



**Mount Rushmore Society
Mount Rushmore Institute**

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**Mount Rushmore Bookstores
Mount Rushmore Audio Tour**

Mount Rushmore
National Memorial
13036 Hwy 244
Keystone, SD 57751
1-605-574-1333
1-800-699-3142
FAX 1-605-574-3144
bookstores@mtrushmore.org

**Mount Rushmore Memories
Airport Store**

Rapid City Regional Airport
4550 Terminal Road #206
Rapid City, SD 57703
1-605-791-6868
anna@mtrushmore.org

The Mount Rushmore Society—through the Mount Rushmore Bookstores, the Mount Rushmore Audio Tour, Mount Rushmore Memories and other activities—is dedicated to the preservation, promotion and enhancement of Mount Rushmore National Memorial and the values it represents through a partnership with the National Park Service.

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FOR MEDIA PASSES TO THE EVENT, CONTACT: Gary Keller

**MONUMENTAL MOVIE NIGHT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR MOUNT RUSHMORE
Mount Rushmore Society Hosts ‘North by Northwest’ Sept. 21 at Elks
Theatre in Rapid City**

The Mount Rushmore Society (Society) will present *North by Northwest* during the first annual **Monumental Movie Night** to be held Thursday, September 21, 2017, at the Elks Theatre beginning at 6:30 pm. The public, especially anyone who had a role as an extra in the movie or worked with the production company during filming of the movie in 1958, is cordially invited to attend. General seating tickets are \$25 and VIP tickets are \$100, available for purchase at www.elkstheatre.com or at the Elks Theatre Box Office.

The 2017 Monumental Movie Night marks the first of a five-year plan by the Society to bring back to the big screen movies that have a special connection to South Dakota. Proceeds from the event will support National Park Service programs and projects at Mount Rushmore.

General seating tickets include the red carpet movie event and surprises during the evening. VIP tickets include an Oscar-worthy 5pm reception at the Historic Alex Johnson Hotel Ballroom, complete with valet parking, a “Monumental Munchies” mini-buffet and beverages, a Mount Rushmore photo booth, swag bags, door prizes, and reserved seating on the main floor at Elks Theatre for the film.

Rapid City’s own celebrity, Eric Gardner will emcee the event, which is sponsored by Black Hills Energy, along with community partners Alex Johnson Hotel and Elks Theatre, with media sponsors KOTA-TV/KEVN and KOTA Radio.

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“Hitchcock’s original idea for North by Northwest was simply having a good-guy/bad-guy chase scene across the faces of Mount Rushmore,” Society Executive Director Diana Saathoff explains. She notes that liberties were taken by the filmmakers, but that no actors were actually filmed on the ‘faces...’ but primarily at the café and parking lot. The chase scene and the Frank Lloyd Wright-esque house that was supposedly behind Mount Rushmore were all filmed on a Hollywood set. “We want the average visitors to know that enjoying the actual Memorial is something to be done only from the safety of areas such as the Grand View Terrace or Presidential Trail.”

Potential movies for the future include “Dances with Wolves,” “National Treasure II,” “Armageddon” and/or “Starship Troopers.”

ABOUT THE MOUNT RUSHMORE SOCIETY

Formed in 1930, the Society is one of the oldest national park friends groups in the country. Its mission is to raise and distribute funds to the National Park Service at Mount Rushmore National Memorial, which it does in a variety of ways:

- Through “aid to the park” funds from three Mount Rushmore Bookstores at the park
- Through special events such as Monumental Movie Night and the annual Presidential Dinner Gala
- Through an annual membership program
- From tax-deductible donations to the society, large and small
- Grants and bequests

Recent fundraising efforts include:

- \$200,000 for rehabilitation of the Blackberry Equestrian/Hiking Trail (2015)
- \$396,000 fundraising campaign to construct a new “Youth Exploration Area” shelter (2015)

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