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MONTCLAIR FILM FESTIVAL

Embargoed for Release Until October 1, 2015

The Montclair Film Festival Emerging Filmmaker Competition Opens October 1

*Film submissions now being accepted in multiple creative
categories from students in Grades 4-12*

October 1, 2015, Montclair, NJ— The Montclair Film Festival (MFF) today announced that submissions are now open for the annual Emerging Filmmaker program (formerly *Kidz Shortz*). This competition is open to children from around the world interested in submitting short films in the Narrative, Documentary, Animation, and Experimental film categories. This year's program will also offer special Humanitarian Awards in all categories for young filmmakers who engage with social issues in their work.

Submissions will be accepted from October 1, 2015 until March 1, 2016, with the selections announced on March 17, 2016. Selected films will be screened at the 2016 Montclair Film Festival, April 29-May 8, 2016, with awards distributed and a special filmmaker party held during the MFF.

In order to encourage and support young filmmakers, the MFF will host free filmmaking workshops, including the inaugural *Emerging Filmmakers Competition 101* session to be held on Sunday, November 22, 2015 at The Montclair Public Library and *Music for Film and Television*, a workshop bringing music and film students together to learn about the art of film music, held on February 7, 2016, at The School of Rock in Montclair. These and future sessions are free and open to students and parents. The MFF is also able to work with schools and qualified community organizations for groups of 12 students or more who are interested in hosting a workshop.

"We are excited to work with young filmmakers and see their incredible creativity at work " said Montclair Film Festival Education Director Sue Hollenberg. "The Emerging Filmmaker Competition remains central to the MFF's commitment to the value and power of film education."

To submit a film, or to find more information including submission requirements and workshop registration, please visit
http://www.MontclairFilmFest.org/EFC_2016

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ABOUT THE MONTCLAIR FILM FESTIVAL

The Montclair Film Festival, Inc. (MFF), a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, nurtures and showcases the talents of filmmakers from around the region and world. MFF unites, empowers, educates and celebrates our region's diverse cultural heritage and robust artistic community by presenting an annual spring festival and a growing assortment of engaging programs and events all year long. The fifth annual spring festival will take place from April 29 through May 8, 2016. MFF 2016 is made possible through generous support from Investors Bank, Audible, Audi, HackensackUMC Mountainside, Chubb, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Horizon Foundation for New Jersey, and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, among others. For information about MFF, visit www.montclairfilmfest.org.

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