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## Get to Know a Film Fest Volunteer: David Mandehr

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David Mandehr - Katjusa Cisar/Capital Times

When a long line of eager filmgoers is hoping to cram just a few more people into a popular screening, nobody wants to get reminded about fire codes and capacity limits.

But someone's got to do it.

It's one of David Mandehr's many duties at the Wisconsin Film Festival this weekend. Friday night he coordinated a small crew of other volunteers at the Fredric March Play Circle in the Memorial Union. His wife tore tickets and helped pick up trash and gather forgotten hats and jackets between screenings.

It was after midnight by the time the last film of the night -- "Illegal Use of Joe Zopp" -- let out, but Mandehr graciously stuck around to few questions for 77 Square's continuing feature of volunteer profiles.

**Day job?** Elementary school teacher.

**Why do you volunteer for the festival?** I have been working with the Civic Center, the Rep and APT (American Players Theatre) pretty much since 1980, so it was a continuation of that. They need the bodies, and I like the movies. My younger brother is an actor and I thought, well hey, this is something that had a connection. It's a way to see shows and meet lots of people. You become a fixture.

**What are your volunteer duties?** It varies. Because I have experience, they had me doing line control. When you're a teacher, you find it pretty easy to find ways to communicate with people.

**What are the most common questions people ask you?** "Why can't I get in? I have a ticket." Well, the movie's started. We have a policy of having people get here 15 minutes early. Just standing in line you hear, "What should I go see?" Even we will ask, "What did you see? What's fun?"

**What movies have you gone to so far?** "Darius Goes West." Our daughter picked that.

**What about the rest of the weekend?** We'll probably talk about that tomorrow over breakfast.