



NEWS

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**2012 BERKELEY FILM FOUNDATION AWARDS
\$150,000 in grants given to 23 East Bay filmmakers.**

BERKELEY, Calif., July 26, 2012—The Berkeley FILM Foundation (BFF) has just awarded \$150,000 in its 2012 film and video grant program to 23 filmmakers, including five student filmmakers. The BFF gave this year's \$20,000 Saul Zaentz Award to *Inequality for All* by filmmaker Jacob Kornbluth. Inspired by his book, *Aftershock*, and featuring Robert Reich, *Inequality for All* is a hard-hitting account of widening income inequality in America. Reich will speak at the annual Berkeley FILM Foundation gala fundraiser on October 18, 2012.

Now in its fourth year, BFF has granted over \$550,000 to projects in the production, post-production and distribution stages in support of independent filmmakers whose work combines intellectual clarity with creative use of the medium.

"Last year we created a special student category. Especially in these challenging economic times, we are delighted to be able to expand our program to include students, emerging or established independent filmmakers who live or work in the East Bay communities of Berkeley, Emeryville, Albany, El Cerrito or Richmond," says Abby Ginzberg, president of the BFF board of directors.

The total list of winners is:

Jacob Kornbluth, *Inequality For All* **Saul Zaentz Award**

Suzanne LaFetra, David Collier, *F-R-E-E*

Cassandra Herrman, *How To Make A Film About Africa*

Paula Mozen, *LIFE INTERRUPTED: Telling Breast Cancer Stories*

Avon Kirkland, *TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY: The Life of Booker T. Washington*

Pete Nicks, *The Waiting Room*

Deann Borshay Liem, ***Geographies of Kinship: The Korean Adoption Story***
Maureen Gosling, ***BAMAKO CHIC: Threads of Power, Color & Culture***
Karina Epperlein, ***Finding The Gold Within***
Rick Goldsmith, ***Mind/Game: The Unquiet Journey of Chamique Holdsclaw***
Robert James, ***Revolutionary Sex***
Benjamin Schuder, ***The Village of Peace***
Kelly J. Richardson, ***Without A Net***
Pratibha Parmar, ***Alice Walker: Beauty in Truth***
Delnaz Abadi, ***The Secret Fatwa***
Tory Stanton, ***Games People Play***
Sean Mitchell, ***Witness 11***
L. Jeffrey Moore, ***A Midsummer Nightmare: The Betrayal***

STUDENT GRANT AWARD WINNERS:

Samina Hitch, ***Anarkali Blossoms***
Crescent Diamond, ***Performing Girl***
Rob Fatal, ***La Bamba 2: Hell Is A Drag***
Emily Bender, ***Half Full***
Alia Lundy, ***Bless You***

“We are thrilled to have this acknowledgement and support from the Berkeley FILM Foundation. BFF funds will play a big role in moving this film forward,” says Kelly J. Richardson, director of *Without a Net*.

The Berkeley FILM Foundation, is a 501(c)3 grant program for independent filmmakers funded by the City of Berkeley, Wareham Development, and the Saul Zaentz Company with a mission to nurture, sustain and preserve the thriving local film community while attracting the next generation of filmmakers. The BFF focuses on supporting the ideals reflected in Berkeley culture: social, historical and innovative documentary and dramatic works. Many of the BFF grant winners have gone on to screen at U.S. and international film festivals, been recognized with prestigious awards, received television broadcasts, and are making a difference around the world.

For more information on these awards and on the October 18, 2012 annual gala fundraiser, please e-mail the Berkeley Film Office at film@visitberkeley.com or visit www.berkeleyfilmfoundation.org and www.facebook.com/BerkeleyFilmFoundation.

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