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## FLICKERS ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF ITS 2019 SCREENPLAY COMPETITION

*The Rhode Island International Screenplay Competition received 543 submissions from throughout the United States and across the globe*

(PROVIDENCE, RI – October 29, 2019) • Daniel Talbott, Los Angeles, CA the **Best Screenplay Grand Prize Winner** for this year's **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) Screenplay Competition**. Daniel's winning screenplay is entitled "**Yosemite**."

George T. Marshall, RIFF Executive Director/CEO, made the announcement of the 2019 awards that featured **543 entries** in competition. From these, **42 scripts** were selected as finalists and **16 scripts** were selected **Winners** by an international team of adjudicators.

<http://www.film-festival.org/ScreenplayWinner19.php>

The "**Yosemite**" storyline: Three young siblings have been sent into the snow-silent woods in the Sierra Nevada foothills to bury a family secret. They search for a way to escape or be rescued from their lives as snow continues to fall and the world sinks in around them.

"Daniel Talbott's script is beautiful and tragic. Brimming with raw emotion, Daniel has created a work that is original, innovative, and hits us at our core" said **Shawn Quirk**, RIFF Program Director.

"What an amazing year for storytelling and our screenplay competition. This year's entries were inventive and re-defining. They were scored on criteria that included character, dialogue, setting, plot, structure and technique," added Quirk. "We reviewed the largest entry base in competition's history making for difficult decision-making on the part of our international group of judges.

"After extensive and careful deliberation, prize winners were chosen in seven distinct categories: Best Screenplay, Best International, Vortex Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Horror, Best LGBTQ, Spotlight on New England, Best Short Screenplay, Best Animation Screenplay, and Best Television Pilot," Quirk noted.

"Our sincere congratulations to this year's winners," stated George T. Marshall. "This competition continues to introduce us to some of the world's brightest and most talented writers in the craft."

## THE 2019 PRIZE WINNERS:

### **BEST SCREENPLAY**

#### **GRAND PRIZE:**

"Yosemite," By Daniel Talbott, Los Angeles, CA USA

#### **FIRST PLACE:**

"Urraca," By Eva Everett Irving, Toronto, Canada

### **INTERNATIONAL SCREENPLAY**

#### **GRAND PRIZE:**

"Blood and Ash" By Kenneth Sanabria, Alajuela, Costa Rica

#### **FIRST PRIZE:**

"Sleep No More" By Iman Davari, Iran

### **VORTEX HORROR/SCI-FI SCREENPLAY**

#### **GRAND PRIZE:**

"They Sound Human," By Bryan Ott, San Mateo, California, USA

#### **FIRST PRIZE:**

"Star Quest," By Natasha Markou, London, United Kingdom

### **JAMES L. SEAVOR LGBTQ SCREENPLAY**

#### **GRAND PRIZE:**

"Turquoise Boots," By Alexia Kosmider, Providence, RI, USA

#### **FIRST PRIZE:**

"The Girl in the Navy Blue Sweater," By Laura Carrione, Bloomfield, NJ, USA

### **RI SPOTLIGHT ON NEW ENGLAND**

#### **GRAND PRIZE:**

"Flying Bird's Diary," By Melissa Tantaquidgeon Zobel, Mystic, CT, USA

#### **FIRST PRIZE:**

"The Gods of Newport," By James Walsh, Westerly, RI, USA

### **BEST TELEVISION PILOT SCRIPT**

#### **GRAND PRIZE:**

"Heal" By Dave Tolchinsky, Evanston, IL, USA

#### **FIRST PRIZE:**

"The Paisley Witch Trial (Pilot)" By Julia Campanelli, USA

### **BEST SHORT SCRIPT**

#### **GRAND PRIZE:**

"Cut," By Emily Hason, New York, NY, USA

#### **FIRST PRIZE:**

"Ache" By LeLe Park, Chicago, IL, USA

### **BEST ANIMATION SCRIPT**

#### **GRAND PRIZE:**

"Las Nogas" By Catya Plate, Brooklyn, NY, USA

**FIRST PRIZE:**

"Inclusion" By Poe Luck, Poland

Prizes awarded to the winners of the screenplay competition (which vary with the specific screenplay category) include: 1 Script Listing and 1 Magazine Listing from **InkTip**; Final Draft software featuring **Final Draft Screenwriting Suites**; and Passes to the **2020 Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival** and the **ScriptBiz™ Screenwriter's Workshop**.

The Best Screenplay Grand Prize winner will be brought to Providence to attend the **2020 ScriptBiz program**, where their screenplay will be a central focus of the program, plus receive a private script consultation and an official award on RIFF's Opening Night Celebration on the stage of the 1,900-seat Vets located at One Avenue of the Arts, Providence. Lodging and transportation will also be provided.

**ABOUT THE RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:**

The **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)**, has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is a qualifying festival for the Live Action, Animation and Documentary Short Film Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) and the Canadian Screen Awards. There are only 10 film festivals worldwide that share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. The Festival takes place every August.

For more information about the **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival**, running **August 4-9, 2020** at **The Vets**, please visit our website at **[www.RIFilmFest.org](http://www.RIFilmFest.org)** or call **401.861.4445**.

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