



NEWS

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For Immediate Release

BERKELEY FILM FOUNDATION EXPANDS 2011 GRANT PROGRAM

New Student Category Extends Program to Five East Bay Cities

BERKELEY, Calif., March 24, 2011 – The Berkeley FILM Foundation (BFF) is now accepting entries for its 2011 film and video grant program. The BFF anticipates awarding \$150,000 in the 2011 program. Guidelines and applications are available at www.filmberkeley.com.

The BFF introduces a student filmmaker category for the 2011 program in its effort to encourage the next generation of local filmmakers. Students currently enrolled in a film studies program and residing in Emeryville, Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito or Richmond will vie for grants from the \$20,000 student grant fund (maximum grant award of \$5,000). The grants are intended to help underwrite production, post-production or distribution expenses.

“We are very excited to be able to expand the BFF film and video grant program to include students this year. There is a lot of innovative work being done in the East Bay and we anticipate seeing an interesting set of proposals,” said Julia Robertson, BFF Chair.

The City of Berkeley, Wareham Development and The Saul Zaentz Company created the Berkeley FILM Foundation in 2009 with the mission to nurture, sustain and preserve the thriving Berkeley film community. One of the BFF’s first acts was to fund and launch the its film and video grant program, a

competition to reward innovative documentary and dramatic film works that focus on the ideals of Berkeley's unique social and historical culture.

In its first two years of, the Berkeley FILM Foundation awarded \$220,000 to projects in the production, post-production and distribution stages.

The BFF supports Berkeley-based emerging or established independent filmmakers whose work combines intellectual clarity with creative use of the medium. Applicants may submit one project for consideration per funding cycle. Previous grant award winners may not reapply for one year.

For all the details, a list of the 2010 Berkeley FILM Foundation grant winners, and to apply for a 2011 grant, visit <http://visitberkeley.com/film-office/berkeley-film-foundation>.

Complete applications must be received at the Berkeley Film Office, 2030 Addison St., #102, Berkeley, CA 94704 on or before 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 29, 2011. For more information, please e-mail the Berkeley Film Office at film@visitberkeley.com.

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