

News Release

IB Film Festival Highlights Student Productions Showcasing 11th and 12th Grade Award-Winning Films

Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. May 31, 2016—Dobbs Ferry High School’s annual International Baccalaureate (IB) Film Festival will be held on Wednesday, June 1st at 7:00 pm in the High School Auditorium. This special evening, which is open to the community, features more than a dozen short films by budding filmmakers in the two-year IB elective course. The film festival was started in 2010 and has become an annual cinema event.

The films encompass multiple genres including documentary, comedy, drama, science fiction and action/adventure. There are approximately 37 students in IB Film 11. Their films run 3-4 minutes in length. IB Film 12 has 28 students in the class and those final films are 7 minutes long.

IB Film year one and two is a course sequence within the High School’s Business, Film and Communications curriculum and satisfies a requirement for an IB Diploma. In the first year, students make short movies and study film history and film analysis. Students take on the roles of writer, director, cinematographer and editor in the production of their original films. In the second year 12th grade IB Film class, students make their final films for IB assessment, continue to practice film analysis and do an in-depth study of movies from another culture.

Most recently, both 11th and 12th grade IB Film students saw their productions on the big screen as part of the 2016 New York 10 Day Film Challenge. The Challenge assigns students a character, genre and a prop which they then have ten classes to refine into a film. Four Dobbs Ferry High School films were among the 30 chosen from a pool of 86 applicants. The films were well received by both audiences and judges, particularly "Eleven and a Half" which won the prize for Best Cinematography and Best Technical Merit. It was also ranked as the fifth best overall film and received nominations for both sound and editing. Oracle was also recognized as the 8th best overall film and was nominated for Artistic Merit. In addition, Surveillance was nominated for Best Use of Character.

“We’re so proud to be able to share with the public the creative work of students in the IB Film classes,” said 12th grade IB Film teacher Andrew Fischbeck. “This is a challenging academic course and my film students have come a long way through hard work and determination and it clearly shows in the films they have produced.”

Mr. Fischbeck’s students will screen the following films:

- *To Focus* by Miles Bettinelli, Jack Cattabiani and Lucas Saur. Winner of Best Drama at the Henderick Hudson Film Festival and 2nd place winner of the Future Filmmakers Competition.
- *Don’t Miss the Train* by Michael Grant, Ryan Katz and Gabriel Lane

- *Hoods* by Matthew Amendola, Vinay Nair and Alexa Nyemchek
- *Deus Ex Machine* by Hudson Kendall and Giovanni Prendi. Nominated for best comedy at the Henderick Hudson Film Festival.
- *Commemoration* by Jeremy Segall
- *Vendetta* by Alison Fry, Federico Pollevick and Natalie Quintero
- *The Courier* by Nick Saraceni
- *Confident on Paper* by Theodore Annunziato, Michael Archer, Jacob Eisner, and Gabriel Wiersma
- *Bus Stop* by Kiera Allen, Kaila Basile, and Jaime Rockafellow
- *Eleven and a Half* by Miles Bettinelli, Jack Cattabiani and Lucas Saur. Theodore Annunziato, Michael Archer, Jacob Eisner, and Gabriel Wiersma - Winner of Best Cinematography and Best Technical Merit as well as 5th Best Overall Film in the 10 Day Film Challenge.
- *Oracle* by Gabriel Lane, Ryan Katz, Vinay Nair, Alexa Nyemchek and Giovanni Prendi - Winner of 8th Best Overall Film in the 10 Day Film Challenge

“Most students come into the IB Film course with little or no background in this field, but they learn the process of writing, shooting and editing,” said 11th grade IB Film teacher Tom Falconetti. “This gives them a foundation for next year when they fine tune their skills in lighting, cinematography, editing and other production techniques.”

Mr. Falconetti’s students will screen the following films:

Conformity- Buddy Film

Hannah Brown
 Eliza Fry
 Benjamin Greengrass
 Samantha Rachmil
 Alexandra Rossillo
 Molly Selin
 Calvin Sheely
 Frankie Staluppi
 Dylan Williams

Subterra- Dystopian

Matthew Ellis
 Ray Flaks
 Enrique Garcia
 Dale Hasbrouck
 Jamie Honigman
 Mio Ito
 Erika Laino
 Bernard McGoey
 Stephanie Medina
 Ivan Sarbinov
 Isamu Sherman
 Michael Vasquez

Surveillance- Science Fiction

Christopher Agostino
Max Baumann
Benjamin Chuang
Andrew Holzman
Christopher Imbrogno
Michael Kaufmann
Julian Raderman
Franco Rivera
Tyreese Shortt

Hell and Back- Greek Myth

Glory Akoh
Jessie Anker
Tenia Braithwaite
Noel Campbell
Blake Hord
Yasmine Myftija
Shannon O'Halloran

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