



For Immediate Release

**MONTCLAIR FILM ANNOUNCES STUDENT WINNERS  
FOR THE 2017 EMERGING FILMMAKER  
COMPETITION, Co-Presented by Partners For Health  
Foundation**

**2017 JUNIOR JURY MEMBERS SELECTED**

**SENSORY FRIENDLY SCREENINGS AND CLIMATE ART RECEPTION  
ANNOUNCED**

APRIL 6, 2017, MONTCLAIR, NJ - Today, Montclair Film announced the winners of the 2017 Emerging Filmmaker Competition (EFC), a program co-presented by Partners For Health Foundation that screens work by students in grades 4-12 from the Tri-State Area and beyond. This year, over 90 films were submitted in three categories: Cinemaniacs (grades 4-6), Storytellers (grades 7-9), and Visionaries (grades 10-12). Winning films were selected by a group of educators and industry professionals, and all winning films will be screened at the Montclair Film Festival's EFC Showcase on Saturday, April 29, at 11:00 a.m. at the Wellmont Theater in Montclair, NJ.

Montclair Film has also selected 15 students from across the area to participate in the Montclair Film Festival's Junior Jury. The jurors will review a selection of films, meet with industry professionals to learn about the process of jury deliberation, adjudicate, and select a winning film for the festival's Junior Jury Award, to be given on Saturday, May 6th, 2017.

The Montclair Film Festival, in conjunction with the Montclair Special Education Parents Advisory Council (SEPAC), will also be featuring two Sensory Friendly screenings for

# MONTCLAIR FILM+ EDUCATION

families this year. Sensory friendly screenings feature lowered sound, raised house lights, and the freedom for young people with sensory sensitivities to move, speak, and view films in a friendly, judgement-free environment. This year's screenings will be INTO THE WHO KNOWS!, screening Sunday, April 30 at 11:00 a.m. at the Clairidge (suggested for children ages 6 and up), and SWIM TEAM on Friday, May 5 at 4:30 p.m. at the Bellevue (suggested for ages 12 and up).

The Montclair Film Festival will also feature a public art reception on Saturday, May 6 at 2:00 p.m. at the Investors Bank Film & Media Center, showcasing a collaborative student Air/Water Art Installation, co-presented by the Montclair Cooperative School that focuses on this year's Community Climate Action Campaign. The piece, featuring thousands of re-purposed plastic bottles and mixed materials, will be on display throughout the Montclair Film Festival on the rear façade of the building, located at 505 Bloomfield Avenue. The reception is free and open to the public.

"As our Education programs continue to grow, we're incredibly proud of these students, both as filmmakers and film lovers," said Montclair Film Education Director Sue Hollenberg. "We remain dedicated to creating meaningful experiences for students of all ages, and the diversity and reach of these programs are a demonstration of our commitment to teaching the art of film. We congratulate all of our students on their outstanding work."

Tickets for the 2017 Montclair Film Festival go on sale to the general public on Friday, April 7 at 10:00 a.m. Tickets are available online at [montclairfilmfest.org](http://montclairfilmfest.org) or at the festival's new Box Office, located in the lobby of the Investors Bank Film & Media Center at 505 Bloomfield Avenue in downtown Montclair.



### THE 2017 JUNIOR JURY

Abby Berberian, Bridgewater Raritan High School  
Aidan Champeau, Montclair High School  
David Chun, Millburn  
Alison Cottingham, Montclair Kimberley Academy  
Tyrell Dickerson, Academy 360  
Soula Garcia, Bloomfield High School  
Hank Greenberg, Montclair High School  
Jackson Healey, Middletown High School South  
Kianni, Keys, Newark Academy  
Reymond Lamb, Montclair High School  
Noah Levine, Livingston High  
Daniel Mathis, Montclair High School  
Gabrielle Narcisse, Kent Place School  
Sophia Raines, West Orange High School  
Kayleen Silva, Ridgefield Park

