

M A M A
Maine Alliance of Media Arts
The Maine Student Film & Video Festival
PO Box 4320 Portland, ME 04101-0520 , Phone 207/773-1130

PRESS RELEASE FOR 31st MAINE STUDENT FILM AND VIDEO FESTIVAL
Public Screening and Awards Presentation
July 12, 2008 at 12:30PM, Waterville Opera House, Waterville, ME

Important Points

- * **July 12, 12:30PM, Public Screening & Awards Presentation**
- * **Venue, Waterville Opera House, Waterville, ME**
- * **Screening is free and open to the public**
- * **Grand Prize Winner, *Tree Line*, Daniel Agostino, Freeport High School, Freeport**
- * **Reception for moviemakers and audience follows the screening**

The Public Screening and Awards Presentation of the 31st Maine Student Film and Video Festival will be held Saturday, July 12, 2008, 12:30PM--2:30PM at the Waterville Opera House, Waterville, ME. The screening is free and open to the public. The screening of finalist and winning movies is held in conjunction with the 11th Maine International Film Festival (www.miff.org). The Festival screening will be followed by a reception for the moviemakers.

MSFVF is open to Maine residents 19 years of age and younger. This year there were 28 movies entered from 14 schools and students working independently representing the work of over 100 students in grades K-12 from all parts of Maine. The movies submitted to the Festival are judged on the basis of originality, content, style, and technique. Movies are reviewed by categories: Pre-Teen Division, grades K - 6; Junior Division, grades 7 - 8; and Senior Division, grades 9 - 12.

This year's Grand Prize winning movie is **Tree Line** by Daniel Agostino. Agostino graduated from Freeport High School in June. His movie is a visual and lyrical look at loggers and the logging machinery used in harvesting trees. Filmed on location in Washington County, the movie contrasts the natural beauty of the woods with the almost dance like movements of the timber harvesting machine. Highly edited and layered with multiple colors and special effects the judges were impressed with the way Agostino took a mundane subject and turned it into art. The soundtrack of cello, guitar, and voice add a haunting quality to the piece. This is a very different film from past festival grand prize winners and the judges applaud Agostino for his bold step in creating this unique film. Agostino receives a \$2,500 Scholarship to attend the Young Filmmakers Program donated by Maine Media Workshops, Rockport, ME

The judges selected three other entries in the Senior Division as winners and 10

entries as finalists. The movies range from a mysterious imp causing merry mischief, a conflict between two boys that depends upon on torn shirt, a law student's harried first day of classes, and an entertaining clay animation set in an alien world.

The Junior division features 2 winners. One documentary with reenactments of daily life in the 1920s and a pseudo documentary on one of the largest producers of methane gas - cows.

The 31st Maine Student Film and Video Festival judges are:
Brian Daly, screenwriter, Portland
Hannah Weddle, past finalist MSFVF, and student, Tisch School of the Arts, NYU, Brunswick
Reg Groff, owner Groff Productions, Portland

The MSFVF's director is Huey, an independent filmmaker from Portland. Huey has been the Festival's director since 1978. His film *Wilderness and Spirit, A Mountain Called Katahdin*, has been shown throughout Maine and broadcast on Maine PBS.

The Maine Student Film and Video Festival is sponsored by the Maine Alliance of Media Arts. Prizes are donated by, Maine Media Workshops, Benchmark Multimedia, Railroad Square Cinema, and The Movies on Exchange St. MSFVF funding is provided by Films by Huey.

A list of finalists and winners of the 31st Maine Student Film and Video Festival is below

For more information and to set up interviews with students contact:

Huey

Maine Student Film & Video Festival

PO Box 4320 Portland, ME 04101-0520

Phone: 207/773-1130

E-Mail: huey@filmsbyhuey.com

Web site: www.msfvf.com

31st Annual Maine Student Film & Video Festival
Public Screening and Awards Presentation
July 12, 2008
Waterville Opera House, Waterville, ME
Held in conjunction with the 11th Maine International Film Festival

Junior Division (grades 7 & 8)

Winners

The Indigestible Truth, 5:00

Jesse Aronson, Katie Cooleen, Maurice Naim, Dan Plumer, Isaac Selleck
New England Film Academy, Young Filmmakers Movie Camp, South Portland

Everyday Life in the 1920s, 10:00

Greg Powell, Rachel Powell, Arden Jordan, Kurie Ovady
Gray-New Gloucester Middle School, New Gloucester

Senior Division (Grades 9 - 12)

Finalists

Rare Jewel Of Music, 3:00

Dylan Howard
Hancock County Technical Center, Ellsworth

End of Story, 4:30 (excerpt)

Sarah Brown
Mr.Ouillette's Class Oxford Hills Technical School, Norway

The Concert, 4:20 (excerpt)

Justin Gilmore
Mr.Ouillette's Class Oxford Hills Technical School, Norway

No Better Place, 6:40 (excerpt)

Nick Moody
Mr.Ouillette's Class Oxford Hills Technical School, Norway

Runaway Homework & Dolphin Love, 5:30 (excerpt)

Molly Pietroski
Mr.Ouillette's Class Oxford Hills Technical School, Norway

The Worm, 2:00

Crow DiBiase
Casco Bay High School, Portland

Barbatus, 40:00 (excerpt)

Sean Esten, George Murray, Sean Martin, David Knowland, Chelsea Towson, Kevin Mooney, Dylan Martin, Matt Farr
South Portland High School, South Portland

Speakerphone, 5:00 (excerpt)

Vano Kimmel
Waynflete High School, Portland

The Blind Zone: Nightmare at the Breakfast Nook, 16:00 (excerpt)

Jake Smith, Garrin Buto, Christian Roberts, Vano Kimmel, Alice Gauvin, Serena Adlerstein
Youth News and Entertainment Television, YNE-TV, Portland

Imaginary Mischief, 5:30

Mallory Martin
Mr.Ouillet's Class Oxford Hills Technical School, Oxford

Senior Division (Grades 9-12)

Winners

When We Collide 8:00

Jasper Lowe, Johnny Swisher
Brunswick High School, Brunswick

IG-O-TA, 4:30

Sean Martin
South Portland High School, South Portland

Murphy's Law School, 12:30

Luke Letellier
New England Film Academy, Teen Filmmakers Workshop, South Portland

Grand Prize Winner

Tree Line, 7:30

Daniel Agostino
Freeport High School, Freeport