

STUDENT FILM AWARD WINNERS

36th Annual Student Academy Awards – June 13, 2009

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Alice's Attic, **Robyn Yannoukos** – University of California, Los Angeles
A fragile being must face the fears that lie waiting for her in the darkness.

Silver Medal:

Matter, In a Quiescent State, Prepares Itself to Be Transformed, **Kwibum Chung** –
School of Visual Arts, New York
Our purpose in life is shaped by many factors, including teachers, mass media,
culture and socioeconomic systems like capitalism.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Pajama Gladiator, **Glenn Harmon** – Brigham Young University
A boy tries to explain to his mom why he was caught with his hand in the cookie
jar—literally!

Silver Medal:

Sebastian's Voodoo, **Joaquin Baldwin** – University of California, Los Angeles
A voodoo doll must find the courage to save his friends from being pinned to death.

Bronze Medal:

Kites, **Jed Henry** – Brigham Young University
A young boy must cope with the passing of his grandfather.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

The Last Mermaids, **Liz Chae** – Columbia University
For 2,000 years, the women of Jeju Province in Korea have used the ocean to
give them life, shield them from war and educate their daughters.

Silver Medal:

The Wait, **Cassandra Lizaire, Kelly Asmuth** – Columbia University
Four teenagers live in a state of “unknown” awaiting an organ transplant that
may or may not come.

Bronze Medal:

A Place to Land, **Lauren DeAngelis** – American University, Washington D.C.
Homeless, wild parrots journey across the nation from foster homes
to remote sanctuaries.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

Kavi, **Gregg Helvey** – University of Southern California
A young boy in India attempts to escape from the brick factory where he is
forced to work as a modern-day slave.

Silver Medal:

The Bronx Balletomane, **Jeremy Joffe** – The City College of New York
Two tough souls from the Bronx overcome their inner fears and take an
unexpected step into the world of ballet.

Bronze Medal:

Bohemibot, **Brendan Bellomo** – New York University
A cyborg soldier and an orphaned enemy captive discover that even the
din of war can never silence the voice of the heart.

Foreign Film Award:

Elkland, **Per Hanefjord** – Dramatiska Institutet, Sweden
After being away for a long time, Henrik returns home for his father's funeral.

STUDENT FILM AWARD WINNERS

35th Annual Student Academy Awards – June 7, 2008

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Viola: The Traveling Rooms of a Little Giant **Shih-Ting Hung** – University of Southern California

Seven-year-old Viola, trying to discover the world, puts solitude in her suitcase and begins her dreamy journey.

Silver Medal:

Circles of Confusion **Phoebe Tooke** – San Francisco State University

A meditative, experiential record of the filmmaker's return to New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Zoologic **Nicole Mitchell** – California Institute of the Arts

A fussy zookeeper maintains strict order in his zoo by arranging the animals to his liking.

Silver Medal:

Simulacra **Tatchapon Lertwirojkul** – The School of Visual Arts, New York

In a vast galaxy, there is a robot planet on which every natural living thing is extinct – or is it?

Bronze Medal:

The Visionary **Evan Mayfield** – Ringling College of Art and Design, Florida

It isn't easy making the transition from contacts to glasses.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

As We Forgive **Laura Waters Hinson** – American University, Washington, D.C.

Two Rwandan women come face-to-face with the men who slaughtered their families during the 1994 genocide.

Silver Medal:

Unattached **J.J. Adler** – Columbia University

The modern Orthodox Jewish community of New York is up in arms over a "singles crisis."

Bronze Medal:

If a Body Meet a Body **Brian Davis** – University of Southern California

Workers and their day-to-day tasks provide insights into the Los Angeles county Coroner's office and laboratories.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

A Day's Work **Rajeev Dassani** – University of Southern California

A simple job escalates into a violent misunderstanding when an American family hires three immigrant laborers to help them with a move.

Silver Medal:

The State of Sunshine **Z. Eric Yang** – Florida State University

Two siblings who illegally entered Florida from China must engage in prostitution to pay off their smugglers.

Bronze Medal:

Pitstop **Melanie McGraw** – University of Southern California

Thoughtful, introverted 12-year-old Maggie feels invisible sandwiched between her eight rambunctious siblings on a drive across the desert.

Foreign Film Award:

On the Line (Auf der Strecke) **Reto Caffi** – Academy of Media Arts, Cologne, Germany

A security guard is secretly in love with a clerk in a department store's bookshop.

34th Annual Student Academy Awards – June 9, 2007

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Fission **Kun-I Chang** – School of Visual Arts
A man sees himself as a graphic on the wall.

Animation:

Gold Medal (Tie):

Art's Desire **Sarah Wickliffe** – New York University
A Picasso-esque character from a painting explores her museum surroundings in search for a better place to live.

Mirage **Youngwoong Jang** – School of Visual Arts
A bio-mechanical robot must fill his glass chest with water in order to survive.

Silver Medal:

A Leg Up **Bevin Carnes** – Ringling College of Art and Design
A robot struggles with his malfunctioning leg and learns a valuable lesson.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Cross Your Eyes Keep Them Wide **Ben Wu** – Stanford University
A portrait of a group of developmentally disabled artists.

Silver Medal:

Ladies of the Land **Megan Thompson** – New York University
Four women commit their lives to farming the land.

Bronze Medal:

Lumo **Bent-Jorgen S. Perlmutter, Nelson Walker III** – Columbia University
A young Congolese woman embarks on an uncertain path to recovery at a unique hospital for rape survivors.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

Rundown **Patrick Alexander** – Florida State University
A local TV news reporter is involved in a hit-and-run accident on the eve of her debut as an anchorwoman.

Silver Medal:

High Maintenance **Phillip Van** – New York University
Jane's marriage is malfunctioning, and it's time for a serious upgrade.

Bronze Medal:

Screening **Anthony Green** – New York University
A woman faces her fears when she flies to a memorial service honoring those killed in the London subway bombings.

Foreign Film Award:

Nevermore **Toke Constantin Hebbeln** – Filmakademie Baden – Wuerttemberg, Germany
In an 18th century fishing village, a 10-year-old boy loses his father at sea.

33rd Annual Student Academy Awards – June 10, 2006

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Perspective **Travis Hatfield, Samuel Day** – Ball State University
Through a journey of determination, denial and discovery, Danny fights to win back his lost love.

Silver Medal:

6 A.M. **Carmen Vidal Balanzat** – City College of New York
The ever-changing light of dawn breaks on New York City.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

The Possum **Chris Choy** – California Institute of the Arts
An apple farmer and a possum fight to the finish.

Silver Medal:

The Dancing Thief **Meng Vue** – Ringling School of Art and Design
A museum thief met with an entertaining challenge.

Bronze Medal:

Turtles **Thomas Leavitt** – Brigham Young University
Two turtles pull out fish, but a third pulls out only trash.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Reporter Zero **Carrie Lozano** – University of California, Berkeley
A chronicle of Randy Shilts's groundbreaking AIDS reporting in the 1980s and the controversies he sparked.

Silver Medal:

The Women's Kingdom **Xiaoli Zhou** – University of California, Berkeley
An exploration of one of the last matriarchal societies.

Bronze Medal:

Three Beauties **Mak Hossain** – Purdue University
The lives of three Bangladesh girls are connected by the invisible hand of fate.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

Christmas Wish List **Sean Overbeke** – University of North Carolina
A fast-talking New York City lawyer finds the true spirit of Christmas in a small southern college town.

