

'Moms' Night Out': Clean Comedy Cleans Up at Box Office

Moms' Night Out, the Sarah Drew/Sean Astin/Patricia Heaton/Trace Adkins team-up, was this week's second-biggest per-screen new release at the box office. For Mother's Day 2014—for maybe first time ever—the hot gift was ... a movie ticket. Starting the Friday before Mother's Day, families filled theaters for *Moms' Night Out*, a wholesome PG standout in a field of the summer's 15 R-rated comedies, and crowds rose higher on word of mouth.

Exit polls echo the audience reactions: 82 percent of moviegoers (the average is 60 percent) say, yes, they'd definitely recommend *Moms' Night Out*. A million-plus people, meanwhile, are talking about it on Facebook. Among females aged 35-49, *Moms' Night Out* received an A- CinemaScore.

"Hollywood is overdue to make movies on a double bottom line," co-writer and director Jon Erwin says. "While *Moms' Night Out* entertains entire families, it's proving that content can build up families and come out financially profitable."

Michael Medved, nationally syndicated radio host and movie reviewer, echoes the enthusiasm.

"*Moms' Night Out* is funny, frisky, fast-moving and filled with first-class performances," he says. "It's also a surprisingly wise and moving film about the joys and nightmares of parenthood."

Tara McNamara of called *Moms' Night Out* "a movie unicorn—something we hope exists, and yet finding one is very, very rare. Most grown women become moms," she writes, "so how can it be that *Moms' Night Out*—a comedy about the lives of

good moms—is one of a kind?”

Starring Sarah Drew (*Grey's Anatomy*), Sean Astin (*The Lord of the Rings*), two-time Emmy winner Patricia Heaton (*The Middle*, *Everybody Loves Raymond*) and country music superstar Trace Adkins (*Lincoln Lawyer*), *Moms' Night Out* received an 86 percent positive response from Rotten Tomatoes moviegoers.