



TWENTY-FIVE
YEARS OF
CINEMA

THE HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Additional Education Programming and Initiatives Also Announced

East Hampton, NY– (June 21, 2017) –The Hamptons International Film Festival (HIFF) announced today they will award scholarships to five graduating seniors in East End high schools from the support of The Hilaria & Alec Baldwin Foundation. The inaugural scholarship fund will honor one student each from Southampton, East Hampton, Bridgehampton, The Ross School, and Pierson High School in Sag Harbor. Students will receive \$1,000, as well as a Filmmaker Discovery Package to attend the 25th anniversary HIFF taking place October 5 - 9.

“Our youth are the next generation of storytellers, and it is important that HIFF continue to provide access to the filmmaking arts,” said Anne Chaisson, Executive Director. “Our goal is to give students the opportunity to discover what inspires them, and to explore their dreams.”

New this year, HIFF will award two full-admission scholarships to students to attend the annual Summer Student Filmmaking Workshops held in East Hampton and Southampton. The workshops aim to provide a creative outlet and thorough introduction to filmmaking, giving students the tools to launch their own projects in the future. Classes will take place at Guild Hall in East Hampton from July 24th - 28th and at the Southampton Arts Center from August 7th - 11th. Applicants for the Scholarships are invited to apply via the HIFF website, hamptonsfilmfest.org.

“The aim of our Student Summer Filmmaking workshops is to cultivate fresh filmmaking talent in the Hamptons community and to encourage aspiring filmmakers to embrace their passion,” said HIFF Manager of Education and Community Outreach, Marissa Friedes Cangiolosi “We are excited to provide students with the chance to take the first step into the industry and learn from leaders in the entertainment world.”

In addition, the festival continues its educational youth outreach with HIFF Jr. HIFF recently hosted a curated Compassion, Justice, & Animal Rights short film screening and student filmmaker panel for an audience of 200 4th-5th graders at John M Marshall Elementary School in East Hampton. Similar screenings will be presented at Springs School in June and The Ross School in the Fall.

These Compassion, Justice, & Animal Rights School Screenings include films inspired by the United Nations Plural+ Program, a joint venture of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the International Organization for Migration that has partnered with HIFF for the last three years. PLURAL+ will host middle and high school students from across the East End for a screening of short films addressing issues of human rights, empathy, and migrant integration, at HIFF in October. The students will view films made by children and young adults from all over the world, followed by a post-screening panel discussion with international youth filmmakers and representatives from the United Nations.

HIFF will continue their 25 Years: 25 Films program with a screening of Academy Award®-winning documentary THE COVE on Sunday, June 25th at Guild Hall in East Hampton at 7:00PM. Proceeds from this screening will help to support HIFF's Compassion, Justice, and Animal Rights program and HIFF's Education Initiative. Tickets can be purchased at <http://hamptonsfilmfest.org/25-years-25-films/>.

HIFF greatly appreciates the support for their educational initiatives from The Macy's Foundation, Zelda Penzel, The Hilaria and Alec Baldwin Foundation, The Moxie Foundation, Guild Hall, LTV, the Southampton Arts Center and the many HIFF patrons who so generously donated to our education fund all year long. For more information please visit www.hamptonsfilmfest.org/hiff-jr-educational-initiatives.

The 25th annual Hamptons International Film Festival will take place over Columbus Day Weekend, October 5th – 9th, 2017.

ABOUT THE HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Hamptons International Film Festival (HIFF) is a year-round 501(c)3 non-profit organization with events, screenings, film workshops, comprehensive summer programs and an annual film festival each October. The Festival is the premiere film event on New York State's east end, and is an intimate showcase of some of the year's best offerings in contemporary cinema from around the world. With cash and in-kind prizes handed out totaling more than \$200,000, HIFF continues to attract some of the best films of the year. Selections from all of our programs continue to play an important role during awards season. 2016 marked the 8th time in the last 9 years that a film at the Festival has become the eventual Best Picture winner at the Oscars®, making HIFF the only Festival on the East Coast with such a distinction.

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