Silver Medal:

El Viaje (One Day Trip) **Cady Abarca-Benavides** – Columbia University
Gonzalo and his best friend set out on an adventure that will mark the end of their innocence.

Bronze Medal:

Pop Foul **Moon Molson, Jennifer Handorf** – Columbia University
When a young boy witnesses an attack on his father, he's forced to choose between honesty and loyalty.

Foreign Film Award:

Elalini **Tristan Holmes** – AFDA, South Africa
A policewoman haunted by a boy's death must make an important decision regarding her own son.

32nd Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 12, 2005

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Knock Knock **Jaron Henrie-McCrea** -- Ball State University
After Zsa Zsa leaves him for Bora Bora, JJ pursues Lulu, hoping to not repeat the same ol', same ol'.

Silver Medal:

Your Dark Hair **Ihsan Tala Hadid** -- Columbia University
Upon the news of the death of his mother, a man returns to his native land after a long absence.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

"9" **Shane Acker** — University of California, Los Angeles
A rag doll must confront a mechanical beast who has been hunting his brothers and stealing their souls.

Silver Medal:

Frog **Christopher Conforti**— School of Visual Arts, New York
A frog evades trouble in search of water.

Bronze Medal:

Things That Go Bump In The Night **Joshua G. Beveridge** - Ringling School of Art and Design, Florida
A small boy discovers what if is that really goes bump in the night.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

The Life of Kevin Carter **Dan Krauss** — University of California,
A South African war photographer carries out a terrible act of desperation only weeks after receiving the Pulitzer Prize.

Silver Medal:

Unhitched **Erin Hudso, Ben Wu** — Stanford University
A portrait of a community that has transformed travel trailers into permanent homes.

Bronze Medal:

Listen **Kimby Caplan** — Southern Methodist University, Texas
Hearing aids bring sound to the profoundly deaf.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

Wednesday Afternoon **Alonso F. Mayo** — American Film Institute, Los Angeles
An East Los Angeles teenager must make a decision that will haunt him for the rest of his life.

Silver Medal:

Victoria Para Chino **Cary Fukunaga** — New York University
A truck carrying more than 80 undocumented immigrants drives across the Mexican boarder into Texas.

Bronze Medal:

Charm **Melissa Rossi** — Florida State University, Tallahassee
Shy Lacey has a crush on a guy at her office.

Foreign Film Award:

The Runaway (Ausreisser) **Ulrike Grote** — University of Hamburg, Germany
A man is confronted by a 6-year-old boy who claims to be his son.

31st Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 13, 2004

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

S.P.I.C.: "The Storyboard Of My Life" **Robert F. Castillo** -- School of Visual Arts, New York
Five stories taken from personal incidents in the filmmaker's life.

Silver Medal:

Focus **Bill Riddlehoover, Nilanjan Neil Lahiri** -- Savannah College of Art and Design, Georgia
The emotional journey of a young woman after being raped.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Rex Steele: Nazi Smasher **Alexander Woo** — New York University, New York
An American superhero works to foil the evil plans of the maniacal Nazi regime.

Silver Medal:

Rock The World **Sukwon Shin** — School of Visual Arts, New York
The President escapes unfavorable reality.

Bronze Medal:

Lemmings **Craig Van Dyke** — Brigham Young University, Utah
A book-smart Lemming realizes it's up to him to save his species from impending doom.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Cheerleader **Kimberlee Bassford** — University of California, Berkeley

The ins and outs of an all-American pastime, through the eyes of some of the nation's youngest cheerleaders.

Silver Medal:

When The Storm Came **Shilpi Gupta** — University of California, Berkeley

A village in Kashmir survives an alleged mass rape and the stigma that continues to haunt it.

Bronze Medal:

Cuba: Illogical Temple **David Pittock, Lindsey Kealy** — University of Nebraska, Lincoln

12 student journalists travel to Cuba to better understand the economy, culture and social issues there.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

A-Alike **Randall Dottin** — Columbia University, New York

Two brothers on opposite sides of the social spectrum, struggle to reconcile their estrangement.

Silver Medal:

Zeke **Dana Buning** — Florida State University, Tallahassee

After taking his cat to be neutered, Joe becomes the subject of revenge.

Bronze Medal:

The Plunge **Todd Schulman** — Florida State University, Tallahassee

Deeply in love, a mild-mannered man seeks a proper place to pop the question.

Foreign Film Award:

Between Us **Laurits Munch-Petersen** — The National Film School of Denmark

Adam invites his brother and sister-in-law to dinner with him and his girlfriend in their Copenhagen apartment.

30th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 8, 2003

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

The Projects Lumiere **Waleed Moursi** — California Institute of the Arts, Valencia

A modern look at the Lumiere brothers style of filmmaking. A one shot movie using only a static camera.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Perpetual Motion **Kimberly Miner** — Rochester Institute of Technology, New York

A scientific speculation of the consequences of two popular maxims.

Silver Medal:

Bert **Moonsung Lee** — Academy of Art College, San Francisco

The tale of a young vegetable's search for family.

Bronze Medal:

A Work in Progress **Wes Ball** — Florida State University, Tallahassee

A shy, lonely girl gathers new friends while writing a story about a lonely bear that is desperately trying to "fit in."

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Left Behind **Christof Putzel** — Connecticut College

Exploring the epidemic of AIDS in Kenya and its most innocent victims—the children.

Silver Medal:

Indiana Aria **Elizabeth Pollock** — University of California, Berkeley

A glimpse behind-the-scenes at four young hopeful opera singers attending the country's top opera school.

Bronze Medal:

Those Who Trespass **Renee Fischer** — Stanford University, Palo Alto, California

Four elderly nuns spend six months in federal prison after a peaceful protest.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

La Milpa (The Cornfield) **Patricia Riggen** — Columbia University, New York

An old woman reminisces over her youth during the Mexican Revolution, a time when myths, sensuality, war and pain were everyday occurrences.

Silver Medal:

Jesus Henry Christ **Dennis Lee** — Columbia University, New York

The meek (and questioning) shall inherit the earth.

Bronze Medal:

Fine. **Michael Downing, Philip Svoboda** — American Film Institute, California

A married factory worker is faced with a dilemma when a younger co-worker asks for his advice on whether to get married.

Foreign Film Award:

The Red Jacket **Florian Baxmeyer** — The University of Hamburg, Germany

The remarkable journey of a red jacket between two worlds during the civil war in Sarajevo.

29th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 9, 2002

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

For Our Man **Kazuo Ohno** — Columbia University, New York

Alone in a room, in the still of night, an old scribbler begins work on a simple story.

Silver Medal:

Island to Island **Soopum Sohn** — New York University

A view of the ferry commute between Manhattan and Staten Island.

Bronze Medal:

(No Bronze Medal was awarded in this category.)

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Passing Moments **Don Phillips, Jr.** — Ringling School of Art and Design, Sarasota, Florida

A young man discovers he should take advantage of opportunity, as it can soon be gone.

Silver Medal:

The Velvet Tigress **Jen Sachs** — California Institute of the Arts, Valencia

A chronicle of the 1931 Winnie Ruth Judd "Trunk Murders" trial.

Bronze Medal:

Shadowplay **Dan Blank** — New York University

A young boy realizes his fate in the aftermath of Hiroshima.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Moving House **Pin Pin Tan** — Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

In land-scarce Singapore, even cemeteries give way to new building developments.

