

RI International Film Festival NEWS

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RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2006 AWARDS

The Tenth Annual Festival Concludes Attracting Record Crowds and Critical Acclaim

PROVIDENCE, RI (August 13, 2006) The 2006 **Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** announced the winners in this year's film competition at its annual closing-day Awards Brunch held this morning at Zooma on Atwell's Avenue in Providence.

New England's largest film festival featured 283 films from across the United States and representing over 40 countries in a truly statewide celebration of film. There were **29 World Premieres** and **19 US Premieres**. A total of 48 Narrative Features were screened and 29 Feature Documentaries. The films selected came from a pool of well over 2,000 entries. RIIFF's annual **Lifetime Achievement Award** was presented to acclaimed actress Cicely Tyson and **Creative Vision Award** was presented to local writer/director/actor, Michael Corrente.

Attendance levels were above 2005 records with nine sold-out screenings throughout the week. Over 250 filmmakers registered with the festival that included representation from Australia, Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom, Canada, France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and Puerto Rico.

"The films that played at this year's festival represented an amazing cross section of work that touched the hearts and minds of our audiences," said George T. Marshall, RIIFF Executive Director. "We consider all of the filmmakers who played this year's RIIFF to be winners and congratulate them for the excellence of their artistic achievement."

"It was a truly exceptional year," said Michael Drywa, RIIFF's Board President. "RIIFF again finished strongly in the black financially and kudos go to the loyal staff and the more than 100 committed volunteers who worked for the past year

to make the Festival such a well-organized success. RIIFF is distinguished by the superb quality of its films, enthusiastic audiences and the support of sponsors like the City of Providence's Office of Arts, Culture and Tourism, The Providence Tourism Council, the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Sony, Kodak, NBC 10, Clear Channel Communications, Motif Magazine, Rule Broadcast Systems, Amtrak, Feinstein IMAX Providence Place, Avid and Radio Disney."

Honorary co-chairs for the 2006 edition of the **Rhode Island International Film Festival** are Governor Donald Carcieri; Providence Mayor David M. Cicilline; and US Senator Jack Reed. Principal sponsors of the annual event are The City of Providence, The Providence Tourism Council, Rule Broadcast Systems, SONY, WJAR-NBC10, Feinstein IMAX Providence Place, Avid, Providence Monthly, Amtrak, Kodak, the Providence Department of Arts, Culture & Tourism, Motif, Clear Channel Communications, the Showcase Cinemas at Providence Place and Radio Disney. The Festival's 2006 design and look was created by Antonio Cortez.

The RIIFF Awards were presented by RIIFF Executive Director George T. Marshall and Adam Short, RIIFF Producing Director.

RIIFF Awards carry significance since the Festival is an official Academy Award qualifier for the short film category. Of over 2,750 festivals worldwide, only 60 share this distinction.

THE RIIFF AWARDS 2006:

BEST SHORT

Grand Prize: "My Backyard Was a Mountain" (Adam Schlachter, Director; Austin Wakefield, Producer)

First Place: (tie)

"Taps" (Vincent Versace, Director; George Cuddy, Producer)

"Half Term" (Tony Hagger, Director / Producer)

Honorable Mention:

"La Cerca" (S.J. Main, Director; S.J. Main, Laura E. Johnson, Producers)

DIRECTORIAL DISCOVERY AWARD

Frederic Lumiere - "Tomorrow is Today," USA/France

INTERNATIONAL DISCOVERY AWARD

Jeremy Weinstein - "Wil," AUSTRALIA

PROVIDENCE FILM FESTIVAL (for local filmmakers of Rhode Island)

Grand Prize:

"The Daydream" (Kal Almkhlaafy, Director; Providence Film Collaborative, Producers)

First Place:

"The Tournament" (Eugene J. Celico, Director; Nick Puccio, Eugene J. Celico, Producers)

Honorable Mention:

Sweet Dreams (Eric Latek, Director / Producer)

BEST ANIMATION

Grand Prize:

"The Little Matchgirl" (Roger Allers, Director; Roy E. Disney, Don Hahn, Baker Bloodworth, Producers)

