

25 March 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Cathy Bergstrom, [bergstrom9@comcast.net](mailto:bergstrom9@comcast.net)



## **Jumanji 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event Special Guests**

(Keene NH) Dow Griffith, Bradley Pierce and Dan Sissons will return to Keene for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the blockbuster film, Jumanji, starring Robin Williams, June 20-22 in downtown Keene's Central Square and Main Street. The weekend will offer activities for all ages and revisit the nostalgia from 1994-95 when filming occurred in Keene, Swanzey and Jaffrey.

**In 1994, Location Manager Dow Griffith**, considered the industry's "quintessential location manager," drove down Main Street in Keene to find a cup of coffee as he searched for just the right location for the upcoming Robin Williams film, Jumanji. The City of Keene got lucky on that day, when Dow chose Central Square and its gazebo as a centerpiece to become fictional Brantford, New Hampshire which put us on the film map forever.

Griffith's enthusiasm and creativity have set the scene for movie sites literally around the world and specializing in unique and foreign locations. His background in cultural anthropology and his adventurous spirit have taken him on planes, buses, tuk-tuks, motorcycles, dugout canoes, and helicopters to explore the world, visiting 500 regions of the planet and 237 World Heritage Sites.

Griffith's many, varied motion picture credits also include *Proof of Life*, *The Bourne Legacy*, *Sleepless in Seattle*, *The Color of Money*, *Down and Out in Beverly Hills*, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *And Justice for All*, and *The Onion Field*. During his 45-year career, Dow has worked with leading filmmakers including Taylor Hackford, Darren Aronofsky, Steven Spielberg, Frank Marshall and Kathy Kennedy, Norman Jewison, Brian DePalma, Paul Mazursky, Steven Soderbergh, M. Night Shyamalan, John Hughes, Martin Scorsese and Carl Reiner.

**Bradley Pierce is an actor, producer and cinematographer** who was just seven-years-old when cast in Jumanji in the role of Peter Shepherd. He was the original voice of Chip in *Beauty and the Beast*, animated voiceover for Sonic the Hedgehog, *The Busy World of Richard Scary*, and *The Pink Panther*; and Pete Lender in the 1997 film adaptation of, *The Borrowers*. His company, ZFO Entertainment, produces short films and new media. Pierce and Kirsten Dunst played young siblings in the film, Jumanji, who discovered and played the magical board game.

**Dan Sissons** started as a set painter and stagehand in Edmonton, Canada, in the 1970s, quickly rising to craft iconic props for sci-fi classics like *Battlestar Galactica*, *Doctor Who*, and *Stargate*. His talent for blending practicality with imagination led him to film, where he worked with directors like Tim Burton, Christopher Nolan, and Brian DePalma, and created props for stars like Katharine Hepburn, Al Pacino, and David Bowie. His notable creations include Harley Quinn's "Good Night" bat, the Jumanji board game, and props for *Fifty Shades of Grey's* Red Room of Pain. Now in his 60s, Dan has settled in Vancouver, designing imaginative gardens and speakeasies that echo his lifelong knack for creating immersive worlds.

Festivities begin on Friday, June 20, at 6 PM with a free red-carpet event at The Colonial Theatre, located on 95 Main Street where the film was originally shown on December 13, 1995. Attendees will have the opportunity to step into the world of Jumanji with a limo photo op and the chance to capture memories against vibrant backdrops. Plan to spend the day downtown on Saturday, June 21 from 10

AM to 5 PM which includes a scavenger hunt, costume road race, parade and photography exhibit by the Cheshire County Historical Society. The weekend culminates on Sunday, June 22 with a closing ceremony in Central Square at 4pm, when a new mural will be unveiled, Dow Griffith will be presented with the Key to the City as was Robin Williams thirty years ago, and former Keene Police Department Officer Joe Collins will be remembered.

Presenting sponsor for the event is Monadnock Ford, located in Swanzey NH and Brattleboro VT. Additional sponsors include Monadnock Media Group, Monadnock Shopper News, Terrapin Sky Media, Fireworks, Badger Balm, MONIFF, Keene Public Library, Adventure Limousine, Beeze Tees, Shadow & Soul Emporium, Ted's Shoe and Sport, Wade the Great Entertainment, Keene Sentinel and Best Western Hotel. The non-profit fiscal agent is the Greater Monadnock Collaborative. Additional event information can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/JUMANJI2025> and <https://jumanjigothanniversary.com/> To contact event organizer, Cathy Bergstrom, email [bergstrom9@comcast.net](mailto:bergstrom9@comcast.net) .

###