Silver Medal:

Family Values **Eva Saks** — New York University

Meet a lesbian couple whose family business is cleaning up death scenes.

Bronze Medal:

Revolutions Per Minute **Thomas Burns** — Stanford University, Palo Alto, California
Exploring the fate of vinyl records in the digital age.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

The Wormhole **Jessica Sharzer** — New York University
A troubled boy searches for a wormhole to travel back in time and reunite his family.

Silver Medal:

Barrier Device **Grace Lee** — University of California, Los Angeles
A researcher for a female condom study discovers one of her subjects is dating her ex.

Bronze Medal:

Sophie **Helen Haeyoung Lee** — University of Texas at Austin
A young girl has a plan to escape her abusive father.

Foreign Film Award:

Feeding Desire **Martin Strange-Hansen** — National Film School of Denmark in Copenhagen
To get some time for himself, a husband tells his wife he has to work late.

28th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 10, 2001

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Warmth **Michael Schaerer** --- School of Visual Arts, New York
A couple surrounded by people who advance their dissatisfaction with togetherness, leave their fears behind in search of an unknown oneness.

Silver Medal:

(No Silver Medal was awarded in this category.)

Bronze Medal:

(No Bronze Medal was awarded in this category.)

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Boobie Girl **Brooke Keesling** --- California Institute of the Arts
A young girl learns that one must be careful what one wishes for.

Silver Medal:

The Yellow Umbrella **Victor Robert, Rodney Hom** --- Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California
A melancholy boy, living in a world of rain, discovers a yellow umbrella, that when opened, emits sunshine.

Bronze Medal:

That Special Monkey **Sean McBride** --- University of the Arts, Philadelphia
A talking Chinese placemat tells Steve he is a dragon and that he is fated to marry a monkey.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

XXX **Porter Gale, Laleh Soomekh** --- Stanford University, Palo Alto, California
An intimate portrait of two individuals born intersex or with ambiguous genitalia.

Silver Medal:

Green **Laura Dunn** --- University of Texas, Austin
The beauty of the land and its people in the face of total environmental devastation along the Mississippi River.

Bronze Medal:

Undesirables **Marianna Yarovskaya** --- University of Southern California, Los Angeles
Follows the lives of four runaway youths in today's Russia.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

Zen and the Art of Landscaping **David Kartch** --- Columbia University, New York
An unsuspecting landscaper gets in way over his head after being seduced by a wanton housewife.

Silver Medal:

The Confession **Carl Pfirman** --- University of California, Los Angeles
Two long term lovers try to prepare for one's imminent death.

Bronze Medal:

Lector **Greg Marcks** --- Florida State University, Tallahassee
In 1924, a man makes his living the same way his father and grandfather did – reading to cigar rollers.

Foreign Film Award:

The Eye on the Nape (El ojo en la nuca) **Rodrigo Pla** --- Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica, Mexico City, Mexico

With the law having forgiven the military regime guilty of his father's disappearance, Pablo returns from exile in search of justice.

27th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 11, 2000

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Helicopter **Ari Gold** --- New York University
An autobiographical tale of love, rock 'n roll and violent loss.

Silver Medal:

Dear Sir: Letters to a Union Soldier **Michael Mullan, Jessica Lakis** --- University of the Arts, Philadelphia

A cinematic dialogue connecting a Civil War soldier and a modern young man across the time that separates them.

Bronze Medal:

(No Bronze Medal was awarded in this category.)

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Al Tudi Tuhak (Long, Long Ago) **Tod Polson** --- California Institute of the Arts
Inspired by the art and myth of tribes of the Northwest coast.

Silver Medal (Tie):

The Bad Plant **Amy Winfrey** --- University of California, Los Angeles
A small potted plant schemes to leave his happy home.

Luz **Jose Javier Martinez** --- University of California, Los Angeles
A little girl is lost after playing in the street, only to find a very unusual theater.

Bronze Medal:

(No Bronze Medal was awarded in this category.)

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Iron Ladies **Kennedy Wheatley** --- University of Southern California
Two women ironworking apprentices try to break into the "roughest trade on Earth."

Silver Medal:

Slender Existence **Laura C. Murray** --- Stanford University, Palo Alto, California
A personal film about recovering from anorexia nervosa.

Bronze Medal:

Between Two Fires **Douglas Noel Smith** --- Regent University, Virginia Beach, Virginia
Exposing America's involvement in one of World War II's best kept secrets.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

One Day Crossing **Joan L. Stein** --- Columbia University, New York
A woman's obsession with the fight for survival in Budapest, Hungary in 1944.

Silver Medal:

Homeland **Doug Scott** --- New York University
A young gang member in New York is deported to his native El Salvador.

Bronze Medal:

6 Miles of 8 Feet **Ben Tomlin** --- New York University
When the Texas government tries to widen a road, an upset rancher protests with violence.

Foreign Film Award:

Quiero ser **Florian Gallenberger** --- Hochschule für Fernsehen und Film, Munich, Germany
Two orphan brothers struggle through life in the streets of Mexico City.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Joan L. Stein

26th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 13, 1999

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Tree Shade **Lisa Collins** --- Columbia University, New York
A gifted high-school student embarks on a fanciful and chilling journey through space and time.

Silver Medal:

The Piece **Jordan Waid** --- The New School, New York
A collector tells the story of his accumulation of pieces as a result of museum visits.

Bronze Medal:

Atomic Tobasco **James Cox** --- New York University
Three languages, impatience and short tempers break down communication and poke fun at New York's cosmopolitan nightlife.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

A Letter from the Western Front **Daniel M. Kanemoto** --- New York University
An American doughboy on the front lines in France, during the Great War.

Silver Medal:

Between the Lines **Jamie Maxfield** --- California Institute of the Arts
An animated sketchbook on figure drawing.

Bronze Medal:

Shadow of a Drought **Daniel Kutner, Brian Emerson** --- University of California, Santa Barbara
Across the mediums of animation in search of a missing hero.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Man and Dog **Randolph Benson** --- North Carolina School of the Arts
A portrait of an animal-control officer.

Narrative:

Gold Medal:

John **Marni Banack, JB Sugar** --- American Film Institute

A men's room attendant is in jeopardy of losing his job when the restaurant owner's son takes over.

Silver Medal:

True Confessions of a Sushi Addict **Kimberly Harwood** --- New York University

A raw fish addict pays the price.

Bronze Medal:

Slow Dancin' Down the Aisles of the Quickcheck **Thomas Wade Jackson** --- Florida State University

A timid QuickCheck manager seeks to win the heart of the head cashier.

Foreign Film Award:

Kleingeld (Small Change) **Marc-Andreas Bochert** --- Hochschule für Fernsehen "Konrad Wolf", Potsdam-Babelsberg, Germany

A businessman and a homeless person enter into an unusual business transaction.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Marni Banack

American Society of Cinematographers Student Award:

David A. Armstrong

25th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 14, 1998

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Sombra **Robin Larsen** --- University of California, Los Angeles

A dying woman is haunted by the memory of a spirit's hold on her child.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Jataka **Peter Choe, Neal Nellans** --- Ringling School of Art and Design, Florida

A boy's journey to release the soul of an old warrior.

Silver Medal:

Switchback **Kyle Clark** --- University of Southern California

Stumpy finds himself in a chase with his mechanical legs.