First Place:

"One Rat Short" (Alex Weil, Director; Bryan Godwin, Producer)

Honorable Mention:

"The Wraith of Cobble Hill" (Adam Parrish King, Director; Monique Zavistovski, Producer)

BEST EDITING

Grand Prize:

"Die Rasur" (Frank Becher, Editor; Tuncay Kulaoglu, Director)

First Place:

"Across The Hall" (Alex Merkin, Editor; Alex Merkin, Director)

Honorable Mention: (tie)

"The Shovel" (Barry Stilwell, editor/Nick Childs, Director),

"Katrina's Wake" (Eric Springman, Editor; Kat Philips, Director)

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

Grand Prize:

"La Cerca" (Dror Levendiger, Cinematographer; S.J. Main, Director)

First Place:

"Rose" (Adam Clarke, Cinematographer/DP; Mike Murphy, Director)

Honorable Mention:

"Once Not Far From Home" (Vincent Delaney, Cinematographer; Ben Van Hook, Director)

BEST DOCUMENTARY

Grand Prize:

"Three Women and a Chateau" (Catherine Ryan, Gary Weimberg, Directors)

First Place:

"Class Act" (Sara Sackner, Director)

Honorable Mention:

"Ice Kings" (Craig Shapiro, Director)

BEST SCORE *(Chosen by The RIFF Grammy Committee)*

Grand Prize:

"Le Chase" (Andrew M. Chukerman, composer)

First Place:

"Shut Up and Sing" (Jeff Cardoni, composer)

BEST FEATURE

Grand Prize:

"In-A-Day" (Evan Richards, Director; Rowan Athale, Evan Richards, Producers)

First Place:

"Deadpan Valentine" (Robin Lindsey, Director; Katherine Lee, George Vossos, Robin Lindsey, Producers)

Honorable Mention:

Expiration Date (Rick Stevenson, Director; John Forsen, Rick Stevenson, Producers)

ALTERNATIVE SPIRIT

Grand Prize:

"Davy & Stu" (Soman Chainani, Director; Sunil Sadarangani, Producer)

First Place:

"Boy Culture" (Q. Allan Brocka, Director; Stephen Israel, Philip Pierce, Victor Simpkins, Producers)

Honorable Mention: (

"Inclinations" (Jen Simmons, Director/Producer)

BEST SCREENPLAY *(Top Prize winner receives Final Draft Software)*

Grand Prize:

"Deadpan Valentine" (Robin Lindsey, Director; Katherine Lee, George Vossos, Robin Lindsey, Producers)

First Place:

"Paradox" (Jeremy Haccoun, Director/Producer)

Honorable Mention: (

"Incomplete" (Yann Demange, Director; Debbie Crosscup, Producer)

KIDSEYE™ INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

First Place:

"Shoes" (Jake Sawyer, Director/Producer)

2nd Place:

"Lost & Found" (Joseph, Susan, and Katherine Procopio, Directors; Frank Procopio, Producer)

3rd Place:

"Eternal High" (Bryce Mackie, Director/Producer)

BEST EXPERIMENTAL

Grand Prize:

"Film Noir" (Osbert Parker, Director/Producer)

2nd Place:

"Jane Lloyd" (Happy, Director; Clint Cowen, Nick Sutherland-Dodd, Producers)

3rd Place:

"Windows Masks Doors" (Sarah Orenstein, Director/Producer)

NEW ENGLAND STUDENT COMPETITION *(Avid HD PRO System for Top Prize winner)*

Grand Prize:

"In The Tradition of My Family" (Todd Davis, Director/Producer)

2nd Place:

"Eugene" (Sarah Hoopes, Director/Producer)

3rd Place:

"Twitch" (Leah Meyerhoff, Director; Sean Warner, Producer)

VIOLA M. MARSHALL AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARDS

Best Feature:

"Shut Up & Sing" Bruce Leddy, Director

Best Documentary:

"Ice Kings" Craig Shapiro, Director

Best Short: (tie)

"Little Claus and Big Claus" Ross Birkbeck Director

"Getting to Know You" Liz Lachman, Director