



64th International Film Festival for Children and Youth

30/5 – 5/6/2024

Winners list of 64th Zlín Film Festival 2024

Prizes awarded by the statutory juries

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

Chairman of the Jury: Anna Vášová

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

Coco Farm (CAN, 2023) directed by Sébastien Gagné

Motivation:

We the jury award Coco Farm the Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Children's Category for a work in which a director cleverly and joyfully realizes, through an excellent ensemble cast and script, the visionary potential of children and the power of community and friendship to create a bright future.

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

The Song of Spring (CHN, 2023) directed by Chaofeng Pan

Motivation:

We the jury award The Song of Spring the Karl Zeman Award for Best Visual Concept in a Feature Film in the Children's Category for a work which uniquely paints a picture of the daily life and dreams of a nomadic boy, with freedom as its focal point, weaving revelatory visual metaphors and striking depictions of Tibet's magnificent landscape and people throughout this fresh tale of endless hope (and possibility).

Special Mention Karel Zeman Award

Through Rocks and Clouds (PER/CHI, 2024) directed by Franco García Becerra

Motivation:

We the jury wish to also award a Special Mention for Excellent Visual Concept to Through Rocks and Clouds for its remarkable and stunning cinematographic compositions that build on indigenous myths and world views of Peru to craft an unforgettable portrait of the dignity and autonomy of its native people, its children, its land, and its creatures.

Special Mention

Christmas on Cobbler Street (NOR, 2023) directed by Mikal Hovland

Motivation:



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The jury wishes to award a final Special Mention to Christmas on Cobbler Street for its excellent direction, storytelling and acting in a film that paints a moving portrait of loss, love and acceptance with great humor and spirit.

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

Chairman of the Jury: Dennis Ruh

Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Junior Category

Young Hearts (BEL/NLD, 2024) directed by Anthony Schatteman

Motivation:

Exploring sexuality and scrutinizing stereotypes is at the center of this emotionally easy-to-relate story. The film contributes to encouraging adolescents to stand by their feelings against all reservations. The jury acknowledges the outstanding performances by the lead actors, especially of Lou Goossens expressing the inner struggle of a teenaged coming out in an intense and emphasizing way. The positive perspective of the story is motivating, heart-warming and emboldening.

Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Youth Category

Yurt (TUR/GER/FRA, 2023) directed by Nehir Tuna

Motivation:

With stunning cinematography and impressive acting performances, this film depicts a young person's struggle to navigate in between two worlds. The story is set in a turbulent time and it smartly reflects the tensions in society through the characters journey. Even though it's mainly set in black and white - the film is a colorful exploration of faith, desire and resistance.

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

On Earth as in Heaven (CAN, 2023), directed by Nathalie Saint-Pierre

Motivation:

The Canadian film "On Earth as in Heaven" unanimously impressed the jury with its ability to tackle the complex theme of leaving a religious community with lightness and humor. It offers an original and distinctive take on the coming-of-age story, standing out from the usual portrayals of this genre. The great performances of the two lead actresses remind us that loss comes in many forms in human life. It is up to us how we cope with it – whether we escape to alcohol, to God, or face it head-on.

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

Chairman of the Jury: Lucie Sunková



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Golden Slipper for Best Short Animation for Children

Magic Candies (JAP, 2024) directed by Daisuke Nishio

Motivation:

We highly value creative storytelling which sensitively balances humorous and serious situations. We were particularly impressed by the visual aspect of the film and the style of animation. We consider the positive message about how crucial it is to take the first step and how some unspoken things might be different from what they seem important, as well as the fact that no one is alone in the world.

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

Writing Home (CZE, 2024) directed by Eva Matejovičová

Motivation:

We highly value this sensitive story, told through classic hand-drawn animation, which managed to appeal to both the children's and the adult juries. The film's message is understandable even without dialogue and demonstrates that it is possible to overcome very difficult obstacles in life and that it is important not to lose hope. Aside from values such as courage and friendship, the film also delivers an important environmental lesson.

Special Mention

Everything We Missed (CZE/SVK, 2024) directed by Marta Prokopová

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

Chairman of the jury: Frida Marešová

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

Coco Farm (CAN, 2023) directed by Sébastien Gagné

Motivation:

We chose the winning film because we really liked the screenplay, plot, and story. The film was about a 12-year-old boy who decides to start a business selling eggs and, despite various hardships, never gives up. It was an original idea, and we believe that filming it was both challenging and fun. We particularly enjoyed how the main protagonist managed working with animals, specifically chickens. We would recommend this film to anyone who loves animals and isn't afraid to take risks.

European Youth Jury for Feature Films for Youth

Chairman of the jury: Julien Audibert

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



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On Earth as in Heaven (CAN, 2023), directed by Nathalie Saint-Pierre

Motivation:

We chose this film for four main points that we consider very important. Firstly, we believe this film clearly depicts the issues of extreme religious sects and how they isolate themselves from the world around them, similar to the alcohol addiction we observed in the main protagonist's aunt. It also highlights that we can face and eventually overcome such barriers with enough time. Additionally, we would like to emphasize that the film excellently handles strong emotions, such as joy; the laughter of the entire audience at every joke serves as proof of this.

