



**2024 RICHMOND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
Top Grand Jury Award Winners of the Year
& Audience Choice Awards**

**13th Annual Richmond International Film Festival: It is an official wrap
of the 2024 RIFF Sep 24-29.**

At RIFF, our mission is to champion artists and provide platforms for the creative voice, and we are thrilled to now be one of the largest most exciting festivals in the Mid-Atlantic.

This year, the festival included 175 Official Selection films from more than 25 countries plus 30 live music performances throughout the week. Congratulations to the top Grand Jury and Audience Award honorees of the year:

2024 OVERALL GRAND JURY AWARDS FOR FILM:

**2024
GRAND JURY PRIZE
BEST OVERALL FEATURE FILM OF THE YEAR**
Presented to
TAPAWINGO
By Dylan Narang

**2024
GRAND JURY PRIZE
BEST OVERALL SHORT FILM OF THE YEAR**

Presented to
KEEPERS
By Paul Emile

2024 Audience Choice Award for Best Documentary Feature: A Bridge to Life by Chris Farina

2024 Audience Choice Award for Best Narrative Feature: Tapawingo by Dylan Narang

2024 Audience Choice Award for Best Short: There and Back Again by Will Allen-DuPraw

2024 Audience Choice Award for Best Music Artist: Kyle Davis

Best of Festival Film Awards:

**2024
Best of Festival
For Narrative Feature**

Best Drama: Cold Sigh directed by Nahid Sedigh (Iran)

Best Sci-fi: Saturn directed by Eric Esau (U.S.)

Best Comedy: Bonjour Switzerland directed by Peter Luisi (Switzerland)

**2024
Best of Festival
Documentary Feature**

(U.S.)

- The Cigarette Surfboard directed by Ben Judkins

(INTERNATIONAL)

- Last Stop Before Chocolate Mountain directed by Susanna Della Sala (Italy)

2024
Best of Festival
Narrative Short

(U.S.)

- Best Drama: Stalking the Bogeyman directed by Markus Potter, Jack Dorfman
- Best Horror: The Unquiet Dead directed by John Gray
- Best Thriller: Leaving Yellowstone directed by Kayla Arend
- Best Comedy: Seeking Stepdad directed by Keenan O'Reilly

(INTERNATIONAL)

- I'm Not a Robot directed by Victoria Warmerdam (Netherlands)

2024
Best of Festival
Animated Short

- Tako Tsubo directed by Fanny Sörgo, Eva Pedroza

2024
Best of Festival
Documentary Short

- Ultimate Citizens directed by Francine Strickwerda

2024
Best of Festival
Experimental Short

- Resonancia directed by James Choi

2024
Best of Festival
Music Video

- Who to Love directed by Giorgio Testi

2024

Best of Festival**Episodic**

Cyberfarm directed by Sergey Vasiliev

THE 2024 SCREENWRITING FEATURE GENRE WINNERS:**2024****GRAND JURY PRIZE****BEST FEATURE SCREENPLAY**

Presented to

LARK

By Matilda Corley Schulman

2024**GRAND JURY PRIZE****BEST SHORT SCREENPLAY**

Presented to

SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL

By Tamika Lamison

2024**GRAND JURY PRIZE****BEST TELEPLAY**

Presented to

THE AGE OF THE EMPATH

By Steve Brown

Best Original Drama Screenplay: VIVIAN written by David J. Woll

Best Original Sci-fi Screenplay: SANDSTORM written by Terry Podnar

Best Original Comedy Screenplay: SUPERLAME written by Darren Moran

2024 LEGACY AWARD

Chris Farina & William Washington for A Bridge to Life for Excellence in Film & Community Leadership.

2024 FOUNDERS AWARD

Pat Collins

Excellence in Film & Industry Leadership

2024 PIONEER AWARD

Ben Judkins for The Cigarette Surfboard

Special Tribute Awards:

Caroline Aaron, 4th Dementia (U.S.) directed by **Ian Wexler**

Judit Pogány, Coda (International) directed by **Joshua Elias Palmer**

OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL MERIT AWARDS:

Best Director:

(US) Tapawingo directed by Sanjiv Narang

(International) Cold Sigh directed by Nahid Sedigh

Best Actor in Lead Role (For a Feature): Barry Ward, That They May Face the Rising Sun

For Short: Ellen Parren, I Am Not a Robot

Best Actor in a Supporting Role:

- Feature: Vincent Kucholl, Bonjour Switzerland
- Short: Marie Bunel, Our Futures

Best Ensemble Cast: U.S. & INTERNATIONAL – (U.S.)

