



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Leading Regional Festival in Southeast Asia, the Singapore International Film Festival Partners *SCAPE for National Youth Film Awards 2019

SINGAPORE, 26 February 2019 – The National Youth Film Awards (NYFA) 2019 is here again and brings with it a familiar face. The Singapore International Film Festival (SGIFF) has come onboard as the organiser, cementing NYFA’s status as the platform for young filmmaking talent to take their first steps in their filmmaking journey.

The fifth edition of NYFA is centred around the carpe diem spirit and celebrates the dreams of today’s youths, encapsulating their joy, energy and excitement. In that same theme, NYFA has announced an exciting line-up for their annual conference and a new NYFA Youth Inspiration Award as part of the refreshed award categories this year. Submissions open from now till 31 May 2019.

Partnership with SGIFF

As Singapore’s longest-running film festival, SGIFF is an important voice for ground breaking Asian cinema in the region. Throughout its programming, SGIFF has shown great commitment to youths and the development of youth skills with different outreach and immersion programmes.

Together, *SCAPE and SGIFF will build on the NYFA brand and take NYFA to the next stage of growth, which is to be on par with other youth film awards and film festivals, and pursuing potential partnerships that will, over time, allow greater opportunities for our youths and their films to gain regional exposure.

“There is natural synergy in the partnership between SGIFF and *SCAPE. We both believe in nurturing, awarding and celebrating the talented youths we have in the filmmaking industry. We want these young, budding filmmakers to keep pursuing their dreams and eventually do Singapore proud”, said Yuni Hadi, Executive Director, SGIFF.

New award – NYFA Youth Inspiration Award

This year, to recognise and honour young industry professionals who have made exemplary contributions towards the filmmaking industry in Singapore, NYFA will be introducing a special award – the NYFA Youth Inspiration Award.



This award celebrates an inspiring film professional in Singapore that serves as a role model to youths in terms of career aspirations. It aims to encourage young filmmakers to persevere on with their artistic pursuits while at the same time, affirm their commitment to guide the next generation of budding filmmakers. To be eligible for this award, the nominee to be shortlisted by SGIFF and *SCAPE has to be a Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident of Singapore, below the age of 35 on 31 December 2019. Additional criteria for the nominee includes having artistic excellence and commitment manifested through a distinctive body of film works, boasts good standing and recognition locally and/or internationally as well as showing exceptional, ongoing contribution in shaping the development of local film industry.

Goh Kok Wee, Executive Director, *SCAPE said, “NYFA provides today’s youths with a stage to showcase their filmmaking talent, while plugging them into the local filmmaking ecosystem. The NYFA Youth Inspiration Award help recognise the exemplary youth in the local film industry and continue to motivate them to keep chasing after their dreams while being a role model for their fellow peers. The partnership with SGIFF also helps support their journey by giving them access to a filmmaking education and a regional platform to take their art and vision further.”

Since its inception, NYFA is regarded as a distinguished film award for media students with over 1,000 film submissions since 2015. The Open Youth Category is an acknowledgement of the vast talent pool of youth filmmakers in Singapore that lies beyond the schools. This category offers all youths aged between 15–35 years old, with or without formal media training, to compete in this nationally recognised film award.

This edition of NYFA will continue to accept submissions under both Media Student and Open Youth categories, where participants are free to submit their Documentary, Animation or Live Action films. 21 films will be shortlisted altogether and each of these films will qualify for award titles such as Best Sound Design, Best Editing, Best Original Music, and more. In addition, the talent in all shortlisted Live Action films will qualify for Best Actor and Best Actress. Other award titles also include Best Documentary, Best Animation, Best Live Action and Best Overall School (only applicable for entries under Media Student category).

For a full list of awards, please refer to Annex A.



Jury

This year's jury panel will consist of various filmmakers across the different aspects of the local media industry. The diverse jury will elevate the competition as well as to build the NYFA brand and expand the community which in return will benefit the participants, winners and youths.

The jury will include creative and artistic experts such as producers, script-writers, television directors, animators; technical and craft experts such as art directors, costume designers, set designers, cinematographers; academic professionals including film and media lecturers, journalists and/or writers. More information on the jury panel will be announced at a later date.