Bronze Medal:

Put On a Happy Face **Suzanne Lee Twining** --- The University of the Arts, Philadelphia

A journey into the life and mind of a 10-year-old boy who doesn't know how to smile.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Fighting Grandpa **Greg Pak** --- New York University

The filmmaker searches for evidence of love between his Korean immigrant grandparents.

Silver Medal:

Occidental Encounters **Yuriko Gamo Romer** --- Stanford University

While in the midst of her own "mixed" engagement and marriage, the filmmaker explores merging cultures, races and families through intercultural, interracial marriages.

Bronze Medal:

Wayne Freedman's Notebook **Aaron Lubarsky** --- Stanford University

A behind-the-scenes look at local television and the life of a frustrated feature reporter.

Dramatic:

Gold Medal:

Bleach **Bill Platt** --- New York University

A science-fiction police story dealing with memory and traumatic experiences.

Silver Medal:

My Body **Joel Moffett, Matthias Visser** --- American Film Institute

After years of denial, Charlie opens himself up to his true sexual orientation, leading to a new and rare disease called "Sexually Repressed Shedding Disorder."

Bronze Medal:

Intermezzo **Dana H. Glazer** --- New York University

A concert violinist discovers that a ghost lives in his house.

Foreign Film Award:

Rochade **Thorsten Schmidt** --- Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg, Germany

A date. A trick. A crime.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Bill Platt

24th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 8, 1997

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Erosion **Robert Gelber** --- New York University

From the dark confines of his mental ward cell, an inmate tries to remember the woman he met once in a park.

Silver Medal:

My Divorce **Andrea Clark** --- New York University

Comments made to the filmmaker while in the process of ending a 13-year marriage.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Unborn Baby Blues **Mark Dale Levine** --- University of California, Los Angeles

A baby's life in the womb and her attempts to amuse herself with her imagination.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Walk This Way **Chris Sheridan** --- Scottsdale Community College

In a wheelchair after surviving a plane crash, Chris Sheridan heals his life by laughing— at himself.

Silver Medal:

Miriam Is Not Amused **Kim Roberts** --- Stanford University

An examination of the life of Miriam Patchen, the widow of poet Kenneth Patchen.

Bronze Medal:

The Mirror Lied **Jennifer Haskin-O'Reggio** --- University of Southern California

Exploring a 15-year-old black girl's struggle to develop a positive image.

Dramatic:

Gold Medal:

Christmas in New York **Mark Millhone** --- Columbia University

A man who is down on his luck finds the meaning of Christmas in, of all places, New York.

Silver Medal:

Waiting in the Wings **Charles R. Uy** --- School of the Visual Arts, New York

A young woman's desire to be a dancer is hindered by her father's insistence that she become a doctor.

Bronze Medal:

Mr. October **Chris Angel** --- University of Southern California

Some people have a bad day. Zack has a bad month.

Foreign Film Award:

An Ordinary Mission **Raymond Boy** --- Academy of Media Arts, Cologne, Germany

A fairy visits a poor bricklayer to fulfill three of his wishes.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Charles R. Uy

23rd Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 9, 1996

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Patronized **Zachary Lehman** --- Dartmouth College

An artist is forced to censor his work in order to receive funding.

Silver Medal:

Return of the Sun Devil **Steven Ayromlooi** --- Rhode Island School of Design

Two Samurai must decide whether to help a tavern owner who is being terrorized by thieves.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Independent Little Cuss **Jeff Patterson** --- Loyola Marymount University

Nationally known disability rights activist Carole Patterson reflects on her experimental and challenging life with Muscular Dystrophy.

Silver Medal:

Just for the Ride **Amanda Micheli** --- Harvard University

Following legendary cowgirls Jan Youren (age 52) and Fern Sawyer (age 76) on the rodeo circuit.

Bronze Medal:

Spirits Rising **Ramona S. Diaz** --- Stanford University

The women of the Philippines and their historical journey from priestess to president.

Dramatic:

Gold Medal:

The Water Carrier **Patricia Cardoso** --- University of California, Los Angeles

In 1926, an old blind man from a small village in Colombia must decide whether to go through an operation that might restore his sight.

Silver Medal:

Short Change **Jon Andrews** --- Yale University

A small-time robber is foiled in his first robbery attempt.

Bronze Medal:

Around the Time **Phil Bertelsen** --- New York University

A story of an interracial romance during the height of the civil rights movement.

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Eclipse **Jason Ruscio** --- New York University

Loss and fear as seen through the war-torn eyes of a young boy.

Silver Medal:

Memories of Matthews Place **Daniel Bova** --- New York University

An unplanned return to the heart of Canarsie, Brooklyn.

Foreign Film Award:

Gransen (Never) **Reza Parsa** --- The National Film School of Denmark

A woman and her young daughter receive notice they are to be deported from Sweden.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Patricia Cardoso

22nd Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 11, 1995

Alternative:

Gold Medal:

Picasso Would Have Made a Glorious Waiter **Jonathan Schell** --- New York University

A multi-media presentation of food preparation.

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Card Trick **Robert Herrick Russ** --- University of California, San Diego

What happens when a lowly deuce thinks he could be a king?

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Their Own Vietnam **Nancy D. Kates** --- Stanford University.

The stories of American women who served in the Vietnam War.

Silver Medal:

Playing the Part **Mitch McCabe** --- Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Documents the many obstacles to being honest for the filmmaker, in telling her parents that she is a lesbian.

Dramatic:

Gold Medal:

La Ciudad (The City) **David Riker** --- New York University

A puppeteer and his daughter are homeless in New York City.

Foreign Film Award:

Scarborough Ahoy! **Tania Diez** --- The National Film and Television School, Beaconsfield, UK

The unlikely friendship between an over-the-hill good-time gal and a gay man.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

David Riker

21st Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 12, 1994

Animation:

Gold Medal:

The Janitor **Vanessa Stella Schwartz** --- California Institute of the Arts
God has a...Janitor?

Silver Medal:

Foodchain **Brian P. Dowrick** --- University of the Arts, Philadelphia
A look at the hierarchy of life in the animal kingdom, where only the fit will survive.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Genbaku Shi: Killed by the Atomic Bomb **Casey G. Williams** --- University of Utah
One man's personal experience with the A-bomb and how he and a bomb survivor bridge their enmity of the past.

Silver Medal:

Portrait of Boy with Dog **Robin Hessman, James Longley** --- Brown University/Wesleyan University
The views of a young Russian orphan provide a unique view of his life and his country's history.

Bronze Medal:

Street Songs: Pittsburgh Street Singer Bill Dorsey **Craig McTurk** --- California Institute of the Arts
A street singer remains optimistic despite blindness, poverty and family abuse.

Dramatic:

Gold Medal:

Red **Gary Nadeau** --- New York University
An elderly man longs for youth but finds the adventure of a lifetime.

Silver Medal:

Outside **Matt Danciger** --- Art Center College of Design, Pasadena
The search for the killer of a highway patrolman ends up late at night in a small cafe.

Bronze Medal:

The Make **Stephen James** --- Columbia University
For the first time in his career, a New York pickpocket faces a moral dilemma.

Foreign Film Award:

Abgeschminkt (Makin' Up) **Katja von Garnier** --- Hochschule für Fernsehen und Film, Munich
Two girls, two boys, two love stories and a story about friendship between women.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Matt Danciger

20th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 13, 1993

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Above Average **Jamie Maxfield** --- Rhode Island School of Design
A horserace of a different feather!