- Jon Heder, Jay Pichardo, Pat Metheny, Kim Matula, Amanda Bearse, John Ratzenberger, Gina Gershon, Billy Zane, Chris Gethard, Luke Barnett, Mike Beaver for Tapawingo

(International)

- Barry Ward, Anna Bederke, Ruth McCabe, Lalor Roddy, Sean McGinley, Phillip Dolan, John Oloha & Brendan Conroy, for That They May Face the Rising Sun

Best Original Screenplay: Peter Luisi & Beat Schlatter, Bonjour Switzerland

Best Cinematography:

(US) Matt Lowe for Saturn

(International) Masoud Amini Tirani for Cold Sigh

Best Score/Music: Ben Bell & Jemima Orme for Between the Lights

Best Trio Performance: Amanda Malmberg, Isak Bruno & Elisabeth Ehde Torbjörnsdotter for Sugar Experiment

Breakthru Actor: Elijah Maximus for Saturn

Breakthru Ensemble: Chloe Sutterfield, Alexander Jesus Burgos, Ariana Caldwell & Havon Baraka for Pulling Threads

Breakthrough Director: Sadie Bones for If That Mockingbird Don't Sing

Best Production Design: Anna Esau & Ali Dulavin for Saturn

Best Casting (US): Allen Hooper for Tapawingo

Best Casting (International): Bonjour Switzerland

Best Editing: Rex Teese, Tapawingo

FOR SHORT FILMS: INDIVIDUAL MERIT AWARDS

Best Director: Keepers directed by Paul Emile

Best Editing: Michiel Boesveldt for I'm Not a Robot

Best Cinematography: Eric Stumpf and Marcus Goldbas for Keepers directed by Paul Emile

Best Ensemble or Duo: Khary Payton & Jackson Abram for Hoteling directed by Ryan Buffa

Best Production Design: Kat Easto for Chairs directed by Jean-Pascal Beintus

Best Original Score: Jean-Pascal Beintus for Chairs directed by James Hughes

Best Screenplay:

The Masterpiece (International) written by Lluís Quilez

The Uniform (U.S.) written and directed by Dylan Gary

Outstanding Merit for Film & Innovative Health: I Feel Fine directed by Hailey Spicer & Austin Spicer

Outstanding Merit for Civic Action: Our Movement Starts Here directed by John Rash & Melanie Dang Ho

Indie Spirit Award: Him directed by Rebecca Wahls

Latin Heritage Makers Award: A Family Drama directed by Nadia Zoe

Legacy Heritage Makers Award: I Wanted to be a Man with a Gun directed by William Farley

Asian American Heritage Award: She Marches in Chinatown directed by Della Chen

Best Virginia Film:

Short: Free Beer directed by Eric Vinyard

Feature: A Time to Yell: More Than a Statue directed by Eric Newman & Dan Levin

Reel South PBS Award

SPACE COAST

by Justin Barber

Outstanding ACHIEVEMENT IN FILM & MUSIC:

THE SMOOCH MOB (Mark Ingraham and Jimmy Budd)

BEST OF FEST MUSIC AWARDS

2024

SINGER SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR

Kyle Davis

2024

BEST ROCK BAND

The J.O.B.

2024

BEST FOLK POP

Mary Moore

2024

BEST R & B and RAP

Alexander Mack

2024

BEST ALTERNATIVE BAND

Kim Logan and the Silhouettes

2024

EMERGING ARTIST AWARD

Holly Danae

2024

CRITICS CHOICE AWARD

Excellence in Music & Performance

Ruben Bertrands

2024

ICON ARTIST AWARD

Rodney Stith & The Soul Foundation

2024

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST OF THE YEAR

Honey Ironic