



1 — 7/6/2023

63rd International Film Festival for Children and Youth

Winners list of 63rd Zlín Film Festival 2023

Prizes awarded by the statutory juries

International Expert Jury for Feature Films in the Children's Category

Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Children's Category

What the Finn?! - A Summer of Surprises (GER, 2023) directed by Stefan Westerwelle

The jury would firstly like to thank Zlin Film festival and all the organisers for such a great event. And also, congratulations to all the film-makers selected for the main competition. We had a difficult task to agree on the main film category for the prestigious Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Children's category but one film stood out for excellent story-telling, clear direction, and wonderful lead performances from two young actors Lotte Engels and Miran Selcuk.

Karel Zeman Award – Special Recognition for Best Visual Concept in a Feature Film in the Children's Category

Titina (NOR, 2022) directed by Kajsa Næss

The Karel Zeman Award for goes to a beautifully crafted film, full of imagination, adventure and a super cute dog Titina.

International Expert Jury for Feature Films in the Junior and Youth Category

Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Junior Category

Scrappier (GBR, 2021) directed by Charlotte Regan

It is an original, beautifully crafted story that depicts the importance of having someone in your life who will help you grow as a human being. The film brings a truthful description that portrays a development of a fragile relationship with fantastic performances of both main protagonists. We appreciate a sensitive and human approach of the film makers that created a rich cinematic experience which left us deeply touched.

Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Youth Category

Delegation (POL/ISR/GER, 2023) directed by Asaf Saban

This film deals with daily joys and struggles of young people combined with the biggest tragedy in the history of Europe of the 20th century. A dynamic picture of friendship and love, brilliantly portrayed with a subtle brush of details that brings an illuminating and unforgettable experience that we hope many people will have a chance to enjoy, especially youth.



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Special Jury Prize in a Feature Film in the Junior and Youth Category

Forever (SWE, 2023) directed by Anders Hazelius

This film made us happy and inspired us to value the ones that are close to us and to follow our passions. It shows the importance of choosing one's path even if it does not correspond with the opinions of the people around. The main character's outstanding performance was captivating in all aspects this demanding role required.

Joint International Jury of Children and Adults for Short Animations for Children

Golden Slipper for Best Short Animation for Children

Crab (POL/FRA, 2022) directed by Piotr Chmielewski

An empathetic point of view on a really brave crab's story who survives every danger on his journey, in an animated gem of great stop motion camera movement, impressive backgrounds and a happy end well deserved and applauded.

Hermína Týrlová Award for Best Short Animation for Children up to 6 Years of Age

Pond (SUI, 2023) directed by Lena von Döhren, Eva Rust

An animation short of extraordinary art direction framed by a playful sound score, depicting in a truly original and entertaining way all the creatures of the sea environment, leading especially the very young audience to understanding the imperative importance of protecting it.

Special Mention for Short Animation for Children

Pig (NED, 2021) directed by Jorn Leeuwerink

A film that caught our attention with its entertaining visual stylization, gradating narrative pace and apt criticism of society through greedy animals satisfying all their needs through reckless treatment of natural resources.

Children's Jury for Feature Films in the Children's Category

Award of the Children's Jury for Best Feature Film in the Children's Category

Titina (FRA, 2021) directed by Kajsa Næss

The Children's Jury Award for a feature film for children goes to the film that has fulfilled our notions about the values of a children's film. The touching story about the adventures of the canine heroine immediately drew us into the plot and, thanks to its entertaining and informative treatment, was an ideal film for viewers of all ages. The combination of animation and real historical images brought freshness, adventure and excitement to the story.



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European Youth Jury for Feature Films for Youth

Award of the Youth Jury for Best Feature Film in the Junior and Youth Category

Sweet As (AUS, 2022) directed by Jub Clerc

The European Youth Jury Award for Best Feature Film in the Junior and Youth Category has been awarded to a film that conveys the character development of a girl against the backdrop of a complex family situation. This is a story about a sovereign adolescence that has no boundaries until mutual help is needed. It fulfils our idea of a social film not only for a given age group, but also for all those who want to experience the period of adolescence and all the hardships that come with it with the protagonist. The excellent setting, cinematography, script, direction and equally good performances has convinced us of the correctness of our choice. That is why the award goes to Sweet As, by Australian director Jub Clerc.