Silver Medal:

American History **Chris Graves, Trey Parker** --- University of Colorado, Boulder
A Japanese student's unrehearsed and uncensored version of American History.

Bronze Medal:

The Wind **Drew King** --- California Institute of the Arts
A colorful world of theater and dance comes alive inside a sleeping man's clock.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Living Forward, Looking Back **Stephanie L. Hill** --- New York University
The stories of six diverse women whose lives have been profoundly affected by the illegality of abortion.

Silver Medal:

Chicks in White Satin **Elaine Holliman** --- University of Southern California
The predicaments and emotions underlying the preparations for a wedding ceremony between two lesbians.

Dramatic:

Gold Medal:

A Children's Story **Graham Justice** --- New York University
A schoolbus driver is accused of molesting a young girl.

Silver Medal:

Silent Rain **Martin Curland** --- University of Southern California
A teenager realizes that the man who sexually assaulted him years earlier is now targeting his best friend's little sister.

Experimental Award:

Gold Medal:

The Strange Case of Balthazar Hyppolite **Ethan Spigland** --- New York University
Fragments of a primitive film, perhaps the first ever made, are discovered.

Silver Medal:

Seven Lucky Charms **Lisa Mann** --- California Institute of the Arts
Exploring the emotional reality of battered women.

Foreign Film Award:

The Last New Year **Javier Bourges** --- Centro de Capacitacion Cinematografica, Mexico
A young boy comes-of-age in a background of personal ceremonies and family traditions.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Graham Justice

19th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 14, 1992

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Next Door **Peter H. Docter** --- California Institute of the Arts
A man has his dull, orderly routine interrupted by the noisy kid next door.

Silver Medal:

Five Female Persuasions **Peter Hixson** --- American University.

Our hero inadvertently earns the favor of a woman after suffering frustration in a campaign to win her heart.

Bronze Medal:

Fur and Feathers **Celia Kendrick** --- Rhode Island School of Design.
A modern fable about two unusual friends who go to the big city.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Beyond Imagining: Margaret Anderson and the Little Review **Wendy Weinberg** --- Temple University.
A portrait of the creator of the magazine responsible for launching the careers of numerous modernist writers, poets and artists.

Silver Medal:

Dolphins: Minds in the Water **Christopher C. Carson** -- Loyola Marymount University.
A film exploring the plight of dolphins.

Bronze Medal:

In and Out of Time **Elizabeth Finlayson** --- Stanford University.
Who are we without memory? A film about living with Alzheimer's disease.

Dramatic:

Gold Medal:

The Lady in Waiting **Christian M. Taylor** --- New York University.
On the night of the 1977 Manhattan blackout, two women are trapped in an elevator together -- each with something to hide.

Silver Medal:

Eagle Against the Sun **John Akahoshi, Steve Foonberg** --- University of Southern California
Helen dreams of going to the high school Christmas dance -- however, it's 1941 and she is Japanese-American.

Bronze Medal:

Gold Mountain **Rachel Saltz, Kryssa Schemmerling** --- Columbia University.
In turn-of-the-century New York, a Chinese laundryman yearns to return to his wife in China.

Experimental Award:

Gold Medal:

In the Aquarium **Robert Beebe** --- University of California, Los Angeles.
A journey through a strange necropolis, into a vast aquarium attraction, back to the waters of creation and beyond.

Foreign Film Award:

This Boy's Story **John Roberts, Michele Camarda** --- The National Film and Television School, Beaconsfield, England.

Two young brothers journey through sixties' London to meet their hero, legendary footballer, George Best.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Christian M. Taylor

18th Annual Student Academy Awards -- June 9, 1991

Animation:

Gold Medal:

Ode to G.I. Joe **Gregory P. Grant** --- Brooks Institute.
A nostalgic look at toys and times past.

Documentary:

Gold Medal:

Twinsburge, OH: Some Kind of Weird Twin Thing **Sue Marcoux** --- Stanford University.
The filmmaker and her identical twin reunite at the twins convention in Twinsburg, Ohio.

Dramatic:

Gold Medal:

The Dog Ate It **Steve Pearl** --- Loyola Marymount University.

The worst student in the world becomes the best overnight -- despite his dog.

Silver Medal:

Turtle Races **Jim Lincoln, Lisa Swain** --- Regent University.

An intensely dedicated runner discovers there is more to the race than just winning.

Bronze Medal:

Andy's Got a Girlfriend! **Dan Moran, Joel Kuchan** --- Columbia College, Chicago.

12-year-old Andrew unsuccessfully attempts to follow in his father's footsteps -- until someone walks in and shakes up his life.

Foreign Film Award:

Once Upon a Time **Zsuzsa Böszörményi** --- Szinhaz-es Filmmuveszeti Foiskola, Budapest.

The beginning of a relationship between an elderly woman and her 4-year-old foster daughter.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Steve Pearl

17th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 10, 1990

Animation:

Achievement:

Watumna **Stacey Steers** --- University of Colorado, Boulder.

The genesis of evil, night, sexuality, fire and food is explored in these tales of creation for the South American rain forest.

Merit:

The Yodel Contest **Andrew Artz** --- University of California, Los Angeles.

A wooden nutcracker boy and his pet goat enter a local yodeling competition.

Documentary:

Achievement:

Clowning Around **Kelly Clement, Ellen Osborne** --- San Francisco State University.

A journey through a unique apprenticeship program for inner-city teenagers.

Merit:

Alf Landon: My Talk with Papa **Richard Kassebaum** --- University of Southern California.

Alf Landon spent most of his life in the political arena. On the eve of his 100th birthday, his grandson began filming a documentary on him. The result is an intimate portrait of an independent, irascible man, dramatized through a clash of wills between grandfather and grandson.

Samsara: Death and Rebirth in Cambodia **Ellen Bruno** --- Stanford University.

Documents the lives of the Cambodian people long troubled by war, and brings a humanistic perspective to a country in deep political turmoil. It focuses on the people of Cambodia who, in a climate of war and with limited resources, struggle to reconstruct a shattered society.

Dramatic:

Achievement:

The Lunch Date **Adam Davidson** --- Columbia University, New York City.

Scared and alone, an out-of-towner confronts the world of an urban train station.

Merit:

The Blue Men **Denise McKenna, Mark Squier** --- American Film Institute, Los Angeles.

The mother of a Death Row prisoner struggles with her guilt, grief, and the new responsibility of raising her 13-year-old grandson. A summer's adventures unfolds for grandmother and grandson as they try out life together in the wake of their unusual tragedy.

Go to Hell **Suzanne V. Johnson** --- New York University, Tisch School of the Arts.

A priest is in for a surprise when upon his death he discovers that due to a bureaucratic mix-up he is slated to spend eternity in Hell.

Foreign Student Film:

Alaska **Mike van Diem** --- Nederlandse Film and Televisie Academie, Amsterdam.

The story of a foreign slaughterhouse worker who wants to take off with his boss' wife and money.

Directors Guild of America Student Award:

Adam Davidson

16th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 11, 1989

Animation:

Achievement:

Sand Dance **Richard Quade** --- University of California, Los Angeles.

A sand character is swept-up in his dance to a jazz tune.

Merit:

All in Your Mind **Richard C. Zimmerman** --- Southern Illinois University.

The possibilities and potential of the human mind.

The Chore **Joe Murray** --- De Anza College.

The quest of a suburban middle-aged man to successfully put his wife's cat out.

