

# Cinema Student Accomplishments 2012-2013

## Bachelor of Arts

**Alfonso Solis** is the 2013 Departmental Undergraduate Honoree, as well as the 2013 College of Liberal and Creative Arts Hood recipient. Alfonso was selected to be the student speaker at this year's Commencement ceremony.

**Timothy DuBay** is the 2013 recipient of the Gordon Thomas Memorial Scholarship.

**Ariel Sinelnikoff** is the 2013 recipient of the Ronald A. Jacobs Scholarship, as well as the department's undergraduate nominee for a Princess Grace Award.

**Sarah Brady** is the 2013 recipient of the Jim Goldner Scholarship.

**Giovanni Zuniga** is the department's 2013 nominee for the HUMANITAS Prize in the comedy category (the David and Lynn Angell Comedy Fellowship).

**Favienne Howsepian** has been invited to join the SFSU chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest honor society.

**L. Marian Izquierdo** won the 2013 Film Preview Audience Award for her film "Love is Shy."

**Dolan Chorng** directed *Choice*, which will screen at the Court Métrage (Short Film Corner) this year at the Festival de Cannes. During Campus Movie Fest last fall, *Choice* won Best Comedy at SF State.

**Shane Evangelista, Ragini Momi, and Israel Ramos** collaborated on the film, *Release: Self-Care for Trauma Workers*, which was featured by the National Clearinghouse on Families & Youth.

**Dan Jaspar** is now self-employed as a Location Sound Mixer.

**Pedro Gomez's** *Banzai Rising* was an official selection of CAAMFest 2013. The film was one of the four short documentaries made during the 2012 International Documentary Workshop in China.

**Sean Malin** has been accepted into the M.A. program in Radio-TV-Film at the University of Texas, Austin.

**Jamie Oliveira, Chris Pizarro and Natalie Teter** collaborated on *Perceptual Crafts*, a profile of painter and sculptor Sara Gallagher, which was featured on the SF MOMA Tumblr.

**Danielle Schmidt** has been selected to be a student film juror for the Telluride Film Festival.

**Masha Kozhevnikova** (AKA Kira Trinity) directed *Slashed: Tales of Forbidden Lust*, which was an official selection of the Sarasota Film Festival in Florida.

## Master of Arts

**Jonathan Knapp** is the 2013 Graduate Student Award for Distinguished Achievement in the M.A. Cinema Studies Program. Also, Jonathan received a grant from the university in support of presenting a paper at the 2012 Film & History Conference, held in Milwaukee. His paper was entitled "From Foundation to Ruination: The Politics of Space in *Deadwood*, *The Wire*, and *Battlestar Galactica*."

**Patrick Brame** received a university grant for travel to the University of Calgary to present his paper, "Heroes and Villains," at the Free Exchange Conference in March.

**Alina Predescu** has been accepted to the doctoral program in Film and Media at UC Berkeley.

## Master of Fine Arts

**Joey Izzo** is the 2013 Graduate Student Award for Distinguished Achievement in the M.F.A. Cinema Program. His thesis film *Stepsister* screened at the 2013 San Francisco International Film Festival in competition for the Golden Gate Award. The film was also one of 18 selected out of more than 1,500 submissions to compete in the Cinéfondation portion of the Short Films competition at the 2013 Festival de Cannes.

**Shiyan Feng** is the 2013 recipient of the Bill Nichols Scholarship.

**Véronica Duport Deliz** will show her first-year film, *Over the Fence*, at the Court Métrage (Short Film Corner) at the 2013 Festival de Cannes. Her film was also part of the official selection of the 2013 International Family Film Festival at Raleigh Studios in Hollywood. Also, Véronica is the department's nominee for a Kodak Scholarship.

**Crescent Diamond** was appointed as a full-time visiting professor of film and video at Hampshire College in the School of Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies Department for Spring 2013 semester. Crescent also won the Berkeley Film Foundation Post-Production Grant for her thesis film, *Performing Girl*.

**Ewan Duarte's** 2013 thesis film, *Change Over Time*, has been selected for its world premiere at Frameline37, the San Francisco LGBTQ Film Festival.

**Tongjue Huangfu** will present her first-year film, *Notes*, at the Court Métrage at the 2013 Festival de Cannes. And, Tongjue is the 2013 recipient of the Robin Eickman Cinema Student Scholarship.

**Natalie Tsui** was a co-curator for the shorts programs at CAAMFest 2013. And, Natalie is the department's graduate student nominee for a Princess Grace Award.

**David Washburn's** documentary, *An American Mosque*, was selected for a screening and panel discussion as part of CAAMFEST 2013. *An American Mosque* will also broadcast on KVIE (PBS, Channel 6) in Sacramento, Channel 6 May 22, 7pm and May 26th, 6pm.

**Chan Yok** was a recipient of three scholarships for the 2012-2013 term, the Wilbur Eugene Smith Endowed Scholarship, the Alumni Association Scholarship, and the Vincent Costantino Scholarship.

**Jimmy Defebaugh** received a Broadcast Education Association award in Screenwriting, 1st Prize in the Webisode category, for his script "Hell, Michigan."