Film Conference

As part of NYFA's commitment to support and develop youth talents in filmmaking, a three-day conference will be organised from 29 to 31 March at *SCAPE. Well-known filmmakers such as film producer Raymond Phathanavirangoon, who produced Boo Junfeng's *Apprentice* (2016) and screenwriter and director of *Letters from The Motherland*, He Shuming will be in attendance and will be sharing their knowledge and insights on the film industry.

One class to spotlight at the film conference would be the Content Creation – Choreographing Stunts session, conducted by Stuart Stephen Clifford, an award-winning resident fight choreographer and lecturer from LASALLE College of the Arts and Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. Participants will get to learn the fundamentals of fight choreography, fight sequences as well as how to choreograph and shoot a fight scene and more, within the 2-hour session.

In addition to talks, workshops and masterclasses, there will also be a 'Best of Youth' Short Film Showcase of previous NYFA winners as well as other award-winning films from Southeast Asia.

NYFA is organised by *SCAPE and SGIFF, supported by National Youth Council. Submissions to NYFA 2019 are open from now till 31 May 2019. For more information, please refer to the official website: www.scape.sg/nyfa/. Follow us on Instagram @scapesg and on Facebook @NationalYouthFilmAwards.

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About *SCAPE

*SCAPE Co. Ltd is a non-profit organization with its mission and vision rooted in support of youth, talent and leadership development and exists to serve and support youths to live their dreams and realize their full potentials. It offers a holistic network of programmes, communities, partners and facilities for youths to explore, create and strive.

About National Youth Film Awards

Since its inception in 2015, NYFA has been cultivating a community of likeminded media enthusiasts, and is the connecting point for youths to network and collaborate. Through NYFA, some of our alumni have been commissioned for various video campaigns by corporate and industry partners such as Adobe, PAVE and SONY.

Together with industry partners, veterans, and institutes of higher learning, the NYFA programme is designed to spark deeper conversations amongst likeminded individuals and hone their crafts in filmmaking. NYFA supports artistic works from both aspiring and professional filmmakers and is committed to nurture the aspiration, vision, and creative spirit of these youths.

About Singapore International Film Festival (SGIFF)

Founded in 1987, the Singapore International Film Festival (SGIFF) is the largest and longest running film event in Singapore. It has become an iconic event in the local arts calendar that is widely attended by international film critics; and known for its dynamic programming and focus on ground-breaking Asian cinema for Singapore and the region. Committed to nurturing and championing local and regional talent, its competition component, the Silver Screen Awards, brings together emerging filmmakers from Asia and Southeast Asia while paying tribute to acclaimed cinema legends.

With its mentorship programmes, masterclasses and dialogues with attending filmmakers, the Festival also serves as a catalyst for igniting public interest, artistic dialogue, and cultural exchanges in the art of filmmaking. The SGIFF is organized by



the Singapore International Film Festival Ltd, a non-profit organization with Institution of Public Character (IPC) status.

For more information, please visit www.sgiff.com. Follow us on Instagram @SGIFFest and on Facebook @sginternationalfilmfestival.

About NYC

NYC believes in a world where young people are respected and heard, and have the ability to influence and make a difference to the world. Together with their partners, they develop future-ready youth who are committed to Singapore by instilling in them a heart for service, resilience and an enterprising spirit.



ANNEX A – LIST OF AWARDS FOR NYFA 2019

Media Student Category

Awards Presented

1. Best Sound Design
2. Best Art Direction
3. Best Editing
4. Best Screenplay
5. Best Cinematography
6. Best Director
7. Best Original Music
8. Best Documentary
9. Best Animation
10. Best Live Action
11. Best Overall School

Open Youth Category

Awards Presented

12. Best Sound Design
13. Best Art Direction
14. Best Editing
15. Best Screenplay
16. Best Cinematography
17. Best Director
18. Best Original Music
19. Best Documentary
20. Best Animation
21. Best Live Action

Media Student & Open Youth Category

Awards Presented

22. Best Actor
23. Best Actress

Special Award

24. NYFA Youth Inspiration Award