Documentary:

Achievement:

Leila **Shawn Maurer** --- Loyola Marymount University.

The story of an 89-year-old pediatrician who is still practicing medicine.

Merit:

Just Like It Was **Dave Burkhardt** --- Bob Jones University.

The story of a small railroad company in Georgia that operates just as they did 100 years ago.

No Hunger in My Home **Nancy Brink** --- Stanford University.

Exploring community response to domestic hunger through three women's struggle to fight hunger in a Northern California suburb.

Dramatic:

Achievement:

The Yuppie **John H. Behnke, James M. Peterson** --- Southern Illinois University.

After rising to the top, a young man realizes that there is more to life than just success.

Merit:

Summer Rain **Howard Slavitt** --- University of Southern California.

A nostalgic reminiscence of a family picnic in 1936, focusing on the father's mid-life crisis.

Experimental:

Achievement:

The Lost Treasure of Captain Cornelius "Deadeye" Tuckett **John Michael Di Giacomo** --- New York University.

Incorporating both narrative and documentary film styles, this film follows three young boys searching for a pirate's lost treasure.

Foreign Student Film:

Ropáci (Oilgobblers) **Jan Sverák** --- Fakulta Filmova A Televizni (Famu), Prague.

Czechoslovakia.

The adventures of a scientific expedition out to observe the habits and activities of a creature which has evolved as a successful life-form in the world's barren industrial wastelands.

15th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 12, 1988

Animation:

Achievement:

Cat & Rat **James Richardson** --- Columbia College of Chicago.

Two characters are brought to life by the animator's pencil and chase each other through different styles of animation.

Merit:

Artistic Vision **Richard Quade** --- University of California, Los Angeles.

An artist is so awed by his calling that he is unable to begin his painting.

Cat's Cradle **Temah Nelson** --- Rhode Island School of Design.

Memories plague a woman trying to fall asleep.

Why **Suzanne Dimant** --- California Institute of the Arts.

The story of a starving third-world infant, set to a song by Harry Chapin.

Documentary:

Achievement:

Gang Cops **Thomas B. Fleming, Daniel Marks** --- University of Southern California.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Gang Detail is documented as they attempt to intervene in the feud between two rival black street gangs.

Merit:

Norma Jean **John H. Behnke** --- Southern Illinois University.

The story of a circus performer, her untimely demise and the town that immortalized her.

Dramatic:

Achievement:

Part VII **Thomas Wallin, Steve Wang** --- New York University.

A hack screenwriter becomes the victim of his own schlock when his long-suffering heroine steps in.

Foreign Student Film:

Schmetterlinge (Butterflies) **Wolfgang Becker** --- Deutsche Film und Fernsehakademie, Berlin, West Germany.

A 19-year-old man is the only witness to the drowning death of a little girl.

14th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 7, 1987

Animation:

Husband of Rat's Daughter **Karen McCoy Fremuth** --- Rhode Island School of Design.

The story of a mother's search for the perfect son-in-law.

Documentary:

Achievement:

Silver into Gold **Lynn Mueller** --- Stanford University.

The stories of two women who overcame personal obstacles and societal pressures to become, in midlife, the fastest women of their age in the world.

Honorary:

Living with AIDS **Tina DiFeliciano** --- Stanford University.

The story of a young AIDS victim and his compassionate caregivers during the last weeks of his life.

Merit:

In the Wee Wee Hours **Izak Ben-Meir** --- University of Southern California.

A view into the frightening alleys and back streets of skid row.

Dramatic:

Achievement:

Bird in a Cage **Antonio Zarro** --- CBN University, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

After escaping from the police, a petty thief flees to the country and is mistaken for the new healing preacher by a widow and her family.

Merit:

Prelude **James M. Spione** --- State University of New York at Purchase.

A quiet rite-of-passage set in the Adirondack Mountains, where a young boy attempts to come to terms with the loss of his father.

Experimental:

Zebu **William Mitchell** --- Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles.

A time-lapse film which seeks to redefine the way we perceive the night.

Foreign Student Film:

See You At Wembley, Frankie Walsh **Mark Herman** --- The National Film and Television School, Beaconsfield, Great Britain.

Malcom tries to arrange his wedding date to avoid important soccer matches.

13th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 8, 1986

Animation:

Achievement:

Housecats **Peg McClure Moudy** --- DeAnza College, Cupertino, California.

The misadventures of a pair of cats, one a sadistic grouch, the other a loveable klutz, as they wander about the household.

Merit:

Mangia! **Sheila Sofian** --- Rhode Island School of Design.

The filmmaker's humorous experiences while living with an Italian family.

Documentary:

Achievement:

Songs of Wool: Vena Tipton's Hooked Rugs **Cathey Edwards** --- California Institute of the Arts.

An intimate portrait of a 91-year-old folk artist. The hundreds of hooked rugs which cover the walls and floors of her home offer a direct window into her philosophy and life experiences.

Merit:

The Flapper Story **Lauren Lazin** --- Stanford University.

A look at the "flapper" of the 1920's through a lively integration of colorful interviews and rare archival newsreel footage.

Sam **Aaron D. Weisblatt** --- New York University.

An exploration into the life of New York State farmer Sam Phelps, his work and his concern with land preservation and wildlife conservation.

Dramatic:

Achievement:

Jenny **John Travers** --- University of Bridgeport, Connecticut.

A contemporary fable of a troubled adolescent trying to deal with the memories of her past and the realities of the present.

Merit:

Chicken Thing **Todd Holland** --- University of California, Los Angeles.

Too much television and the over-active imagination of a six-year-old combine for interesting results when the lights go off at bedtime.

Experimental:

The Three Cornered Hat **Angel Gracia** --- Miami Dade Community College.

An actress mentally prepares for the videotaping of her performance.

Foreign Student Film:

Come, I Have a Story To Tell You **Frederic Roullier-Gall** --- Institut National Supérieur des Arts du Spectacle et Techniques de Diffusion, Belgium.

Drama about the everyday life of two men in an old people's home. Through another old man they keep somewhat in contact with the outside world.

12th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 16, 1985

Animation:

Observational Hazard **William G. Kopp** --- California Institute of the Arts.

Violence, sex, birth, television and their effects on a hapless individual.

Documentary:

Achievement:

Burley: Growing Tobacco in America **Robert Henson, Doron Schlair** --- New York University.

The life of a farmer who grows tobacco in the midst of increased health and financial controversies.

Merit:

On the Rocks **Kathryn Johnston, Iain C. Stobie** --- University of Colorado, Boulder.

A lighthearted perspective on rock gymnastics.

Witness to Revolution: The Story of Anna Louise Strong **Lucy Ostrander** --- Stanford University.

A story of a woman's reaction to the major political revolutions of the twentieth century.

Dramatic:

Heroes **Camille Thomasson** --- University of Southern California.

An eight-year-old takes a small step towards growing up.

Foreign Student Film:

The Leahys: Music Most of All **Peter Weyman** --- York University, Ontario, Canada.

Documentary about the ups and downs of an Ontario farm family trying to succeed in the world of country music.

11th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 10, 1984

Animation:

Achievement:

The White Gazelle **Anthony Laudati** --- State University of New York at Purchase.

The caveman, Tao, is obsessed with hunting down the beautiful white gazelle that has walked into his life.

Merit:

Mr. Gloom **William G. Kopp** --- California Institute of the Arts.

As Mr. Gloom walks through one obstacle after another, a phantom hand pulls him into a cartoon fantasy world.

