High on toons sans fumes

HOLLYWOOD

Heavy hitters turned out for the June dedication of the Marilyn and Jeffrey Katzenberg Center for Animation on the USC School of Cinematic Arts campus. Steven Spielberg and George Lucas showed their support by taking the stage, while Katzenberg's "Kung Fu Panda" star Jack Black watched from the audience.

Spielberg wanted everyone to know just how far animation and USC have come, so he told a story about "Marcello, I'm Bored" creator and former USC student, John Milius.

In 1967, "John was in this little shit shack in the back of this place with termites. It was the original Termite Terrace; it was not at Warner Bros. It was here at USC," he quipped.

Regarding the new animation center, Spielberg added, "This is environmentally a very safe building, too," referring to the fumes of enamel and paint Milius' generation had to inhale for their art.

--- Shelby Hill

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While Blackmon contends that the city's decision to bar the crew to film from Cahaba Park was illegal and a violation of First Amendment rights, Centreville city attorney Mike Hobson maintains that Bamberg's initial explanation and not the mayor's subsequent email was the real reason was appropriate, and we felt like that would cause controversy. So, yes, the mayor had a problem with that.

Hobson then explained that the crew needed a license, which Blackmon contests.

The specific scene, which Pollard says was a reenactment on a farm using a historic structure in the backdrop, was subsequently shot at another location.

"This is the first time in the