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HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT
COMPETITION

February 22nd
3:00-6:00 pm

The first ever DC Independent Film Festival High School Student Competition

Located at **GALA** Hispanic Theatre in Columbia Heights

3333 14th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20010

\$5 at the door. No advanced ticketing

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GALA Hispanic Theatre

THE FILMS AND FILMMAKERS

Bongo: Directed by Evan Sennett

USA / 5mins / Fiction

I am a junior at the Youth Performing Arts School in Louisville Kentucky. I began making films in the third grade and have since appeared in over twenty film festivals. "Bongo" was filmed over the summer of 2013 at the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts. I suppose the "funnest" part of filmmaking is consistently the "dreaming" part. The part where the concept is born and is filled with possibilities. The most difficult and draining part of making any film is the pre-production. After the script is complete, logistics is always a problem. I have had many inspirations, but the filmmaker that sent my view of movies to the next level was Stanley Kubrick.

Existence: Directed by Patrick Y. Lee

Canada / 20mins / Fiction

I am a sixteen-year-old Canadian student filmmaker. At the age of twelve, I became fascinated with cinema and have since directed eight films. In 2012, I wrote and directed a 20-minute psychological drama, Existence, which won a Gold Key from the Alliance of Young Artists and Writers for its captivating screenplay. My most recent film, The Winter March, won the Historica-Dominion Institute's national Heritage Minutes contest.

Impressions: Directed by Nicholas Judt

USA / 7mins / Experimental

I am a 16-year-old writer and filmmaker who lives in New York City. I began making films in 2011, and dabbled in documentary, fictional, and experimental formats. I had the idea for my short film "Impressions" in 2013, and worked closely with a few actors and a composer to make our vision a reality.

Inside The Ring: Produced by Darian Henry, Imani Peterkin, Freddie Boehrer and Richard Opaku

USA / 8mins / Documentary

Not Quite Finished: Directed by Evan Bovie and Nick Callais

USA / 22mins / Fiction

My name is Nick Callais, I am a senior at Manheim township high school in Lancaster Pennsylvania. I plan on attending film school after graduation and furthering my passion for film making. "Not Quite Finished" my debut short film was written produced, and co-directed by myself, I also played the main character.

Paradigm: Directed by Stephen Boyer

USA / 5mins / Fiction

I have grown up in Los Angeles, California and have been telling stories with films since I was six years old. I have won numerous film festivals around the country and am currently developing two web series.

Rokt Lax: Directed by Lukas Dong

USA / 6mins / Documentary

I have been producing short films since age ten, and after years of learning and experimenting I found a strong pull towards visual story telling through unique camera angles and perspectives. One of the funnest parts of filming this documentary was shooting from the perspective of the salmon farm; I was trying to maneuver with all my gear and it was an incredible challenge not to fall in with the fish. The most difficult part of making "Rokt Lax" was deciding what I wanted it to be. I set off with the idea of a short portrait of the farmer, but it turned into a little more than I expected. I had to find a comfortable place in between my original short portrait and a more developed documentary. If I had the chance to work with any filmmaker I would choose Philip Bloom. Bloom uses unique visuals to drive his films, and he has been, and continues to be, such a big inspiration for my work.

The Farm: Malone Lumarda

USA / 9mins / Fiction

For me, the best part of making "The Farm" was how great the snow and ice looked in the final film. Ironically, the most difficult aspect of making the film was working out in the snow. It was very cold without a jacket, but it was definitely worth it to help the viewer really experience the frigid cold of winter. If I could work with any filmmaker in the world it would probably be Christopher Nolan. I love his movies, especially Memento, Inception, and The Prestige due to their psychological depth.

Why Not?: Directed by Mariah Hall

USA / 4mins / Fiction

My name is Mariah Hall, I'm a sophomore in Wichita, Kansas, I've been wanting to have a life in film since I was in fifth grade, and working hard at it ever since! Our film was actually made in one day for a 24 hour film competition! Nothing is more thrilling than working with people to make a film in such a stressful setting! My team and I had a blast, and it's been fun seeing how well it's actually done! The people I'm pretty sure I would die if I had the opportunity to work with include only the greats: Stanley Kubrick, Quentin Tarantino, the Coen Brothers, and Martin Scorsese. I hope you all enjoy my film, it's made only with pure adrenaline and teamwork.

