



USA FILM FESTIVAL
6116 N. CENTRAL EXPWY.
SUITE NO. 105
DALLAS, TEXAS 75206
214-821-6300
FAX - 821-6364
WWW.USAFILMFESTIVAL.COM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 8, 2012

CONTACT

USA FILM FESTIVAL
214-821-6300
usafilmfestival@aol.com

**USA FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES WINNERS
OF THE 34TH ANNUAL
NATIONAL SHORT FILM & VIDEO COMPETITION**

DALLAS – On Sunday, April 29, 2012, the USA Film Festival announced the Winners of the 34th Annual National Short Film & Video Competition. The awards program took place on Closing Night of the 42nd Annual USA Film Festival in Dallas.

Chosen from more than 500 U.S. entries, the winners included:

FIRST PLACE / FICTION \$1,000

also THE TEXAS AWARD \$250

Child of the Desert, Iliana Sosa, director

FIRST PLACE / EXPERIMENTAL \$1,000

Grounded, Kevin Margo & Barrett Meeker, directors

FIRST PLACE / ANIMATION \$1,000

Wiggle Room, Joe Schenkenberg, director

FIRST PLACE / NON-FICTION \$1,000

Pot Country, Kate McLean & Mario Furloni, directors

First Place Winners in the Fiction and Animation categories that meet Academy eligibility requirements qualify for consideration from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. For more information on Rules & Eligibility for the Academy Awards, please visit www.oscars.org/rules

THE STUDENT AWARD \$250

Nani, Justin Tipping, director

SPECIAL JURY AWARDS \$250 each

Spoiled Child, Christopher Jarvis, director
Lucky Ducks, Richard Miron, director
Antifaz, Pedro Bermudez, director

The 2012 National Jury included Yale University Professor of Cinema **Sandra Luckow**, actor/director **Karen Young** and writer/producer **Paul Marcarelli**.

This year marks the 42nd Anniversary of the Academy-qualified festival, which has awarded more than \$250,000 in cash prizes, including prizes to many (then) emerging filmmakers, including Jessica Yu (*Breathing Lessons: The Life and Work of Mark O'Brien*), Todd Haynes (*Superstar* and *Dottie Gets Spanked*), Alexander Payne (*The Passion of Martin*), George Hickenlooper (*Some Folks Call it a Sling Blade*), Alan Taylor (*The Burning Question*) and John Lasseter (*Tin Toy*). 2008 Oscar winner *West Bank Story* and 2010 nominee *Kavi* were qualified for Academy consideration at the USA Film Festival; 2010 USAFF winner *Ana's Playground* was shortlisted for Academy consideration in 2011.

OFFICIAL SPONSORS -- Sponsors of the 42nd Annual USA Film Festival include Dave Perry-Miller & Associates; Jones Day; Gaedeke Group; Community Coffee; AMC; Time Warner Cable; Dallas Film Commission; Texas Film Commission; Magnolia Pictures on Demand; HDNet; Weil, Gotshal & Manges; HBO; ViewPoint Bank; The Studios at Las Colinas; The Dallas Morning News; and Ticketmaster. The USA Film Festival is supported in part by the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

ABOUT THE USA FILM FESTIVAL -- The USA Film Festival is a 42-year-old Dallas-based 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to the recognition and promotion of excellence in the film and video arts. Year-round events include KidFilm; Dallas' only official Oscar Night America program; monthly screenings; special programs and premieres; and the USA Film Festival, held each spring. Throughout the year, the Festival presents a variety of membership, exhibition, educational, and cultural programs designed to bring together film enthusiasts and filmmakers for a "live cinema" experience.

-end-