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## **AFI CONSERVATORY FILM — DAY ONE — WINS THE 2015 BAFTA U.S. STUDENT FILM AWARD**

### **ANOTHER HONOR IN AN AFI CONSERVATORY WINNING STREAK**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — JUNE 26, 2015**, Los Angeles, CA — The AFI Conservatory thesis short film *DAY ONE* directed by Henry Hughes (AFI Class of 2014) won the BAFTA U.S. Student Film Award at the 12<sup>th</sup> annual BAFTA U.S. Student Film Awards. The film was one of eight finalists selected from submissions by 89 film schools from around the country.

*DAY ONE* is the story of a U.S. Army interpreter who is forced to deliver the child of an enemy bomb-maker on her first day in Afghanistan. The short film's credits include AFI Class of 2014 alumni: director/writer Henry Hughes, producer Michael Steiner, cinematographer Kee Sun Kyung, editor Anisha Acharya and production designer Benjamin Cox. The film also earned director Hughes and producer Steiner the Directing award and the Drama award respectively at the 36<sup>th</sup> College Television Awards in April.

The BAFTA U.S. Student Film Awards serve to identify and celebrate the best creative works produced by American and international students studying in the United States. This year, the BAFTA U.S. Student Film Awards was a national competition.

Last night's win is yet another student honor presented this year to AFI Conservatory's recent graduates for their thesis film work including the 2015 Cannes Film Festival's Cinéfondation First Prize and the Emerging Filmmaker Showcase Honorable Mention; five wins at the 36<sup>th</sup> College Television Awards; two wins at the 2015 DGA Student Film Awards and a bronze medal at the 2014 Student Academy Awards®.

### **About the AFI Conservatory**

AFI Fellows make four to ten films during their training. Graduates of the Conservatory are part of an elite group of 4,844 alumni who report that about 81% are working. Artists from the Conservatory have received a total of 133 Academy Award® nominations and 27 wins. Throughout the 2014-2015 academic year to date, AFI alumni have been nominated for 202 awards by 38 major guilds, academies and other professional associations — with 72 award wins.

The AFI Conservatory offers a two-year Master of Fine Arts degree in six filmmaking disciplines: Cinematography, Directing, Editing, Producing, Production Design and Screenwriting. Aspiring artists learn from the masters in a collaborative, hands-on production environment with an emphasis on storytelling. AFI Conservatory's alumni have been consistently recognized with all of the major industry awards — Academy Awards®, Emmy Awards®, guild awards — as well as the Tony Awards®. Esteemed director, producer and screenwriter James L. Brooks serves as Artistic Director of the AFI Conservatory where he provides creative leadership for the elite film program. Proud supporter of the AFI Conservatory is American Airlines, the official airline of AFI.

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