

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Winners Announced for 2010 Wild Rose Independent Film Festival as Iowa Film Showcase Continues

The 8th annual Wild Rose Independent Film Festival, with the expanded WRIFF screenings continuing through Thursday, November 11, announced this year's award winners at the Saturday, November 6 Awards Ceremony at the Fleur Cinema & Café. Honoring 55 artists and projects in 26 categories for "Best of" and "Certificate of Distinction" awards in the most competitive field of participants ever noted in the WRIFF's history, the Wild Rose continues to grow. A total of 41 films were selected from over 400 submitted to the 2010 Wild Rose, with an additional 8 films invited to screen during the non-competitive portion; the Iowa Film Showcase series running Nov 7-11.

Winning ten awards was "16 to Life," the coming-of-age comedy filmed in the Marquette, IA region including among others; Best Iowa Film, Best Feature and Best Director - Becky Smith. Ben-Hur Sepehr's riveting short film, "The Desperate," garnered seven awards including; Best Director Short Film, Best Short Film and Best Actor - Peter Mark Richman. Iowa native and rising Hollywood star, Tanna Frederick, earned top honors as Best Actress for her luminous performance in Henry Jaglom's fascinating feature, "Queen of the Lot," which also earned four more awards. Also in attendance at this year's Wild Rose was Iowa native and well known international model and actor, Joel West, co-writer and lead actor for the hilarious short film, "Withstand One Night," which earned three awards. The gripping Vietnam-era action/drama, "A Lonely Place for Dying," by Justin Eugene Evans, received two awards, including Best Visual Effects. Films were submitted to the Wild Rose from across America, as well as from 16 different countries.

Ben-Hur Sepehr, a protégé of iconic filmmaker, Ingmar Bergman, attended the WRIFF, offering advice both during the Filmmakers Panel Discussion and during his ongoing conversations with filmmakers and Wild Rose attendees.

"I have won awards around the world for previous films I have made," said Sepehr, "and the recognition I have received here in Iowa has been the best. Everyone genuinely has been touched by my film, and, for that, I am grateful."

Tanna Frederick, a Mason City native, returned to her home state to share the Midwest premiere of "Queen of the Lot" before it premieres in Los Angeles. Joining Frederick at the Wild Rose was Ron Vignone, who won an award for his editing work and also appeared in a supporting role in the film.

"I can't express how much this Best Actress Award means to me," exclaimed Frederick during her acceptance speech. "This film opens in Los Angeles this week, and will open in New York next month, so having it presented here and do so well in the Wild Rose is fantastic and means so much to me and my family. This is an exceptional festival!"

West, who earned a top honor for his role as the lead in, "Withstand One Night", showed his chiseled model physique is filled with great acting talent.

"It was great to return to Iowa with this film," claimed West during his acceptance speech.

Justin Eugene Evans, moving his production operation to Wisconsin, actually adjusted his travel plans so he could drive all night to Des Moines to attend Saturday's screening of his feature, "A Lonely Place for Dying," and the Awards Ceremony.

"I'm grateful for the recognition this film received here," acknowledged Evans. "Through great independent festival such as this, I hope my film as well as others will reach many audiences."

The Iowa Film Showcase continues through Thursday with exclusive screenings of Iowa connected films, many having never been seen on the big screen before. "A Million Spokes" (the entertaining documentary about RAGBRAI®), "Haunting Villisca" (a paranormal thriller based on the

unsolved 1912 Villisca Axe Murders); “The Experiment,” (a psychological thriller) ;“ Splatter: Love, Honor and Paintball” (a zany comedy); “Impulse”, (Bluebox Limited’s apocalyptic thriller); “Driver’s Ed Mutiny” (a road trip comedy); “ Ctrl+Alt+Delete” (a dark comedy) and “Ash” (a moving crime drama) are part of these extended WRIFF screenings. Full schedule information is available at www.ariesworks.com and a listing of all Wild Rose Independent Film Festival winners is listed below, with other information.

