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THE 29TH ANNUAL FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES GRAND JURY & AUDIENCE AWARD WINNERS

Orlando, FL – (August 26, 2020) The Florida Film Festival has announced the Grand Jury and Audience Awards of the 2020 Florida Film Festival. The 29th Annual Florida Film Festival took place August 7-21, 2020, in Maitland and Winter Park, Florida, with Primary Sponsor Full Sail University and Primary Public Partners Orange County Government and the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs. <u>Click here</u> to watch the virtual awards ceremony.

SHORTS

- Grand Jury Award for Best Animated Short The Opposites Game (Dirs. Anna Samo and Lisa LaBracio)
- Grand Jury Award for Best Documentary Short Broken Orchestra (Dir. Charlie Tyrell)
- Grand Jury Award for Best Narrative Short Twist (Dir. Aly Migliori)
- Special Jury Award for Singular Vision Museum of Fleeting Wonders (Dir. Tomas Gomez Bustillo)
- Audience Award for Best Short Film The Shabbos Goy (Dir. Talia Osteen)
- Audience Award for Best Midnight Short The Altruist (Dir. Matt Smith)
- Honorable Mentions:
 - The documentary jury would like to extend an honorable mention to the short "Abortion Helpline, This is Lisa" for humanizing a political issue through the story of abortion funds counselors and the women they help each month in the face of legislative and economic hardship.
 - The narrative shorts jury would also like to extend an honorable mention to "Union County" for the lyrical vision expressed in the film's storytelling.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

- Grand Jury Award for Best Documentary Feature Landfall (Dir. Cecilia Aldarondo)
- Special Jury Award for Non-Fiction Storytelling For Walter and Josiah (Dir. Jamie Elias)
- Audience Award for Best Documentary Feature Class Action Park (Dirs. Seth Porges and Christopher Charles Scott)

NARRATIVE FEATURES

Grand Jury Award for Best Narrative Feature – Shithouse (Dir. Cooper Raiff)

- Special Jury Award for Ensemble Cast 18 to Party (Dir. Jeff Roda)
- Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature Wyrm (Dir. Christopher Winterbauer)

INTERNATIONAL

- Audience Award for Best International Feature The Perfect Candidate (Dir. Haifaa Al-Mansour)
- Audience Award for Best International Short Piggy (Dir. Carlota Pereda)

2020 FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL

Now in its 29th year, the Florida Film Festival is an Oscar®-qualifying festival, premiering the best in current, independent, and international cinema. Through ten days of 170+ films and first-class events, film lovers mingle with filmmakers and celebrities over hand-crafted cocktails and a locally-sourced menu.

"Now having attended several top festivals, I can confidently say Florida has THE best programming of all of them. THANK YOU for what you do and the care and thought you use to make your film fest what it is. Obviously, changed my life!" — Megan Seeley, Filmmaker

"Thank you so much for such an excellent juror experience! It was a great week. The festival was so well programmed and everything was so organized, and people were so friendly. I am so glad that I was able to serve on the jury after all these years. It was worth the wait." – Cynthia Wade, Oscar-winning Filmmaker and Juror

"I'm not blowing smoke! This was really a wonderful festival experience. I loved it and was impressed with all aspects of it. I especially love the energy or spirit with which everything was handled – I felt a genuine passion for film and filmmakers that, of course, should be at every festival, but unfortunately is not." – Alix Lambert, Filmmaker

"The Florida Film Festival has become my favorite festival to attend. The staff is so friendly, personable, and truly enthusiastic about what they do. Their taste in film is the best. I can't get over how organized and knowledgeable the volunteers are. It's a laid back and well-oiled machine." — Brian Lonano, Filmmaker

"[We] had a great time at the festival. We've been to a few festivals with the film, and Florida is one of our favorites!" – Academy Award® winner Ron Judkins, Filmmaker

"Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU for having me down to the festival. What an absolute treat it was! It was a truly wonderful four days and I can say honestly that I don't think there was single clunker among the 16+ hours of films we screened. That's pretty impressive!" – Andrew Carlin, Juror (Oscilloscope)

"I may be biased (considering the FFF was the first festival I've ever participated in) but I really think it might be the best festival ever. The energy is so great, the venue is fantastic, and I have such an appreciation for how organized and thoughtful you guys were. I came back to Beirut and said 'I need to make another film this year to go back next year." – Amanda Bailly, Filmmaker

The Festival is a program of the non-profit Enzian Theater. 2020 Festival sponsors to date include:

Primary Sponsor: Full Sail University

Primary Public Partners: Orange County Government, Florida Department of State Division of

Cultural Affairs

Public Partner: United Arts of Central Florida

Premiere: Lure Design Incorporated, Wyndham Destinations

Major: Charles Schwab, Deeb Studios, FilmFreeway, Laughing Samurai, Movebooth, Orlando

Film Commission, Sheraton Orlando North, T-Mobile, Winter Park Village

Supporting: Antonio's Ristorante Maitland, Coterie Coffee Co., Dorman Financial Management, Film Florida, Ivanhoe Park Brewing, Killgore, Pearlman, Semanie, Denius & Squires, P.A., The

New Standard, Sierra Nevada, Co., Terrapin Beer Co., Tito's Handmade Vodka

Media Partners: Bungalower, Edible Orlando, iHeartMedia, Orlando Arts, Orlando LIVE, Orlando

Sentinel, Orlando Weekly, Watermark, WESH, WPRK, Yelp

Our sponsor community enriches the festival experience and helps sustain the year-round programs of the not-for-profit Enzian.

Enzian

Since 1992, Enzian has been the proud host of the Florida Film Festival. As part of its mission to entertain, inspire, educate, and connect the community through film, Enzian presents innovative and original cinematic programming not just during the Festival, but all year long. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, community-supported arts organization for which ticket revenue accounts for only 25% of its operating budget, Enzian owes its existence to the generosity of fans of film, food, and fun--like you. Enzian.org

Full Sail University:

Full Sail University is an award-winning educational leader for those pursuing careers in entertainment, media, arts and technology. Founded in 1979, Full Sail has received accolades throughout its 40+ year history, including most recently a 2020 "Top Graduate & Undergraduate Schools to Study Game Design" by The Princeton Review, a 2019 "Top 50 Film Schools" by The Wrap Magazine, and a 2019 "School/College of the Year" by the Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges.

Full Sail University is a graduate and undergraduate degree-granting institution offering oncampus and online degree programs in areas related to Art & Design, Business, Film & Television, Games, Media & Communications, Music & Recording, Sports, and Technology. With over 75,000+ graduates worldwide, Full Sail alumni have worked on countless award-winning projects with individual recognition including OSCAR®, Emmy®, GRAMMY®, ADDY®, MTV Video Music Award, and Video Game Award honors.

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