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## ***Filmmakers Awarded During Fallbrook Film Festival***

**Fallbrook, CA – May 1, 2008** – The Fallbrook Film Factory announced that award-winning filmmakers from the first Fallbrook Film Festival were acknowledged Sunday night by a standing-room only crowd:

- Best Narrative Feature: *The Flyboys*
- Best Documentary Feature: *Beyond The Call*
- Best Narrative Short: *The Vaudevillian*
- Best Documentary Short: *Armed For The Challenge*
- Best Animation: *Simulacra*
- Best Student Film: *The Line*
- Director's Choice: *Defying Gravity*

Statuettes designed by local sculptor Leo Romero and other prizes were presented to the winners during a special ceremony at the Fallbrook Art Center in downtown Fallbrook. Descriptions of each film including identification of cast and crew can be found on: [www.fallbrookfilmfestival.com](http://www.fallbrookfilmfestival.com).

"This is my third film festival and it was by far the best. It is unbelievable that they put together such a class act and it is only their first year. The organizers were wonderful and went out of their way to make all the filmmakers feel special. The opening and closing night ceremonies, the workshops, the screenings, the press coverage, and the quality of screenings - all of it top notch. Our screening brought in the largest crowd we've had so far, and provided the most stimulating Q&A session. The engraved award is gorgeous, and I feel like a star. Thank you Fallbrook Film Factory!!" - Lisa Savy James, producer and writer, *Defying Gravity*.

"Thank you Film Festival for honoring me with this award for '*The Line*.' It always encourages me to keep working on my next project despite all of the challenges when a film festival like Fallbrook -- a filmmaker-friendly festival that values independent and artistic films -- recognizes my work. Fallbrook is important for young and emerging filmmakers to get the important experience of seeing their films in front of an engaged and critical audience. Fallbrook is small enough that you can easily make good contacts and big enough that there are a variety of filmmakers to meet. I can't wait for next year's festival." - Kent Bassett, Director, *The Line*

Amanda Ellis, producer, and Bryan Nest, director, for "The Vaudevillian," said: "We are extremely excited to have our film *The Vaudevillian* recognized by the Fallbrook Film Festival. We are glad that Fallbrook Film Festival supports and showcases short films. It is flattering to have our creative team's hard work acknowledged, and to find additional exposure for our film."

"Making it as an official selection for the debut of the Fallbrook Film Festival was a tremendous honor," said Kent Allison, director, and Patricia Theo, producer of *Armed for the Challenge*. "We were ecstatic and humbled to

receive the Best Short Documentary Award from the festival jury of industry professionals. Everyone was so friendly and the organizers focused on the little details that really made this festival stand out from all the others. We look forward to attending this wonderful event in years to come."

A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to cinematographer and former North County resident Tom Del Ruth A.S.C. who worked on Clint Eastwood's *Outlaw Josie Wales*, *Stand By Me*, *The Mighty Ducks*, *The Breakfast Club*, *Look Who's Talking* and *The West Wing*.

Noel Horwin, Fallbrook resident and host and executive producer for *Life in California* documented much of the film festival, workshops and opening and closing ceremonies.

"It was a great thrill to meet Tom Del Ruth. He was imminently qualified to receive the first Lifetime Achievement Award from the Fallbrook Film Festival. He was a nice fine human being, humble and unpretentious, a tremendous professional who gave invaluable perspective he shared with the members of the film factory and general public. An additional point of pride was to realize his connection with Fallbrook in terms of his family. It was personally a great thrill of mine and my children, Heston and Hayley, to have the honor of interviewing him," he said.

Noel expects to air segments of the film festival and Fallbrook Film Factory on Cox Cable and Time Warner Cable.

A spotlight award was given to Adam McKay, business partner of Will Ferrell and writer/director of *Anchor Man*, *Talladega Nights*, and *Step Brothers* after his lecture/workshop Saturday afternoon. The car from *Talladega Nights* was displayed in Fallbrook during the festival.

"I had the honor of introducing the Fallbrook Film Festival's special guest lecturer- filmmaker/director Adam McKay. His well rounded experience provided the perfect platform for audience members to pick his brain regarding his career, questions about filmmaking, and advice for those wanting to break into the industry- Dean LeCrone.

"Adam McKay's honest and open discussion encouraged aspiring filmmakers to keep working at what they love to do and success will follow. He provided a wonderful insight into the inner workings of Hollywood and shared some funny anecdotes on how he conjured up various popular skits. What stood out most about Adam was his willingness to share and his down to earth humility, a real treat for all that got the chance to meet him." - Dharan and Linda Mandrayar

Over 50 independent filmmakers were present over the weekend to view their films and to provide Q&A opportunities for media and film enthusiasts during the film festival. Local Fallbrook photographer, Cheryl Spelts captured the film festival event. See <http://www.cherylspelts.com/blog/index.htm>.

We will have another film festival next year, stated Donna Walden, executive director for the Fallbrook Film Factory. The dates will be April 23-26.

"I want to thank Linda Mandrayar and Brigitte Schlemmer for all their hard work creating the first Fallbrook Film Festival," she said. "On behalf of the Fallbrook Film Factory, we wish to thank the village of Fallbrook, its merchants and all its arts and business organizations for their support without which the film festival would have not been possible."

The Fallbrook Film Factory is a consortium created to bring a filmmaking capability to creative people who would like to write, act, produce and direct films. Other sponsors include The Art Campus at Fallbrook, Curtisy Limousine and Sedan Service, The Fallbrook Art Center, 4H Productions, Hearth & Home Realty, Hollywood Outdoor Movies, Keyways Vineyard & Winery, La Caseta Mexican Restaurant, JJ Purty Landers, Mission Theatre, Pala Resort and Casino, Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians, Santa Margarita Inn, Technical Difference, Inc. Thornton Winery, Trupiano's Italian Bistro, and Time Warner Cable. For more information, visit: [www.fallbrookfilmfactory.com](http://www.fallbrookfilmfactory.com)

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