



**THE URBANWORLD® FILM FESTIVAL
PRESENTED BY BET NETWORKS WITH FOUNDING SPONSOR HBO
ANNOUNCES 2015 FESTIVAL WINNERS**

NEW YORK, NY (September 27, 2015) – The 19th Annual Urbanworld® Film Festival (urbanworld.org), presented by BET Networks with founding sponsor HBO, announced the awards for the screenplay, documentary, feature, narrative short, narrative feature (U.S. and World) and audience categories today. The nation's largest competitive multicultural film festival screened 80 films and concluded its five day festival with an awards brunch hosted by actor **Gbenga Akinnagbe** (*The Wire*, *The Following*) and lifestyle expert **Tai Beauchamp** at Tribeca Grill Loft in New York's Tribeca area.

"This year's slate of winners continues to exemplify the increasing diversity of storytellers with fresh voices and cultural relevance," said **Gabrielle Glore, Festival Director, Urbanworld® Film Festival**. "As we celebrate our winners, honorable mention selections and overall slate of filmmakers, it's gratifying to know that we have contributed to their journey."

The 19th Annual Urbanworld® Film Festival winners are:

Best Screenplay - *Y Los Hipsters Que* - Written by Yohanna Baez

<http://urbanworld.org/screenplay-finalists>

(Presented by BET Networks - \$5,000 Prize)

The Jury:

Melissa Breaux, Talent Manager, Washington Square Films

Zola Mashariki, EVP & Head of Original Programming, BET Networks

Jeremy Pikser, VP, Writers Guild of America East / Award-Winning Writer

Best Feature Documentary – *We Like It Like That - The Story of Latin Boogaloo* - Directed by Mathew Ramirez Warren

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(Presented by HBO - \$5,000 Prize)

Honorable Mention - *Looking at the Stars* - Directed by Alexandre Peralta

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The Jury:

Nicolas Entel, Director/Producer

Jacqueline Glover, SVP, HBO Documentary Films, HBO

Laurens Grant, Award-Winning Documentary Filmmaker

Geraldine Moriba, Award-Winning Executive Producer

Best Narrative Short - *Standing8* - Directed by Michael Molina Minard

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(Presented by Time Warner - \$5,000 Prize)

Honorable Mention - *Stanhope* - Directed by Solvan Naim

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The Jury:

Kelly Edwards, VP, Talent Development, HBO

Maurice Marable, Filmmaker

Tamir Muhammad, Director, Content & Artist Development, Time Warner Inc.

Diane Paragas, Director, Writer & Producer

Ric Whitney, VP, Content Marketing, Fullscreen

Best Narrative Feature (U.S. Cinema) - *Pocha* - Directed by Michael Dwyer

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(Presented by Fox Audience Strategy - \$5,000 Prize)

Honorable Mention - Notable Performance - Ryan Destiny - *A Girl Like Grace*

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The Jury:

Dori Begley, SVP, Acquisitions, Magnolia Pictures

Ryan Jones, Creative Executive, 20th Century Fox

Tilane Jones, Executive Director, ARRAY

Charles D. King, Founder & CEO, MACRO

James F. Lopez, Head of Motion Pictures, Will Packer Productions

Best Narrative Feature (World Cinema) - *Carmin Tropical* - Directed by Rigoberto Perez Cano (Mexico)

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The Jury:

Jules Claassen, Development Executive, Amazon Studios

Nijja Kuykendall, VP, Production, Warner Bros.

Funa Maduka, Acquisition Executive, Netflix, Inc.

Stacy Spikes, Co-Founder & CEO, MoviePass

Frida Torresblanco, Award-Winning Filmmaker

Audience Awards

Best Feature - *Somewhere In the Middle* - Directed by Lanre Olabisi

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(Presented by Panavision - \$15,000 camera package donation of Panavision equipment)

(Presented by MoviePass – 1 year subscription)

Best Short - *Taking Chance* - Directed by Jerry Lamothe

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(Presented by Panavision - \$5,000 camera package donation of Panavision equipment)
(Presented by MoviePass – 1 year subscription)

Along with presenting sponsor BET Networks and founding sponsor HBO, key supporters of Urbanworld® Film Festival include premiere sponsors Comcast NBCUniversal Telemundo and Time Warner. Industry Circle supporters are Fox Audience Strategy, Fox Global Directors Initiative, Interactive One, MoviePass, RLJ Entertainment, Urban Movie Channel, The Swirl Group, Directors Guild of America, Writers Guild of America and AMC Entertainment. In addition, Urbanworld® collaborates with a myriad of media, promotional and community partners. Additional information and video from the festival can be found on urbanworld.org.

The 20th Anniversary Urbanworld® Film Festival will be in New York in September 2016.

ABOUT URBANWORLD® FILM FESTIVAL

The Urbanworld® Film Festival, founded in 1997 by Stacy Spikes, is the largest internationally competitive festival of its kind. The five-day festival includes narrative features, documentaries, short films, spotlight screenings, events, live staged screenplay readings, the Urbanworld® Digital track focused on digital and social media panels and workshops and Urbanworld® Music, which highlights emerging talent in live performances during after party events. Over the last 19 years, Hollywood studios, indie film distributors, and established and emerging filmmakers have consistently chosen Urbanworld® to premiere box office and award-winning hits. Urbanworld® has also provided a platform for some of today's leading brands seeking to reach key influencers across the industry and within the consumer marketplace. The Urbanworld® Film Festival is an initiative of the Urbanworld® Foundation Inc., a nonprofit organization that endeavors to consistently manifest its mission of redefining and advancing the presence and impact of the multicultural community in cinema and cross-platform media. By implementing initiatives that actively support and develop content creators of color, Urbanworld® significantly contributes to the evolution of the media and entertainment landscape and the diversity that it reflects. Gabrielle Glore serves as Festival Director for the Urbanworld® Film Festival. The festival website is urbanworld.org.

ABOUT BET NETWORKS

BET Networks, a subsidiary of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIA, VIAB), is the nation's leading provider of quality entertainment, music, news and public affairs television programming for the African-American audience. The primary BET channel reaches more than 90 million households and can be seen in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, the United Kingdom and sub-Saharan Africa. BET is the dominant African-American consumer brand with a diverse group of business extensions: BET.com, a leading Internet destination for Black entertainment, music, culture, and news; Centric, the first network dedicated to Black women; BET Digital Networks - BET Gospel and BET Hip Hop, attractive alternatives for cutting-edge entertainment tastes; BET Home Entertainment, a collection of BET-branded offerings for the home environment including DVDs and video-on-demand; BET Event Productions, a full-scale event management and production company with festivals and live events spanning the globe; BET Mobile, which provides ringtones, games and video content for wireless devices; and BET International, which operates BET in the United Kingdom and oversees the extension of BET network programming for global distribution.

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