### 2017 EMERGING FILMMAKER COMPETITION WINNERS

#### **Cinemaniacs (Grades 4-6)**

**Grand Prize Narrative**  
**GREAT AUNT'S DISGUISE**  
**Hanmer Elementary**  
Liv Hammer  
Cora Tinker  
Edie Carson



**Grand Prize Comedy**

**HOW TO MAKE A FILM FOR DUMMIES**

**The Pingry School**

Jordan Miller

Vared Shmuler

Jenna Hauser

Meher Khan

**Storytellers (Grades 7-9)**

**Grand Prize Comedy & Grand Prize Narrative**

**SOCK MONSTER**

**Middletown High School South**

Victoria Pater

Courtney Voehl

Olivia Parauda

Cassidy Anontucci

Milla Shinder

Erik Pedersen

**Special Jury Prize Comedy**

**BULLFROG**

**Union Catholic Regional High School**

Zachary Reichgut

**Grand Prize Experimental**

**IMPERCEPTIBLE**

**Montclair Kimberley Academy**

Luke Gardiner

**Grand Prize Documentary**

**PROJECT IDENTITY**

**South Orange Middle School**



Alex Ferrandiz  
Sam Cohen  
Lucia Garritano  
Robin Kalderen  
Ray Feinleib

**Visionaries  
(Grades 10-12)**

**Grand Prize Comedy**  
**TINY**  
**Middletown High School South**  
Matt King

**Special Jury Prize Comedy (tie)**  
**THE INDUBITABLE MOLLY DAVIS**  
**Montclair Kimberly Academy**  
Lily Jones

**Special Jury Prize Comedy (tie)**  
**PLANET OF THE DOGS**  
**Montclair High School**  
Owen Plofker

**Grand Prize Experimental**  
**1600**  
**Middletown High School South**  
Charlotte Larish  
Lisa Merola  
Maria Dragone  
Sage Levine

**Special Jury Prize Experimental**  
**THE SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS**  
**Columbia High School**  
Jacob Hirsch



**Grand Prize Narrative**

**PERSONAL SPACE**

**Montclair High School**

Lucia Ledesma

Aidan Champeau

Jake Weinberg

Lilli Herrick

Jacob Manthy

Petra Fox

Jake Diamond

**Special Jury Prize Narrative (tie)**

**BLACK & WHITE REVENGE**

**Montville Township High School**

David Champion

Jeff Gallup

Heather Giudice

Samantha Grossman

Alec Grossman

Jack Motherway

Paul Riccio

Veronica Tullo

**Special Jury Prize Narrative (Tie)**

**FIND**

**Morristown High School**

Kylee Strasser

**Grand Prize Documentary & Social Impact**

**XENOPHOBIA**

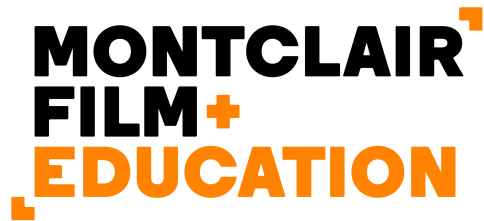
The Hudson School

Sean Riller-Miltner

**Special Jury Prize Documentary**

**LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT**

**Montclair High School**



Blythe Bahramipour

**Special Jury Prize Social Impact**  
**BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**  
Passaic County Technical Institute  
Tiffany Cano

**Special Jury Prize Social Impact**  
**THE HURDLE**  
Passaic County Technical Institute  
Tyrese Watkins

#### **ABOUT MONTCLAIR FILM**

Montclair Film, a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, nurtures and showcases the talents of filmmakers from around the region and world. Montclair Film unites, empowers, educates, and celebrates our region's diverse cultural heritage and robust artistic community by presenting engaging programs and events all year long. The sixth annual Montclair Film Festival will take place from April 28 through May 7, 2017. MFF 2017 is made possible through generous support from Investors Bank; Audible; Hackensack Meridian Health; the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey; Ashenfelter, Slous, McDonough, Golia & Trevenen, LLP; Chubb; Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage; and William H. Connolly & Co., and others. Our programs are made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism and New Jersey State Council on the Arts. For information about Montclair Film, visit [www.montclairfilmfest.org](http://www.montclairfilmfest.org)

**For more information, please contact**

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