Documentary:

Achievement:

Rodin's Balzac **Marilyn Waterman** --- Stanford University.

The story of the making of "Balzac" and the controversy that greeted its unveiling.

Merit:

The Wizard of the Strings **Alan Edelstein, Peter Friedman** --- New York University.

A portrait of Roy Smeck--a former vaudeville entertainer and a pioneer in the popularization of the banjo, ukulele, Hawaiian Guitar and Spanish Guitar.

Dramatic:

Achievement:

Minors **Alan Kingsberg** --- New York University.

A friendship between an aging minor-league baseball pitcher and a fourteen-year-old girl.

Merit:

The Lottery Rose **Gregory Popp, Frank Military** --- Northwestern University.

An eight-year-old abused child is sent by the courts to a home for boys where he slowly learns to give and receive love.

Experimental:

Tuscola Moon **Dan Reed** --- The University of Illinois, Chicago.

Time out of context.

Foreign Student Film:

Mother's Wedding **Jenny Wilkes** --- The National Film and Television School, Beaconsfield, England.

The remarriage of her mother leads a young woman to reexamine the events that have shaped her life.

10th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 5, 1983

Animation:

No One for Chess **Richard Rosser** --- Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia.

Claymation of a chess game.

Documentary:

Achievement:

The Four Corners: A National Sacrifice Area? **Christopher McLeod, Glenn Switkes** --- University of California, Berkeley.

A study of the cultural and ecological impacts of uranium mining and milling, coal stripmining and synthetic fuels development in the Four Corner states of the American Southwest.

Merit:

El Matador **Arturo Ruiz Esparza** --- University of Texas at Austin.

This documentary follows the last three weeks of training of a young bullfighter before he becomes a Matador. The climax is his first bullfight in the major leagues of bullfighting.

Where Did You Get That Woman? **Loretta Smith** --- Columbia College, Chicago, Illinois.

An affectionate portrait of an aging washroom attendant with a wry sense of humor and a rich personal history.

Dramatic:

Achievement:

American Taboo **Steve Lustgarten** --- Portland State University.

This film explores the effects of sexual repression on a young man who has isolated himself from life out of fear. A young girl challenges him to confront his fears.

Merit:

Children of the Corn **John Robert Woodward, Johnny Stevens** --- University of Texas at Austin.

An argumentative couple happen upon a rural community in Oklahoma, where the children are raised to worship corn and crows, and have little patience for the unenlightened.

Joe's Bed-Stuy Barbershop: We Cut Heads **Spike Lee** --- New York University.

"Joe's Barbershop" dramatically enters the world of the corner barbershop, the local meeting place where people talk and put their nickels and dimes on the numbers and sometimes get a haircut. This is a tale of murder, suspense and the dream of making the Big Hit.

Experimental:

Somnolent Blue **Monica Kendall** --- School of the Arts Institute of Chicago.

A visual exploration of a dream.

Foreign Student Film:

Over My Dead Body **Ingrid Oustrup Jensen** --- National Filmschool of Denmark.

Axel and Kolja are ragpickers holding out against the city's attempts to move them from their shacks in a condemned area and into a nursing home. Axel's struggle is for the right to decide for himself the conditions of his life.

9th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 6, 1982

Animation:

Achievement:

Guess Who's for Dinner **Kathy Zielinski** --- California Institute of the Arts.

Spinach monster attacks a child during dinner.

Merit:

The Taming **Bill Jarcho** --- Emerson College, Boston, Massachusetts.

On this very typical night something magical happens. Mr. Frank De Gruffo, janitor for a small-time circus, meets his innermost fears face to face and tries to prove once and for all who is the master of his show.

Documentary:

Face Value **Michael Kriegsman, Dan Montopoli** --- New York University.

Deals with the problems of the facially disfigured in our appearance-oriented society. It focuses on three people, each at different stages of their lives.

Dramatic:

For Heaven's Sake **Ken Kwapis** --- University of Southern California.

A light, frothy adaptation of Mozart's one-act comedy opera, "The Impresario". In it, two small-town parish sisters are rivals for the lead in a local songfest. Their competitiveness becomes their downfall, and in the end they realize that they should not put 'self' before 'art'.

Foreign Student Film:

Zone Surveillee (Monitored Zone) **Olivier Langlois** --- Institut National Superieur, Belgium.

A night watchman monitors a warehouse from a closed circuit television. The monotony of his job is broken when a thief appears on the screen. A cat and mouse game develops between them.

8th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 7, 1981

Animation:

A Bird's Eye View **Deborah Jo Short** --- San Francisco State University.

An animated flight of imagination. It moves beyond the clouds and murmurs of the everyday world into a web of meanings and metaphor, and is guided by the astronauts of inner space towards a vision of transcendental beauty, only to be interrupted by the necessary return to dominant reality.

Documentary:

Achievement:

I Remember Barbra **Kevin J. Burns** --- Boston University.

Residents of Brooklyn, New York, share their candid, funny and often touching impressions of one of their most famous former neighbors, Barbra Streisand.

Merit:

Jazz **Albert Magnoli** --- University of Southern California.

This film depicts the struggles of three Los Angeles jazz musicians to gain recognition in the music field. The situations brought out in the film are true and the musicians portray themselves.

Dramatic:

Achievement:

A Man Around the House **Caroline Emmons** --- New York University.

A young man is released from prison and put in a live-in job placement with a wealthy widow. Her youngest daughter is fired from her job and comes home to live with her mother. The daughter is a rebel and a provocateur. This film explores the relationship that develops amongst the three people.

Merit:

Willie **Coleen Higgins, Ghasem Ebrahimian** --- State University of New York at Purchase.

This film takes place primarily in the Bronx and offers the story of a young black boy attempting to survive on his own in New York City.

Experimental:

Commuter **Michael M. Patterson** --- California Institute of the Arts.

A close look at a member of the city workforce seen in the context of a machine-like metro-environment.

Foreign Student Film:

Maedeli-La-Breche **Jaco Van Dormael** --- Institut National Supérieur, Belgium.

Children learn that violent and aggressive games can defend them against an inhibiting adult world.

7th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 8, 1980

Animation:

Nitemare **John Lasseter** --- California Institute of the Arts.

A small boy has a nightmare.

Documentary:

Achievement:

Karl Hess: Toward Liberty **Roland Hallé, Peter W. Ladue** --- Boston University.

This film examines the evolving attitudes and lifestyle of Karl Hess, writer and philosopher. Today, Karl is a spokesperson for a social philosophy called Appropriate Technology. His past reflects changes that all America has undergone during the past two decades. The film captures his unique sense of humor and inspires a thoughtful examination of social issues from his unusual perspective.

Merit:

Crossroads/South Africa: The Struggle Continues **Jonathan Wacks** --- University of California, Los Angeles.

The film, set in Crossroads--a shantytown 12 miles from the center of Cape Town--is about the struggle of black people against the system of white domination (apartheid) in South Africa.

Dramatic:

Achievement:

Candy Store **Claude Kerven** --- New York University.

A mildly retarded young man finds his innocent world threatened when his older brother gets involved with local gangster types.

Honorary:

Happy Birthday **Randall Fried** --- University of Southern California.

After witnessing a robbery and having his life threatened, all on his eighteenth birthday, a young black man discovers that living up to high personal standards requires pain and sacrifice.

