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Full Frame Documentary Film Festival Announces 2016 Award Winners

***Select award winners will be rescreened Sunday evening;
Screening times and venues are available at fullframefest.org***

Durham, N.C. – *April 10, 2016* – The 2016 Full Frame Documentary Film Festival Award Winners were announced this afternoon at the festival’s annual Awards Barbecue.

One of the nation’s premier documentary film festivals, Full Frame is celebrating its 19th annual festival. Full Frame is a qualifying event for consideration for nominations for both the Academy Award® for Best Documentary Short Subject and The Producers Guild of America Awards. The 20th annual Full Frame Documentary Film Festival will take place April 6-9, 2017.

2016 Full Frame Documentary Film Festival Award Winners

The Reva and David Logan Grand Jury Award *Sponsored by The Reva and David Logan Foundation*

The Reva and David Logan Grand Jury Award was presented to ***Starless Dreams***, directed by Mehrdad Oskouei. With rawness and candor, young women in an Iranian juvenile detention center reflect on the crimes they have committed and the harsh circumstances that have shaped them.

The Jury, Rachel Boynton, Margaret Brown, and Ricki Stern stated, “We are presenting the Grand Jury Award to a film that took us into a world we are not normally privileged to see. Through this deceptively simple look inside a juvenile correctional facility for girls under the age of 18, we were given a window into modern Iranian society. Beautifully crafted with tenderness and enormous respect for the people in it, this film left us with a bracing emotional punch.”

In addition, a Special Jury Mention goes to ***Gleason***, directed by Clay Tweel. Within weeks of being diagnosed with ALS, former NFL defensive back Steve Gleason finds out that he and his wife are expecting their first child. *Gleason* follows his decision to live, for his family and others fighting the disease. The Jury said, “We wanted to give a special mention to a film that was fearlessly intimate. It is both a beautiful story about fathers and sons, and a moving portrait of a man and his resilient partner who together courageously confront the challenges of living with ALS.”

Full Frame Jury Award for Best Short

Provided by Drs. Andrew and Barbra Rothschild

The Full Frame Jury Award for Best Short was given to ***Clínica de Migrantes: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness***, directed by Maxim Pozdorovkin. This moving short focuses on the work of a volunteer-run clinic that provides medical services to the uninsured Latino community of South Philadelphia.

The Jury, Amy Foote, Davina Pardo, and Chad A. Stevens, stated, “With extraordinary access and moving vérité footage, *Clínica de Migrantes* tells the powerful story of what happens when undocumented immigrants are denied basic human rights. The film takes us on an emotional journey with the staff and patients at a volunteer-run clinic where undocumented immigrants receive medical care, and addresses a critical issue in a way that is so human and real that we unanimously agreed it must be awarded this year’s Best Short Award.”

Full Frame Audience Award – Feature

Sponsored by BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina

Life, Animated, directed by Roger Ross Williams, received the Full Frame Audience Award Feature. The family of an autistic boy discovered a way to communicate with him through his treasured Disney films, transforming lines of animated characters into a language of love.

Full Frame Audience Award – Short

Sponsored by the Asheville Field Office – Bob Allen Family Foundation

The Full Frame Audience Award Short was given to ***Pickle***, directed by Amy Nicholson. At once hilarious and heartfelt, *Pickle* chronicles a series of pets with bizarre afflictions through the recollections of a couple who loved them regardless.

Center for Documentary Studies Filmmaker Award

Provided by the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University

The Center for Documentary Studies Filmmaker Award was presented to ***Sonita***, directed by Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami. As her family attempts to sell her as a bride, an Afghani refugee living in Iran fights to keep her dream of becoming a rap star alive. Representatives from the Center for Documentary Studies juried the prize: Kamal Badhey, Randy Benson, Wesley Hogan, Katie Hyde, Lynn McKnight, Dan Partridge, Elena Rue, and April Walton.

Charles E. Guggenheim Emerging Artist Award

Provided by the Charles E. Guggenheim Family

Call Me Marianna, directed by Karolina Bielawska, received the Charles E. Guggenheim Emerging Artist Award. As she embarks on a quest to become herself, Polish transgender woman Marianna must summon inner strength and make immeasurable sacrifices. Provided by the Charles E. Guggenheim family, this prize honors a first-time documentary feature director. Sabrina Schmidt Gordon, Melinda Shopsin, and David Teague participated on the Jury.

Full Frame Inspiration Award

Sponsored by the Hartley Film Foundation

The Full Frame Inspiration Award was awarded to ***Starless Dreams***, directed by Mehrdad Oskouei. With rawness and candor, young women in an Iranian juvenile detention center reflect on the crimes they have committed and the harsh circumstances that have shaped them. Sarah Masters, Michael Palmieri, and Malika Zouhali-Worrall participated on the Jury. This award is presented to the film that best exemplifies the value and relevance of world religions and spirituality.

Full Frame President's Award

Sponsored by Duke University

The Mute's House, directed by Tamar Kay, received the Full Frame President's Award. The film provides an intimate look into the lives of energetic eight-year-old Yousef and his deaf mother, Sahar, the last Palestinian residents of a deserted apartment building in Hebron. Representatives on behalf of the President's Office of Duke University juried the prize, awarded to the best student film.

Kathleen Bryan Edwards Award for Human Rights

Sponsored by the Julian Price Family Foundation in memory of Melanie Taylor

The Kathleen Bryan Edwards Award for Human Rights was awarded to ***Kiki***, directed by Sara Jordenö. This entrance into the world of voguing contrasts the energy and pulse of ball culture with the intimate and emotional stories of a group

of young LGBTQ people of color. Provided by the Julian Price Family Foundation, this award is presented to a film that addresses a significant human rights issue in the United States. Representatives from the Kathleen Bryan Edwards family juried the prize: Anne Arwood, Laura Edwards, Clay Farland, Margaret Griffin, and Pricey Harrison.

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About Full Frame

[The Full Frame Documentary Film Festival](#) is an annual international event dedicated to the theatrical exhibition of nonfiction cinema. Each spring, Full Frame welcomes filmmakers and film lovers from around the world to historic downtown Durham, N.C., for a four-day, morning-to-midnight array of nearly 100 films, as well as discussions, panels, and Southern hospitality. Set within a few city blocks, the intimate festival landscape fosters community and conversation among filmmakers, film professionals, and the general public. The 2015 Full Frame Documentary Film Festival yielded \$2,230,000 for Durham's local economy, and had a local tax impact of \$92,200. Full Frame also promotes the festival's mission throughout the year by presenting documentary work in the Full Frame Theater and other venues both locally and nationally.

The Festival is a program of the [Center for Documentary Studies](#), a nonprofit 501(c)3, and receives support from corporate sponsors, private foundations, and individual donors whose generosity provides the foundation that makes the event possible. To learn more about the mission of Full Frame, scheduled films, festival tickets, or how to support Full Frame, visit www.fullframefest.org.