International Expert Jury for Student Films Zlín Dog

Chairman of the Jury: Nóra Lakos

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

Budapest Silo (HUN, 2022) directed by Zsófia Paczolay

Motivation:

A visually stunning deep dive into the life of the real working-class hero Józsi, a maintenance worker in a huge grain warehouse. Each day he embarks on a dangerous journey into the depths of the silo, reminiscent of a deep sea dive or the Stalker's expedition into the Zone. Constantly surrounded by darkness and by ever-present grain dust in the air which is beautiful and deadly at the same time. The jury appreciated that the film conveys the life of an otherwise invisible person with breathtaking sensitivity and extraordinary audiovisual mastery. It is a truly cinematic piece that reminds us of finding beauty and meaning in unexpected places.

Jury Award in the Animated Films Category

On the 8th Day (FRA, 2023) directed by Agathe Sénéchal, Alicia Massez, Elise Debruyne, Flavie Carin, Théo Duhautois

Motivation:

A beautiful world made of yarn and inhabited by felt creatures is made in seven days but destroyed in an instant in only one. The colourful and cinematic scenery is not only a lust for the eye but is also clear in its storytelling and environmental messaging. An unfortunate but powerful reminder to us all that everything of value is defenceless.

Jury Award in the Live-Action Films Category

Eighth Day (CZE, 2023) directed by Petr Pylypčuk

Motivation:



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A unique story that is easy to relate to for youngsters about a teenager Anna who breaks free from a strict religious community. The short film tells the story with beautiful metaphoric pictures, authentic acting, and subtle layered moments of conflicts. A short film that stays with you for days after watching it.

Jury Award in the Documentary Films Category

Wounds (UKR, 2024) directed by Lesia Diak

Motivation:

A truly uncompromising confession of women who lost their loved ones during the Russian aggression. In an astonishing way, it reveals the inner world of the protagonists as well as the power of the surrounding nature in which they are searching for solace. It depicts the horrors of war in a universally comprehensible way and draws a very important attention to the injustice that happens right next to us.

Prizes awarded by non-statutory juries

ECFA – International Jury

Chairman of the Jury: Calliope Charalambous

ECFA Doc Award for Best European Feature Documentary for Young Audience

Tell Them About Us (GER/JOR, 2024) directed by Rand Beiruty

Motivation:

We chose as the winner for the ECFA award for European Feature Documentaries for Young Audience a film that depicts a relevant topic. In these days of conflict and migration a film with vivid and real personalities is refreshing, telling the story about dreams and ambitions of young women and their struggle to keep two or more identities. The director brings it in an artistic way with a lot of humour. We were moved by the fact that we got very close to the characters. It gives voice to those that are not often heard. By allowing the themes emerge in an organic way, the documentary raises important questions without giving one simplified or ready-made answer.

International Ecumenical Jury

Chairman of the Jury: Stanislav Zeman

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

Sisterhood (FRA, 2023) directed by Nora el Hourch

Motivation:

The debut film of the French/Moroccan director Nora el Hourch Sisterhood is a strong film about friendship, struggle for justice and equality in gender, social and racial/ethnic issues. Under the harsh surface of the



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everyday life in contemporary France shines the beauty of a story of friendship, dreams for a better future and identity for the characters of the film. The filmic language is a violent, outspoken and direct – Which gives it a strong authenticity. The film deals with very controversial issues of abuse and violence in a way that doesn't go black and white but holds a much more nuanced distinguishing between the deeds (sins) and the perpetrators as human beings with a spark of love. The main drama of the film is the clash among the three girls, the dilemma between the fight for women rights, social rights and the basic struggle to survive with dignity at the bottom of society.

Commendation

Lars Is LOL (NOR, 2023) directed by Eirik Sæter Stordahl

Motivation:

In Dir. Eirik Sæter Stordahls film the 11 years old Amanda is (unwillingly) given the responsibility of her classmate with Downs syndrome. When she fails the school and her own moral standards in regards to bullying she has to find the courage to ask for forgiveness. The film beautifully depicts the many layers and facets of forgiveness.

Audience awards

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

Young Hearts (BEL/NLD, 2024) directed by Anthony Schatteman

ČT: D Audience Award for Best Short Animation for Children

Prizes awarded by the Filmfest

Festival President's Award

Hynek Bočan, Boleslav Polívka

Special Recognition by the Festival President for the Authentic Rendition of an Inspirational Story of Young People

The Grand Finale (CZE, 2024) directed by Dominik Kalivoda

Motivation:

I've decided to award a special commendation to Dominik Kalivoda's documentary film The Grand Finale for its authentic portrayal of an inspiring story about young people. The film, which highlights the value of perseverance and overcoming obstacles on the journey towards both small and big dreams, captivated us with its believable depiction of the lives of young individuals, and especially with the beautiful emotions



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it conveys from the screen to the audience. The story carries the message of our festival, inspiring the upcoming generation not to be afraid to pursue their dreams and to surround themselves with people of the same DNA.