



STATE OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES  
RoAnn M. Destito, COMMISSIONER

Heather Groll - Public Affairs Office  
(518) 474-5987  
heather.groll@ogs.ny.gov  
<http://www.ogs.ny.gov>

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## **FRIDAY NIGHT FLICKS OPEN AIR CINEMA STARTS AUGUST 8 WITH 'DESPICABLE ME 2'**

### **Free Movies Each Friday in August in West Capitol Park**

The return of outdoor movie nights in Albany has arrived and will feature films suitable for the entire family each Friday in August at 8 p.m. in West Capitol Park. Those attending the movies should come prepared with their own chair or blanket.

Friday Night Flicks will start on **August 8** with the screening of "**Despicable Me 2.**" This sequel to the wildly successful 2010 animated picture following Gru (voiced by Steve Carell), the ex-scheming evildoer-turned-parental figure, from animation company Illumination Entertainment. The cast also includes Benjamin Bratt, Russell Brand, Miranda Cosgrove, Steve Coogan, and Kristen Wiig.

Prepare for a classic outer space adventure on **August 15** with the showing of "**Forbidden Planet.**" In the 23rd century, Commander J.J. Adams (Leslie Nielsen) guides United Planets cruiser C-57-D on a rescue mission to faraway planet Altair-4 in this science fiction film that was released in 1956 and combined state-of-the-art special effects with a storyline based on Shakespeare's "The Tempest." The movie also stars Walter Pidgeon and Anne Francis.

Children will love to see one of their favorite toys make its way to the big screen on **August 22** in "**The Lego Movie.**" A lowly Lego figure (voiced by Chris Pratt) joins a group intent on battling an evil force after a case of mistaken identity in this computer-generated comedy from the filmmakers behind Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs and co-director Chris McKay (Robot Chicken). Will Arnett co-stars as the voice of Batman, who along with Superman, make appearances. Elizabeth Banks, Morgan Freeman, Will Ferrell, Liam Neeson, and Alison Brie head up the rest of the voice cast.

Friday Night Flicks will wrap up for the season on **August 29** with "**Casablanca.**" One of the most memorable film experiences, "Casablanca" is a true Hollywood legend. All the elements

of the production — story, cast, photography, direction, and music — are woven expertly together to create a motion picture monument about wartime refugees gathering in Morocco to obtain scarce exit visas to Lisbon. The movie stars Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Claude Rains, Paul Henreid, Conrad Veidt, and Sydney Greenstreet.

Food and beverage vendors will be on site for Friday Night Flicks, and the rain location will be meeting room six inside the Empire State Plaza Convention Center.

Visit our Facebook page “Empire State Plaza Events,” follow us on Twitter @plazaevents, or call (518) 474-0549 for updates on events. For additional information, including directions and ground rules for the events, visit our website at [www.ogs.ny.gov](http://www.ogs.ny.gov).

Free parking in the East Garage on Philip Street off Madison Avenue is available after 5 p.m.

Sponsors include Albany.com, Saratoga Spring Water Co., Holiday Inn Express, Metroland, All Over Albany, and Times Union.

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