



BLUE WATER FILM FESTIVAL

June 26, 2021

NEWS - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Blue Water Film Festival, in celebration of UN - World Oceans Day, Announces 2021 Award Winners

Playing with Sharks, winner Grand Jury, Best Feature Documentary
Game Changers winner Grand Jury, Best Short Film

Del Mar, CA. The 2021 Blue Water Film Festival (BWFF) presented by the Blue Water Institute announces its juried film award winners. The film festival which had been scheduled to take place June 4 -8, 2021, was extended due to Covid-19 and ran til July 3rd, however the festival still awarded numerous prizes to independent filmmakers whose films were either confirmed to screen or were eligible for prizes.

FILM AWARDS

- *Environmental Impact Award- Paul Watson*
- *Best Cinematography – Mother of the Sea - Presented by FiLMiC Pro*
- *Editor Award – Bajo: Guardians of the Reef - Presented by Luma Touch*
- *Ocean Youth Empowerment Award – Home Coming Journey to Limuw*
- *Producer’s Vision Award – From the Ground Up*
- *Director’s Vision Award – Trapped by Plastic*

Environmental Impact Award–This award recognizes outstanding stewardship in environmental advocacy

WINNER: *Watson*, activist Paul Watson

Best Cinematography– Presented by FiLMiC Pro. This award recognizes excellence in cinematography. All films eligible.

WINNER: *Mother of the Sea*, director of photography Ulannaq Ingemann

Editor Award – Presented by Luma Touch. This award honors best editorial in a feature or short length film.

DOCUMENTARY WINNER: *Entangled*, directed by David Abel

Ocean Youth Empowerment Award – The best short film focusing on the environment. All shorts eligible.

WINNER: *Home Coming Journey to Limuw*, directed by Nick Zahar

Producer's Vision Award – This award recognizes an environmental film that best reflects the beauty and diversity of the environment..

WINNER: *From the Ground Up*, directed by Trent Zulkiwicz

Director's Vision Award – This award recognizes excellent in storytelling and bringing the vision to the big screen.

WINNER: *Trapped by Plastic*, directed by Anny Tubbs

BWFF with Luma Touch and FiLMiC Pro Software Prize Winners

Mobile Shooting and Editing Software Prize – In partnership with FiLMiC Pro and Luma Touch fifteen filmmakers have been selected to receive software to produce content on mobile devices. The launch of this prize continues to showcase Blue Water long-standing commitment to the entertainment industry and nurturing the next generation of environmental filmmakers.

WINNERS: Steve MacKay, Jonathan Ali Khan, David Abel, Sally Aiken, Bettina Dalton, Lesley Chilcott, Alice Colfox, Trent Zulkiwicz, Scott Sportleder, Charlie Johnson, Nick Zachar, Nicolas Brown, Shamier Magmaet, Finn Ryan, Anny Tubbs

Feature Jury members: Sam Sokolow, Monella Kaplan, Brooke Wentz, Byron Martin, Denise Denson

Short Jury Members: Jane Owen, Adam Mirels, Laurie Kirby, Professor Karl Bardosh, Professor Peter Terezakis

###

About the Blue Water Film Festival & Blue Water Institute

The [Blue Water Film Festival](#) takes place in Del Mar, San Diego home to the Scripps Oceanographic Institution. The year-round [Blue Water Institute](#) purpose is to innovate for ocean-based solutions and to develop the next generation of environmental filmmakers. Each June, the festival celebrates the UN - World Oceans Day with a slate of cutting-edge environmental films, shorts, industry panels, and a beach clean-up. The 2021 BWFF will be held June 4th- July 3rd. Learn more at bluewaterfilmfestival.org.

###

About Blue Water Film Festival

Founded in 2020, the Blue Water Film festival celebrates the UN - World Oceans Day, June 8th. The theme of the BWFF is about our Blue Planet; the festival purpose is to encourage attendees to think broadly about how climate change affects planet Earth and deeply about the universal concerns and actions needed to bring us into balance. About 50% of all film selections

are non- US productions, helping to fulfill the festival mission of promoting cross -cultural understanding through film.

About the **Blue Water Institute**

Blue Water Institute is a non-profit organization committed to the preservation of the planet and the need to nurture the next generation of environmental filmmakers. The Institute is driven by its environmental programs that discover, innovate and support the next generation of environmental filmmakers from all over the world.

###

Media contact

Greg Reitman, Founder, Blue Water Film Festival, info@bluewaterfilmfestival.org