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MEDIA ALERT

MONTCLAIR FILM ANNOUNCES 2018 MONTCLAIR FILM FESTIVAL EMERGING FILMMAKER COMPETITION & JUNIOR JURY PARTICIPANTS

APRIL 9, 2018, MONTCLAIR, NJ – Montclair Film today announced the full list of participants and films for the 2018 Montclair Film Festival’s Emerging Filmmaker Competition and Junior Jury programs.

The Emerging Filmmaker Competition, co-presented by Partners for Health Foundation and Gelotti, celebrates the work of filmmakers from our region in two filmmaking sections, Storytellers (Grades 6-8) and Visionaries (Grades 9-12). These films represent a wide range of styles and voices that showcase the diverse talents of young people who are using cinema to tell their stories. Categories include narrative, comedy, documentary, and experimental films. Awards will be given in each of these categories, as well as for films that make a social impact, and a new Partners for Health Foundation “Speak Out!” Award. The screening of the winning films takes place on Saturday, April 28 at MKA Upper School at 2:45 pm and tickets are on sale to the public, with all ages are welcome to celebrate these outstanding films. At the screening, Gelotti will provide EFC ticket holders with a coupon for one free junior size scoop of ice cream or Italian Ice.

This year’s judges are Evan Baily, Margaret Bodde, Evan Cutler, Amy Friedman, Mark Fitzmartin, JoAnn McCullough, and Nina Sloan. The full list of participating films and filmmakers is attached to this release.

The 2018 Junior Jury program announced participating student jurors. Jurors, selected from a pool of applicants in grades 10-12, will meet industry professionals and will learn how to analyze and adjudicate films. After deliberating and selecting the best film in its category, the jurors will present the Junior Jury Award as part of the Montclair Film Festival's Award Ceremony on Saturday, May 5.
This year's jurors are Nate Bauer (Montclair High School), Jonny Berkowitz (Millburn High School), Domenick Castellano (Morris Catholic High School), Trinity Caviness (Montclair High School), Jayla Creekmur (Kent Place School), Alex DeRosa (Millburn High School), Grace Domine (Bloomfield High School), Gabriel Finnell (Montclair High School), Anna Gustavsen (Montclair High School), Lily Jones (Montclair Kimberley Academy), Lucia Ledesma (Montclair High School), Alex Noble (Columbia High School), Olivia Rabin (Kent Place School), Alejandra Rodriguez (Passaic County Technical Institute), Truman Segal (West Orange High School).

Please contact Montclair Film Education Director Sue Hollenberg with questions at sue@montclairfilm.org

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 seventh annual Montclair Film Festival will take place from April 26 through May 6, 2018. Montclair Film’s year-round and festival programming is made possible through generous support from Investors Bank; Audible; Hackensack Meridian Health; the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey; Ashenfelter, Slous, Trembulak, McDonough, Golia & Trevenen, LLP; Chubb; Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage; William H. Connolly & Co.; The Nature Conservancy, and others. Our programs are made possible by funds from the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism, as well as the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For information about Montclair Film, visit www.montclairfilm.org

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2018 Emerging Filmmaker Competition

Storytellers: Grades 6 – 8

Grand Prize: Narrative
Max Myers
Buzz Aldrin Middle School
Consider This Question

Grand Prize: Documentary
Lucy Osterberg
Renaissance at Rand Middle School
The Women's March on Washington: One Year Later

Special Jury Prize: Documentary
Carli Platt
Millburn Middle School
In Plain Sight: A Hidden Child of the Holocaust

Grand Prize: Experimental
Jake Edelstein
Grover Cleveland Middle School
The Alone Experiment

Grand Prize: Social Impact
Matthew Abate
Buzz Aldrin Middle School
The Last American Breakfast
Visionaries: Grades 9 - 12

Grand Prize: Narrative (tie)
Aidan Romanaux, Ralph Ravix
Columbia High School
Choice

Grand Prize: Narrative (tie)
William Blackman, Owen Plofker, D joume Traore, Kayla Phillips, and Valentino Musumeci
Montclair High School
Do Not Disturb

Special Jury Prize: Narrative
Gabriel Soto
Passaic County Technical Institute
Impact

Grand Prize: Documentary
Ana Camila Gutierrez
Perth Amboy High School Main Campus
Dandelion

Special Jury Prize: Documentary (tie)
Alex Ferrandiz
Montclair Kimberley Academy
Nostalgia

Special Jury Prize: Documentary (tie)
Lindsay Fiorellini, Megan Mitchell
Passaic County Technical Institute
*A Place to Call Our Own*

**Grand Prize: Experimental**
Noah Levine, William Dobbs, Maggie Brill, Daniel Schwartz, Sydney Relihan, Jess Helfenstein
Livingston High School, Columbia High School, Horace Mann School, Dearborn High School, Benet Academy
*Quiet Time*

**Special Jury Prize: Experimental/Visual Design**
Grace Hillabrant
Kent Place School
*beLOW*

**Grand Prize: Social Impact**
Alex DeRosa
Millburn High School
*Unburned*

**Special Jury Prize: Social Impact**
Gabrielle Narcisse
Kent Place School
*Enough is Enough*

**Grand Prize: Animation**
Sophie Goodman - Merel
Columbia High School
*Super Convention*

**Special Jury Prize: Animation**
Ethan Halperin
Columbia High School
Cellular Life

Partners for Health Foundation “Speak Out!” Award
Erika Robertson
Passaic County Technical Institute
The Beauty Bias