**Wes Culwell's** thesis film, "(In)Voluntary Departure," was selected as a recipient of a \$1,000 Pollination Project Seed Grant.

## Alumni

*Invisible*, a film by **Michal Aviad** (M.A. 1986), was selected for the 2012 San Francisco Jewish Film Festival.

2012 graduate **Nico Bellamy's** short film, *Way of the Iron Buffalo* (Audience Award winner, 2012 Film Finals) screened at the 2013 LA Comedy Shorts Film Festival.

**Sean Bristol-Lee** (M.A. 2012) has been admitted to the Film, Television and Digital Media doctoral program at UCLA.

**Nettie Brock** (M.A. 2012) has been accepted to the doctoral program at the University of Missouri. As part of her acceptance, Nettie was granted a full tuition waiver and a Teaching Assistantship; she is also in the running for a graduate fellowship.

**Tricia Creason-Valencia** (M.F.A. 2003) produced *A Stable Life*, which won "Best Documentary" at the 2013 Cinequest Festival.

**Clayton Dillard** (M.A. 2012), now a doctoral student at Oklahoma State University, published two articles in *Cinespect*, an online film magazine based in New York City.

**Alex Fu**, who graduated in 2009 and is currently working for trailer house Open Road Entertainment, has won the 'Best Horror TV Spot' award for his editing on a trailer for the movie *Sinister* at the 14th Golden Trailer Awards.

*Judy*, a short documentary portrait film by **Timothy Gee** (2012), was an official selection at this year's CAAMFest 2013.

**Luke Guidici** (2003) recently premiered his award-winning short *Certified* on FEARnet. *Certified* won awards at several festivals, including Shriekfest, Idyllwild, and Twain Harte.

**Keenan Jensen** (2009) is now self-employed as a Location Sound Mixer.

**Chase Keehn** (2010) is now a full-time sound editor at Berkeley Sound Artists, with credits on *The Kill Team*, *The Waiting Room*, *Island President* and other documentary features.

**Michiko Kurokawa** (M.F.A. 2012) has accepted a position at the entertainment law firm, Gamma Law, as a media-marketing advisor.

**Debbie Lum** (M.F.A. 2005) screened her proposed thesis film (later expanded to feature documentary), *Seeking Asian Female*, at CAAMFest 2013.

**Joana Lima Martins** (M.F.A. 2012) won the Award of Excellence for Newcomer Filmmakers for her thesis film, *Ayana*, at the 2013 International Film Festival for Environment, Health and Culture in Jakarta, Indonesia. Additionally, Joana's short, *Pax America*, won Best Short Film at the 2013 Leiria Film Festival in Portugal.

**Spencer McCall**, a 2009 graduate, premiered his feature-length documentary, *The Institute*, at the 2012 Mill Valley Film Festival. The film also screened this year at SlamDance, True/False, SF Doc, and Atlanta Film Festivals.

**Renny McCauley** (M.F.A. 2012) won the Director's Citation Award for his thesis film, *The Life of a Dog*, at the Black Maria Video & Film Festival as well as the Remi Award at 2013 WorldFest Houston. The film also received an Honorable Mention for Best Drama at the Taos Short Film Festival, and screened at the 2013 Texas International Film Festival.

**Dan Akira Nishimura** (M.A. 2012) published his investigation of Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* in the May 2012 issue of Bright Lights Film Journal.

**Masachi Niwano** (2003) now serves as the festival director for CAAMFest.

**Emiko Omori's** film tribute, *To Chris Marker, An Unsent Letter*, had its world premiere at the 2012 Mill Valley Film Festival.

**Erin Persley** (M.F.A. 2012) will screen her thesis film, *Living Inside Out*, at the SF Doc Fest in June.

**Shaka Jamal Redmond** (M.F.A. 2011) was selected as a 2012 National Game Changers Fellow. Three of his short documentary films, including *Savage Dance* and *Tommie Smith Youth Movement*, were included in the compilation feature, *We Got Next*, which screened at the New Parkway Theatre in Oakland. Also, Shaka was a guest participant in a panel discussion at the Oakland International Film Festival.

**Michael Rodriguez** (2007) has been accepted into Indiana University's M.A. program in Theater History, Theory and Literature.

**Terrie Samundra** (M.F.A. 2010), co-writer of *Betamax*, was chosen to be a fellow at the Sundance Screenwriter's Lab which was held in India.

**Nathan Scoll** (M.A. 2005) has been accepted to the Ph.D. program in American Studies at the University of Utah.

**Grace Sloan** (2012) screened her film, *Tease*, at the 39th Telluride Film Festival.

1998 graduate **Kenji Uchida's** film, *The Key of Life*, screened at the 2013 San Francisco International Film Festival. *The Key of Life* has also won awards on the festival circuit, including Best Screenplay at the Shanghai Film Festival.

**Angel Vasquez** (B.A. 2002; M.F.A. 2006), received an Emmy® Nomination for his work as Executive Producer for *Bearing Witness: The Voices of Our Survivors*.

**Chelsea Walton** (M.F.A. 2005) has joined Pixar's DVD/Promo department as an assistant editor.