Merit:

Murder in a Mist **Lisa Gottlieb** --- Columbia College, Chicago, Illinois.

A gutsy and glamorous lady detective, Meg Hammer, solves a murder in Chicago, 1952. A satire of 50's movie mysteries, the film pays homage to the genre, while poking fun at its basic components: violence and traditional sex roles.

Experimental:

Sections **Sean Phillips** --- University of Southern California.

A series of variations of an animated walking figure. All the variations were generated by streak photography and composited by optical printing. No computer was used to generate these images.

6th Annual Student Film Awards -- June 3, 1979

Animation:

Achievement:

Lady and the Lamp **John Lasseter** --- California Institute of the Arts.

A story of a lamp from a broken home that eventually finds happiness.

Merit:

The Walrus and the Carpenter **Tomas Gasek, Malcolm G. Spaul** --- Rochester Institute of Technology.

A poem written by Lewis Carroll portraying human qualities in a rather witty way. The film follows closely to the poem.

Documentary:

Achievement:

Since '45 **Michael David Korolenko** --- Boston University.

A personal retrospective of the last thirty years of American culture and history, its relation to mass media, and the media's enormous influence on the public.

Merit:

Cotton Candy and Elephant Stuff **Jan Krawitz, Thomas Ott** --- Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The arduous life style of a traveling tent circus troupe often contradicts the romantic notion of what it means to "run away with a circus". The film focuses on those elements of the circus which are not visible to the circus audiences, capturing both the magic and the routine of circus life.

Everybody Needs a Forever Home **Mike Simpson** --- University of Texas at Austin.

This film examines the problems of black adoption. It answers common fears and questions, as seen through the eyes of black people.

Dramatic:

The Writers **Harriotte H. Aaron** --- New York University.

Kathryn Myles is a successful writer and teacher. As a teacher she meets trusting young women whom she seduces in order to learn of their private lives, exploiting them in her writing.

5th Annual Student Film Awards -- May 21, 1978

Animation:

Mother Goose **David Bishop** --- University of Southern California.

A graphic illustration of Mother Goose nursery rhymes.

Documentary:

Achievement:

The Sixth Week **John Simeon Block** --- New York University.

A documentary about a compulsive gambler and his family. Ralph, the gambler, is trying to stop gambling and has, in fact, been "clean" for six weeks. In the course of the film, he "breaks" and goes gambling.

Merit:

Like Any Child, Only More So **Catherine Allan, Maile Ornellas** --- University of California, Berkeley.

Explores the world of hyperactive children, pointing out that hyperactivity is a complex problem often misdiagnosed and inappropriately treated.

Through Adam's Eyes **Robert Saget** --- Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

A portrait of a young boy with a facial birth defect. Touchingly narrated by the boy (Adam), it deals with corrective surgery performed on him and his post-surgical social adjustment.

Dramatic:

Button, Button **Burton Lee Harry** --- University of Bridgeport, Connecticut.

A housewife stands to earn \$50,000 if she pushes the button of a strange gadget that will kill a person by remote control.

Experimental:

Triptych **Matthew Patrick** --- Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachusetts.

A music image of three separate visions, each with it's own mood, tempo and form though all use a similar color scheme.

4th Annual Student Film Awards -- May 22, 1977

Animation:

The Muse **Paul W. Demeyer** --- California Institute of the Arts.

The struggle between the creator and his creative mind (inspiration) and where it all ends.

Documentary:

Achievement:

The Last of the Little Breweries **Frank H. Binney** --- University of Texas at Austin.

Follows the misadventures of a German brewmaster in immigrating to America and starting a brewery in the Czechoslovakian and German community of Shiner, Texas. Examination of the community's traditional lifestyle reveals the reasons for the continued survival of the small enterprise.

Merit:

Guitar Craft **Rob Williams** --- Western States Film Institute/Metropolitan State College, Colorado.

About a custom guitar builder, Max Krimmel, and the craftsmanship and artistry that go into his special hand-made guitars.

Dramatic:

Sixteen Down **Carol L. Dysinger** --- New York University.

A sensitive and humorous account of a young woman turning sixteen, in a suburban broken home. Clare tries to see her father, whom she has never known, and in the process her older brother finally recognizes her as a human being.

Experimental:

TRANSCENDance **Philip W. Pura** --- Boston University.

A dance/film that transcends itself from simple movement to emotional experience. Animation, rotoscoping, optical printing, negative images, and a mathematical equation for editing are used to permutate a simple dance leap.

3rd Annual Student Film Awards -- June 23, 1976

Animation:

Fame **Mark Kirkland, Richard Jefferies** --- California Institute of the Arts.
Graphically animated film made to the song "Fame" by David Bowie.

Documentary:

What the Notes Say **Karen Grossman, Richard O'Neill** --- Adelphi University, Garden City, New York.
Through concerts, individual lessons and ensembles, we see the Settlement Music School providing the opportunity for all children to study and experience music.

Dramatic:

The Preparatory **Terence Cahalan** --- University of Southern California.
It is the story of an adolescent boy in a catholic boarding school growing up and hardening himself to the realities around him through the experiences he encounters with his fellow students and his teachers.

Experimental:

After Lumiere **Joan Laine** --- University of California, Los Angeles.
A statement about movies and culture today and the responsibility of the industry and the audience.

Special Jury (Documentary):

The American Love Affair **Lee M. Rhoads, Jr.** --- University of Southern California.
Traces the growth of Los Angeles from a dirt street pueblo into today's metropolis by the innovations and displacements of various systems of transportation. Documents the trolley's tribulations and Pacific Electric's struggle to retain its right of way.

2nd Annual Student Film Awards -- July 1, 1975

Animation:

Euphoria **Vincent Collins** --- San Francisco Art Institute.
Combines the hallucinogenic colors of Peter Max with the inside-out geometrics of M. C. Escher.

Documentary:

Men's Lives **Josh Hanig, Will Roberts** --- Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio.
An assembly of interviews and reminiscences on masculinity.

Dramatic:

Swag **Bruce Postman** --- New York University.
Follows a young street punk through his infatuation and eventual disenchantment with the woman next door.

Experimental:

Architecture of the Petroleum Age **Scott Thomas** --- Rice University, Houston, Texas.
A fanciful study of freeways, skyscrapers and fast-food franchises, the film compares modern edifices to ancient churches and temples.

Special Jury (Dramatic):

A Field of Honor **Robert Zemeckis** --- University of Southern California.
This comedy focuses on a paranoid ex-GI who is frightened back into the hospital.

1st Annual Student Film Awards -- December 20, 1973

Animation:

Anti-matter **Lewis Hall, Carlos Guitierrez-Mena** --- University of California, Los Angeles.
The film explains physics' discovery of anti-matter and speculates on the properties of an anti-matter galaxy.

Documentary:

You See, I've Had a Life **Ben Levin, Mort Jordan** --- Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Explores the life of a 13-year-old boy dying of leukemia, and the efforts of his family to help him live with the knowledge of his imminent death.

Dramatic:

Manhattan Melody **Reuben Trane, Ken Wiederhorn** --- Columbia University, New York City.

A comedy that tells of an unsuccessful New York bicycle thief and a high school baton twirler who has run away from home.

Special Jury (Dramatic):

Norman Nurdelpick's Suspension: A Tribute to Alfred Hitchcock **Bob Dahlin** --- Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

A dual-edged parody, the film satirizes Hitchcock's most famous scenes while also poking fun at a young auteur's slavish homage to the master.