Best Student Film - High School

LOVE...FOREVER & ALWAYS

Hannah Sullivan – Writer/ Director / Producer (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Sniff

Ariel Pomerantz, Writer/Director/Producer (IA)

Best Student Film – College /University

DUMBSHOW

Jason Hooper – Writer /Director / Producer (OR)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Me, Myself & Your Husband

Susan Hippen, Writer/Director/Producer (NY)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Speak Heaven

Lauren Auricchio, Writer/Director/Producer (NY)

Best Animated Film

THE SACRIFICE

Stephen Jennings – Director, Grasshorse (IA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

The Bean Society

Antonio Pérez Garrido (Spain)

Best Production Design

QUARTER ‘TIL TWO

Alexandra Bonovich - Art Direction

Tim Connery – Director (IL)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Red Princess Blue

Alex Ferrari (CA)

Best Visual Effects

A LONELY PLACE FOR DYING

Marc Leonard & Daniel Broadway - Visual Effects

Justin Eugene Evans – Director (NM)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

The Elusive Man

Marc Roussel & Mark Sanders (Canada)

Best Costumes

THE DESPERATE

Erin Tanaka - Costume Designer

Ben-Hur Sepehr – Director (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Speak Heaven (NY)

Best Music

16 to Life (CA/IA)

H. Scott Salinas - Original Score

Cathi Black - Music Supervision

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Kora

Burt Chojnowski (IA)

Best Makeup & Hair

The Elusive Man

Laura Gilmore & Traci Loader - Makeup

Marc Roussel & Mark Sanders – Directors (Canada)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

No One Island

Jennifer Jackson (CA)

Best Lighting Design

The Spirit of Isabel

Robert Joseph Butler – Director (MI)

Michael F. Cody - Cinematographer

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Fading Away (Zwischen Licht und Schotten)

Fabian Giessler, Director (Germany)

Best Sound Design

THE GREAT CELEBRATION (Mec Ton)

Levon Hakhverdyan - Sound Design

Vahe Kevorkov – Director (Armenia)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Unrepentent

Jaxon Kempnich, Director (Australia)

Best Editing

RED PRINCESS BLUES

Alex Ferrari – Director / Editor (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Queen of the Lot

Ron Vignone (CA)

Best Cinematography

16 to Life

Quyên Tran - Cinematographer

Becky Smith – Director (CA/IA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

A Lonely Place for Dying

Nick Bongiani & Justin Evans (NM)

Best Screenplay

THE DESPERATE

BEN-HUR SEPEHR – Screenwriter (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

16 to Life

Becky Smith (CA/IA)

Best Short Film

THE DESPERATE

Ben-Hur Sepehr - Writer/ Director / Producer (CA)

Short Film CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Withstand One Night

Ryan Sage (CA)

Best Documentary

KORA

BURT CHOJNOWSKI – Director / Producer (IA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

The Art of Courage

Katie Amesbury, Director (NC)

Best Foreign Film

THE GREAT CELEBRATION (Mec Ton)

Vahe Kevorkov – Director (Armenia)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

The Cortege (El Cortejo)

Director - Marina Seresesky (Spain)

Best Director – Short Film

BEN-HUR SEPEHR - Director

The Desperate (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Ryan Sage

Withstand One Night (CA)

Best Supporting Actress

THERESA RUSSELL

16 to Life

Becky Smith – Director (CA/IA)
CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Bridget Flanery
Something Blue (IA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Emily Foxler
16 to Life (CA/IA)

Best Supporting Actor

Greg Mullavey
The Desperate

Ben-Hur Sepehr – Director (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Nicholas Downs
16 to Life (CA/IA)

Best Actress

TANNA FREDERICK
Queen of the Lot

Henry Jaglom – Director (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Hallee Hirsh
16 to Life (CA/IA)

Best Actor

PETER MARK RICHMAN
The Desperate

Ben-Hur Sepehr – Director (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Joel West
Withstand One Night (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Noah Wyle
Queen of the Lot (CA)

Best Ensemble

THE DESPERATE
Neely Gurman - Casting

Ben-Hur Sepehr – Director (CA)

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT

16 to Life
Sunday Boling & Meg Morman (CA)
Iowa Casting – PMS Casting

Best Director - Feature

BECKY SMITH - Director (CA)

16 to Life
CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT
Henry Jaglom
Queen of the Lot (CA)

Best Feature

16 TO LIFE
Becky Smith - Writer/ Director / Producer (CA/IA)
CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT
Queen of the Lot
Henry Jaglom, Director & Rosemary Marks, Producer (CA)

Best Iowa Film

16 TO LIFE
Becky Smith – Writer/ Director/Producer (CA/IA)
CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT
Something Blue
Writer/Director, Sean Gannon (IA)
Producers, Pat Boddy & Sean Gannon

Audience Choice

Queen of the Lot (CA)
Henry Jaglom, Director
Rosemary Marks, Producer

For more information please contact WRIFF Director, Kimberly Busbee bobbusbee@aol.com

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