International Expert Jury for Student Films Zlín Dog

Zlín Dog Award for Best Student Film (with prize money of EUR 1000)

Of Kisses and Capes (GER, 2022) directed by Elena Weiss

For the potent performances of its lead actors, and the director's ability to seamlessly navigate between the formats of fiction and documentary, courageously addressing a sensitive and often taboo topic with subtlety.

Jury Award in the Animation Category

Curiosa (GBR, 2022), režie: Tessa Moulton Milewska

For empathetic and nuanced portrayal of couple dynamics and psychology, its inventive fusion of various animation techniques that masterfully reinforce the central theme, and its humanistic approach that is delightfully infused with a blend of humour and surreality, effectively crafting an engaging narrative with emotional depth and creative flair.

Jury Award in the Live-Action Category

Winners (HUN, 2022) directed by Dániel Fűzes

For impeccable directing skillfully intertwined with sharp, incisive writing, and its trenchant, humor-laden approach to toxic masculinity.

Special mention

Rave To The Grave (SVK, 2022) directed by Vladimír Horník

For the vivacious approach to death and celebration of life through black humor.



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Jury Award in the Documentary Category

The Grey Shrimp's Report (BEL, 2021) directed by Remi Murez

For its audacious approach to an important subject through an often overlooked topic, its tightly composed direction which maintains momentum and interest, and its engaging documentary experience.

Special mention

Everything's Fine, Potatoes in Line (CZE, 2022), režie: Piotr Jasinski

For the lighthearted yet insightful probe into the complex border relationships between two nations, cleverly framed through the lens of local gastronomy and an eco-political tug of war, complemented by well-observed situational humor that adds levity while driving home its poignant message.

Prizes awarded by non-statutory juries

ECFA – International Jury

Europe Award - the European Children's Film Association Award for Best European Documentary Film for Young Audience

We Will Not Fade Away (FRA/POL/UKR, 2023), directed by Alisa Kovalenko

The film we are rewarding is about dreams as well as the beauty and brutality of everyday life when the world around us is changing. With a sensitive, unobtrusive gaze, the documentary visualises a touching portrait of young people surrounded by darkness. The camera follows the protagonists in a natural and honest way. With closeness, the film shows us the talents of the young protagonists. At some point in life, we are all searching for something that will fulfil us. The documentary manages to connect the journey of the characters with the audience at eye level. The film stayed with us and still does.

International Ecumenical Jury

Ecumenical Jury Award for Best Feature Film in the Junior and Youth Category

Juniors (FRA, 2022) directed by Hugo Thomas

Jordan and Patrick live in a small village in the south of France and feel pretty bored. The only thing they enjoy is Call of Duty, a popular war video game. But one day a tragedy occurs... Set up as a comedy, the film raises the themes of friendship, guilt, taking on responsibility and the search for forgiveness and life purpose. The director has displayed admirable sensitivity with regards to timing. And he has succeeded perfectly in the challenge of working with talented non-actors.



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Special mention

Sweet As (AUS, 2022) directed by Jub Clerc

Young people on a road trip through the Australian outback. Their encounter in the countryside develops into a healing situation for them all. They learn to tell their own story. The award also recognises the director's amazing camera work and her respect for the landscape, the culture and her own origins.

Audience awards

Golden Apple – the City of Zlín Audience Award for Best Feature Film in the Children's, Junior and Youth Category

Forever (SWE, 2023) directed by Anders Hazelius

ČT: D Audience Award for Best Short Animation for Children

Polar (FRA, 2022) directed by Leonis Levy, Laura Al Bayati, Morgane Michel, Sara Briand, Sélène Bentz, Alice Hobadam, Fanny Martin

Prizes awarded by the Filmfest

Festival President's Award

Pavel Nový, Zlata Adamovská