



NEWS

RELEASE

**AFI CONSERVATORY FELLOWS HAVE BLUE-RIBBON WEEK
WITH KEY ART AWARD WINS
AND A STUDENT ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION**

LOS ANGELES, CA, May 7, 2004—The American Film Institute is pleased to congratulate four AFI Conservatory Fellows on an outstanding week: yesterday, May 6, 2004, AFI thesis project HOPE TO DIE was nominated for a prestigious Student Academy Award. Last Friday, April 30, 2004, two Fellows were also winners at the third annual Key Art Student Competition, part of the Hollywood Reporter Key Art Awards.

Since 1972, the Student Academy Awards have acknowledged excellence in up-and-coming filmmakers. AFI Fellow, director Eva Husson (who also co-wrote HOPE TO DIE), has been nominated as a competition finalist. The film, which was produced by a team of other exceptional AFI Conservatory Fellows, including cinematographer Tiffany Toby, editor Kristin Webber and co-screenwriter Josh Herman, will compete against nine other films in the narrative category, during a ceremony at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' Samuel Goldwyn Theatre on June 13, 2004.

The Key Art Awards, which laud excellence in marketing and advertising in film, were held at the Kodak Theatre at Hollywood & Highland. AFI Fellows Andrea Trillo, who won first place with her student trailer for THE HOURS, entitled "A Woman's Whole Life," and Sarah Broshar, who won third place for her CHICAGO student trailer, "Road to Stardom," triumphed over heavy competition. This year, entries for both the trailer and poster categories received submissions from over 30 schools and 390 students. The Key Art student trailer nominations also included a third AFI Fellow, Shilpa Sahi, bringing a total of three nominations to a category with only six final competitors.

Phillip Linson, Vice Dean of Production and Post Production at the AFI Conservatory and Director of AFI's Sony Video Center, commented, "In a three year-old competition, this is the third time in a row that American Film Institute Fellows have merited both first and third prizes at the Student Key Art Awards. We are delighted and proud that AFI editors have once again received acclaim for their outstanding work."

About the AFI Conservatory:

The AFI Conservatory is an accredited Master of Fine Arts program that trains aspiring filmmakers in six disciplines: Cinematography, Directing, Editing, Producing, Production Design and Screenwriting. Emerging artists learn by working with experienced masters in cinema, television and the digital arts, in an environment that mimics the creative process and demands of the real world of filmmaking and television. Faculty members serve as mentors to Conservatory Fellows as they master their chosen disciplines and oversee the direction and production of the Second Year Fellows' thesis films.

About AFI:

AFI is the preeminent organization dedicated to advancing and preserving the art of film, television and other forms of the moving image. AFI trains the next generation of filmmakers at its world renowned Conservatory, provides film preservation leadership and explores new digital technologies in moviemaking. AFI's New Media Ventures programs bring together the creative and digital communities, as the department seeks to develop a literacy program for the 21st century, helping young people learn to read and write screens of all sizes—cinema, television, computer and the Internet. With AFI ON SCREEN, the institute is the largest nonprofit exhibitor in the US, with programs at the AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival (AFI FEST); the AFI National Film Theater at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC; and the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in Silver Spring, Maryland. A 49,000 square foot complex with three theatres —one historic, two new state-of-the-art stadium-style theatres—the AFI Silver exhibits film and video generally unavailable elsewhere in the region. AFI's annual almanac for the 21st century, AFI AWARDS, honors the most outstanding motion pictures and television programs of the year. AFI's 100 Years . . . 100 Movies, 100 Stars, 100 Laughs, 100 Thrills, 100 Passions and 100 Heroes & Villains have ignited extraordinary public interest in classic American movies. During the past 31 years, AFI's Life Achievement Award has become the highest honor for a career in film. More information about AFI can be found by visiting its Web site, located at www.AFI.com.

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