesta's *L.I.E.*, in which he starred opposite Brian Cox and for which he earned an Independent Spirit Award. He was again an Independent Spirit Award nominee for the sleeper hit *Little Miss Sunshine*, directed by Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris, for which he also shared in the Screen Actors Guild Awards and the Broadcast Film Critics Association's ensemble honors with his fellow actors Alan Arkin, Abigail Breslin, Steve Carell, Toni Collette, and Greg Kinnear. The following year, he earned a BAFTA Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor for his dual role opposite Academy Award winner Daniel Day-Lewis in Paul Thomas Anderson's *There Will Be Blood*. He will next be seen in Rian Johnson's *Looper*, with Bruce Willis, Emily

Blunt, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, and Jeff Daniels; So Yong Kim's *For Ellen*, which he also executive-produced; and Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris' *He Love Me*.

Andrew Miano was producer of one of 2009's most acclaimed films, *A Single Man*, starring Colin Firth, cited by the American Film Institute as one of its Movies of the Year. His other movies as producer include Peter Sollett's *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist*, starring Michael Cera and Kat Dennings; and Paul Weitz's *American Dreamz* and *Cirque du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant*. He was executive producer on Paul Weitz's *In Good Company* and *Little Fockers*; and on Chris Weitz's *The Golden Compass*, starring Nicole Kidman and Daniel Craig.

Michael Patrick MacDonald grew up in South Boston's Old Colony housing project. After losing four siblings and seeing his generation decimated by poverty, crime, and addiction, he became a leading Boston activist, helping launch many antiviolence initiatives, including gun-buyback programs. He continues to work for social change nationally, collaborating with survivor families and young people. MacDonald won the American Book Award in 2000. His national bestseller, *All Souls*, and his follow-up, *Easter Rising: A Memoir of Roots and Rebellion*, have been adopted by university curriculums across the country. MacDonald has written numerous essays for the Boston Globe Op-Ed Page and has completed the screenplay adaptation of *All Souls*. He is currently Author-in-Residence at Northeastern University where he developed a curriculum on writing and social justice issues, as well as one on conflict & reconciliation with a focus on the North of Ireland model. He is currently working on third book of non-fiction, lives in Brooklyn, NY.

For 25 years the **Elders Living At Home Program** has been at the forefront of ending elder homelessness in Boston. Over the last two and a half decades, ELAHP has touched the lives of 2,500 people, not only clients, but their families, care providers, policy makers, public and private funders and students from a variety of disciplines. For more information, please visit <http://www.bmc.org/eldersathome.htm>.

This event is being produced by Tom Johnston and Joyce Linehan.

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