

Gold Coast International Film Festival Announces the 2015 Young Filmmakers Program

Winning films will be screened in November 2015 during the 5th Anniversary of the Festival

Great Neck, NY (April 8, 2015) – Attention all young filmmakers (grades K-12)! Do you want your film to appear on the big screen in a movie theatre in front of a live film festival audience? This Fall, on our Fifth Anniversary, The 2015 Gold Coast International Film Festival Young Filmmakers Program will give you that chance! We will showcase the best in youth filmmaking from our region. There is no fee to submit your film. Here are the submission guidelines:

1. All films (incl. credits) must be no more than five (5) minutes in length and be PG in content.
2. When submitting your film, you will have to fill out the Young Filmmaker Submission Form, which requires such information as a SUMMARY of the film and the NAMES and AGES of the filmmakers and the schools they attend.
3. Films can be shot on any format (smart phone, video, digital video etc., but production values should be as high as possible, including sound and picture; video must be high resolution format, 1920x1080.
4. All films will be judged by a panel of filmmaking professionals that will include Directors, Screenwriters, Producers, Film Professors from Long Island University, Film Critics and/or Film Festival Programmers.

Judges will accept films of all genres including, but not limited to:

- Documentary
- Narrative (must tell a story or have some narrative structure)
- PSA or TV Commercial (maximum length – 2 minutes)
- Animation
- Music Videos (of original music only)

Films will be judged in 3 categories:

- (1) Students in grades K-6;
- (2) Students in grades 7-9 and
- (3) Students in grades 10-12. Multiple awards will be given.

Winners will be announced on the GCIFF website in mid-October. Awards Ceremony will be held during the 2015 Gold Coast International Film Festival, day and time TBD

When you are ready to submit your film:

- Visit www.goldcoastfilmfestival.org/submissions
- Fill out our Young Filmmaker Submission Form
- Follow the instructions for how to send us your film (uploading it to our FilmFreeway account, sending us a vimeo link, or delivering us a playable DVD, with sound)

The deadline for film submissions is October 1, 2015

Any questions? Contact gciffshorts@gmail.com or call 516-829-2570

ABOUT THE GOLD COAST INTL FILM FESTIVAL

Produced by the Gold Coast Arts Center, the festival has built a reputation for bringing the latest Hollywood hits and Indie favorites to the fabled Gold Coast of Long Island. Add A-list celebrities and unforgettable events to the mix and it's easy to see why GCIFF has become the "go to" Festival for film buffs in the area and beyond (it is also the last major film festival on the East Coast before Awards season).

The 2014 Festival included 25 feature length films and 35 shorts from around the world, and showcased over 40 filmmakers and special guests, including 4-time Oscar winner Catherine Martin who accepted our Artist of Distinction Award and screenwriter and director Marc Lawrence (Miss Congeniality) and award-winning actor Hugh Grant, both of whom participated in a Q&A after a pre-release screening of their new film *The Rewrite*. Among the other notables who attended: Len Berman from NBC Sports, David Paterson (Screenwriter, *Bridge to Terabithia*), Jim Serpico Lee Ielpi, Kristin Thorne of ABC 7, Tony Award-winning actors Phylicia Rashad and Ruben Santiago Hudson, and NY Times sportswriter Harvey Araton.

The year before, the Festival honored legendary actor, Paul Sorvino (*GoodFellas*, *Bulworth*, *The Cooler*) with a Lifetime Achievement Award during their Annual Benefit Gala. The Gala also honored Susie Essman, (co-star of HBO's *Curb Your Enthusiasm*) with the Artist of Distinction Award for Comedy. Melanie Lynskey (*2 ½ Men*, *Ever After*), Emmy Nominated Actor, Jason Ritter (*Parenthood*), Sean Young and Robert Clohessy were among others who attended the festivities.

GCIFF presents sensational events to SRO audiences year-round. Some other past highlights include: an exclusive pre-release screening of *The Great Gatsby* with Baz Luhrmann, plus screenings and events with notable filmmakers and artists Edward Burns, Brian Dennehy, Phil Donahue, Isabella Rossellini, Bill Plympton, Bruce Dern, Joan Allen, Gabriel Byrne, Celeste Holm, Eli Wallach, Robert Klein, Nelson DeMille, Francis Ford Coppola, Eli Wallach, Anne Jackson, Alan King and Kelli O'Hara to name a few.

Past and current Sponsors of the Festival included long-standing partners, the Town of North Hempstead; as well as Nassau County, Douglas Elliman Real Estate, AMC Networks, deluxe, A.L. Sarroff Fund, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP and J.M. Kaplan

Fund, as well as The Katz Center of North Shore –LIJ Health Systems, AAA, Samar Hospitality, The Andrew Hotel, LIU Post, The Amsterdam at Harborside, Parker Jewish Institute, LVR, Star Industries, DE Capital Mortgage, Whole Foods, Stella Artois, Limousines Worldwide, WLIW21, New York Women in Film & Television and many others.

For more information please visit www.goldcoastfilmfestival.org

About the Gold Coast Arts Center:

The Gold Coast Arts Center is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting and supporting the arts through education, exhibition, performance and outreach. For over 20 years we have brought the arts and arts in education experiences to tens of thousands of people throughout our region through our 1) School for the Arts, which offers year-round classes in all visual and performing arts to students of all ages and abilities, (2) Free public art gallery, (3) Concert and lecture series, (4) Outreach programs, which each year bring artist residencies, after-school programs, school assemblies, teacher training workshops and parent-child workshops to students, senior citizens, teachers and others in underserved communities throughout our region, (5) Year round film screening and discussion series and (6) Gold Coast International Film Festival, now in its 4th year. The Arts Center is an affiliate of the John F Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: Partners in Education Program and National Gallery of Art, both located in Washington DC.