



Christy Salcido
Chief Marketing Officer
T: 818-591-6628
C: 310-293-4445
christy.salcido@viewpoint.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Viewpoint School Filmmakers - Past and Present - Make Major Showing at Annual Calabasas Film Festival Bringing Home Best Editing and Best Writing Awards in the Student Program

Class of 1995 Alum and American Cinematographer Eric Steelberg Screens *Saturday Night*

CALABASAS, CA (September 23, 2024) – Viewpoint School filmmakers won two of the top student awards at the eleventh annual Calabasas Film Festival (CFF) on Sunday, September 22. The CFF, which ran from September 18-22, brought together current and former Viewpoint students, including renowned cinematographer Eric Steelberg '95. Steelberg also was awarded a certificate of merit from the City of Calabasas on Friday, September 20.

“Eric is one of the students who created the Film program at Viewpoint,” said Catherine Dunn, Department Chair of Film and Video. “Eric’s passion and talent for cinematography was evident from those early days and he continued to be as invested in the program even after he graduated, returning to mentor many of our students’ Film IV shoots.”

Showcasing major film premieres, including Steelberg’s *Saturday Night*, student films, and documentaries, the CFF featured seven films from Viewpoint. From more than 100 submissions, our students won:

- Outstanding Achievement in Editing: *Minus Daisy*, written, directed, edited and lighting by Sam Green '25, produced by Kamari Paschall '25, Director of Photography - Landon Beauchamp-Domeyer '25. Sound - Nathan Danese '25 and Derek Kessler '26, Cast - Anthony Chun and Greg Chun
- Outstanding Achievement in Writing: *Crescendo*, written, directed, produced, and edited by Alexa Jeong '25, Photography - Natalie Yerelekian '25, Assistant Director - Julian Dans '25, Sound - Zoey Jeong '25, Lighting - Kamari Paschall '25

Film Teacher Monica Hoenig was thrilled by the students' success in the competition and shared her thoughts on the importance of the CFF to her students:

“The Calabasas Film Festival’s mission is to showcase quality films from high school students, honoring their innovative storytelling. As a teacher and mentor, my job is to guide and support these talented students, helping them bring their creative visions to life. This journey has been instrumental in their personal and artistic growth, boosting their critical thinking, creativity, and confidence - skills that are valuable in any career, not only filmmaking. Our film program has been recognized with numerous awards, highlighting the exceptional talent and hard work of our students. Screening our films at the CFF is a proud moment for all of us, and I’m thrilled to see their efforts celebrated on such a big stage. “

The Student Films Shown at CFF:

- *To the Max*
 - Director, Editor - Sundiata Enuke '24, Producer - Dylan DeCesare '24, Writer - Sundiata Enuke '24, Editor - Eden Spalding '24, Lighting Design, Music - Madison Grimes-Waynes '24
- *Minus Daisy*
 - Director, Writer, Editor, Lighting - Sam Green '25, written, Producer - Kamari Paschall '25, Director of Photography - Landon Beauchamp-Domeyer '25. Sound - Nathan Danese '25 and Derek Kessler '26, Cast - Anthony Chun and Greg Chun
- *Throwaway*
 - Director, Producer, Writer, Editor - Zoey Jeong '25, Producer, Assistant Editor, and Sound Recorder - Alexa Jeong '25, Director of Photography - Connor Wycoff '25, Assistant Director - Natalie Yerelekian '25, Lighting - KJ Paschall '25
- *The Sound of Fury & Solace*
 - Director, Writer – Connor Wycoff '25, First Unit Director of Photography – Sam Green '25, Second Unit Director of Photography – Connor Wycoff '25, Assistant Director – Ben Shore '25, Sound Recordist – Jordana Heubusch '25, Gaffer – Ava Burkin '25, Script Supervisor – Natalie Yerelekian '25, Cast: Damian Melendez-Galeano '25, Nonie Shore, Dr. Wachowski, Erin Wycoff
- *Blind Date*
 - Director, Producer, Writer, Production Design - Nathan Danese '25, Producer and First AD - Zoey Jeong '25, Director of Photography - Jackson Barth '25, Assistant Camera - Derek Kessler '26, Lighting/Gaffer - Sam Green '25, Sound Recordist - KJ Paschall '25, Script Supervisor - Ava Burkin '25, Cast - Damian Melendez-Galeano '25, Riley Brown '26, Antony Zakari '24, Sherry Danese
- *Crescendo*
 - Director, Producer, Writer, Editor - Alexa Jeong '25, Director of Photography - Natalie Yerelekian '25, Assistant Director - Julian Dans '25, Sound - Zoey Jeong '25, Lighting - Kamari Paschall '25

- *Puppets Seatbelt PSA*
 - Director, Producer, Writer - Noah DeFanti '26, Producer, Writer - Rachel Huang '26, Producer, Camera, Editing - Mac Ladin '26, Cast - Rachel Huang '26, Noah De Fanti '26, Mac Ladin '26

Viewpoint School has built a strong relationship with the Calabasas Film Festival since it was established. The festival is a Calabasas City-sponsored event that provides the community an opportunity to connect. We were honored to be asked by founders and co-founders in 2014 to submit student films to the very first Calabasas Film Festival, and we have not missed a year since, proudly representing Viewpoint. Our students look forward to the festival every year as it is the first of their festival circuit that kicks off the school year with a great community-building event.

About Viewpoint School: Viewpoint School is committed to creating exceptional readiness for extraordinary futures by cultivating the critical skillset, courageous mindset, and resilient identity of each individual student. Founded in 1961, with a legacy of academic distinction and college preparedness, the School's scenic 40-acre campus in Calabasas, California provides students in grades TK-12 with an ideal setting to grow and learn, where each Viewpoint student is known, respected, and included. Visit viewpoint.org to discover a school where "tradition connects us and innovation propels us."