THE JUDGES

Miriam Kruishoop

Miriam Kruishoop, is an award-winning writer/director born in the Netherlands. She graduated with honors from the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam where she wrote and directed her first feature film *Vive Elle* as a student. Miriam is the youngest female to have directed a feature film in the Netherlands, and is also the youngest Netherlands Film Festival Gouden Kalf nominee for Best Director.

Elias Savada

New York-born and Bethesda-based Elias Savada writes for Filmthreat.com, co-wrote a biography on film director Tod Browning, researched movies for The American Film Institute, and probably watched over 300 films last year. He operates the Motion Picture Information Service, providing copyright research reports to many different clients (directors, producers, archives, etc.).

Rob York

Rob York is a member of the Director's Guild of America, has worked as a Producer, Line Producer, Production Manager, and Assistant Director on more than 20 features, as well as industrials, commercials, and television shows. He helped co-ordinate the first Scenarios USA film in New York City in 1999 and joined the staff full time in 2008. Founded in 1999, Scenarios USA is a national non-profit organization that uses writing and film to foster youth leadership, advocacy and self-expression in students across the country, with a focus on marginalized communities.

HOW TO GET HERE

METRO:

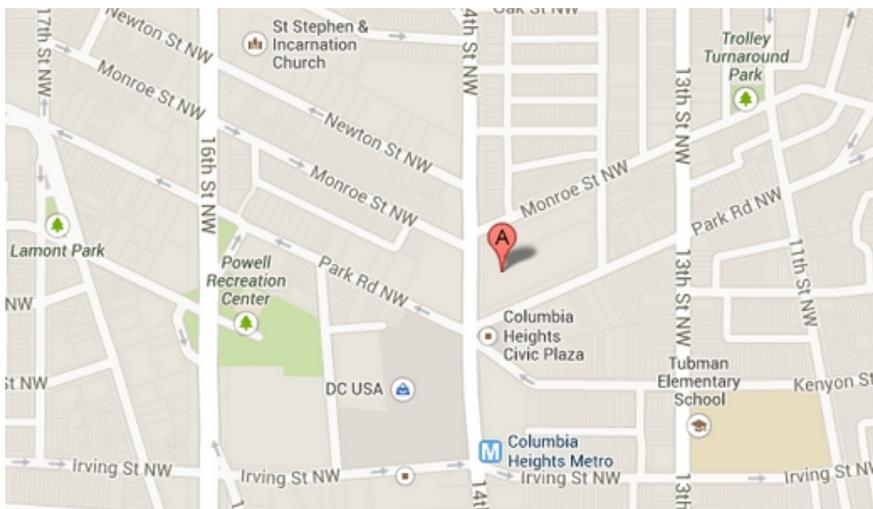
GALA Hispanic Theatre is on 14th Street, one block north of the Columbia Heights Metro Station on the Green line.

DRIVING:

From downtown Washington, DC: Go north on 14th Street, NW. After crossing Irving Street (where the Columbia Heights Metro station is located) continue one block north and either turn right on Park Road to access the Giant Parking Garage or continue straight to drop off passengers at the entrance at 3333 14th Street, NW.

From points North, heading South on 295/Route 50/New York Avenue: Take 295 South to Route 50/New York Avenue. From New York Avenue/Route 50 South, turn right on Florida Avenue. Continue straight on Florida which will turn into U Street. Turn right on 14th Street, NW and continue north. After crossing Irving Street (where the Columbia Heights Metro station is located) continue one block north and either turn right on Park Road to access the Giant Parking Garage or continue straight to drop off passengers at the entrance at 3333 14th Street, NW.

From points South, heading North on 395: From 395 cross over the 14th Street Bridge to enter Washington, DC. Continue north on 14th Street for approximately 3.6 miles. After crossing Irving Street (where the Columbia Heights Metro station is located) continue one block north and either turn right on Park Road to access the Giant Parking Garage or continue straight to drop off passengers at the entrance at 3333 14th Street, NW.



Thanks from the DCIFF High School Student Competition team:

Rachel Ederer / High School Competition Coordinator

Emily Hall / High School Competition Coordinator