The Edmonton International Film Festival (EIFF) Announces 2016 Jury & Audience Awards

It is our privilege to announce this year’s Jury and Audience Awards chosen from an outstanding 2016 EIFF programme. This year’s full festival line-up featured more than 150 films – short, documentary, dramatic and feature-length – curated from a record-breaking 3,000 submissions and hundreds of films solicited from distributors and other festivals.

For the first time in EIFF history, jurors were flown to the festival and spent many hours at Landmark Cinemas watching all of the films in competition. These jurors travelled to Edmonton from New York, California and Ontario – their comments throughout the judging process were unanimous: “A stellar line-up of filmmaking talent!” Note that feature films in competition for JURY AWARDS are WITHOUT distribution at the time of the festival.

Festival-goers also had a say in who won what in our AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARDS. Audiences cast ballots during EIFF for their favourite short and feature length films – with and without distribution.

Ladies and gentlemen. Here are your 2016 EIFF Award winning films and film talent…

FEATURE FILM AWARDS…

Best Documentary Feature
HEAVYWEIGHTPAINT
Director: Jeff Martini

Best International Feature (Drama)
MIDDLE MAN
Writer/Director: Ned Crowley

Best Canadian Feature (Drama)
DARK HARVEST
Director: James Hutson

Best Comedy Feature
MIDDLE MAN
Writer/Director: Ned Crowley
TWO of our ‘TRIBUTE’ AWARDS categories can go to EITHER a short or a feature film.

The Brian (Hendricks) Award For Innovation  
**FACE 2 FACE**  
Producer/Director: Matt Toronto

The Bobby (Riddell) Award for Excellence in Cinematography  
**LOST FACE**  
Director/Cinematographer: Sean Meehan

**SHORT FILM AWARDS**

Best Comedy Short  
**THE GOODNIGHT KISS**  
Director: Laura Adkin

Best Canadian Short Film  
**INGRID & THE BLACK HOLE**  
Director: Leah Johnston

Best International Short Film  
**OUT OF THE VILLAGE**  
Director: Jonathan Stein

Best Production Design  
**CURVE**  
Director: Tim Egan

The Allen (Cooke) Award for Outstanding Lunchbox Short!  
**COUP DE GRACE**  
Director: Pascal Glatz

**ALBERTA SHORT FILM AWARDS**

Best Alberta Short Film (Documentary)  
**CREE CODE TALKER**  
Director: Alexandra Lazarowich

Best Alberta Short Film (Live Action)  
**GODS ACRE**  
Director: Kelton Stepanowich

**RISING STAR AWARDS**

Rising Star (Actor)  
**KIMBERLY CASHNER**  
Film: **STRIPPED**

Rising Star (Director)  
**The AFFOLTER BROTHERS**  
Heath, Jon, Nathan & Thomas  
Film: **COUNTER ACT**

The next TWO winning short films qualify for the 90th Academy Awards (2017)

GRAND JURY AWARD for BEST SHORT FILM (Animation)  
**ALIKE**  
Director: Daniel Martinez Lara

GRAND JURY AWARD for BEST SHORT FILM (Live Action)  
**LOST FACE**  
Director: Sean Meehan
AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARDS...

Audience Choice Award for...
Dramatic Feature (with Distribution)
**I, DANIEL BLAKE**
Director/Writer: Ken Loach
*Distributor: Mongrel Media*

Audience Choice Award for...
Independent Dramatic Feature
**DARK HARVEST**
Director/Writer/Star: James Hutson

Audience Choice Award for...
Documentary Feature (with Distribution)
**OPERATION AVACHNCE**
Director: Matt Johnson
*Distributor: eOne Films*

Audience Choice Award for...
Independent Documentary Feature
**FORBIDDEN SHORE**
Director/Writer/Producer: Ron Chapman

Audience Choice Award for...
Documentary Short Film
**CREE CODE TALKER**
Director: Alexandra Lazarowich

Audience Choice Award for...
Dramatic Short Film
**STRIPPED**
Director/Writer/Producer: India Dupré