

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**RIVERRUN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES JURORS**

*2011 jurors include Festival alums, rising stars*

**WINSTON-SALEM, North Carolina** – The RiverRun International Film Festival released today the full list of competition jurors for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Festival returning to Winston-Salem April 8 -17. These jurors will be responsible for determining the best film in RiverRun’s competitive sections: Narrative Feature, Documentary Feature, Narrative Shorts, Documentary Shorts and Animated Shorts.

“The 2011 jurors come from a range of backgrounds and experiences in the film industry,” said RiverRun Executive Director Andrew Rodgers. “Though their positions vary, they have a shared passion for good cinema, and it’s that commitment to film that made each juror a perfect fit for the Festival.”

The 25 jurors come from all over the country and include local film students along with industry journalists and professionals. A number of jurors will also be presenting works in the non-competitive categories. Filmmaker Ava DuVernay, Narrative Features, will present her film, *I Will Follow*, as a special screening. *All That You Love Will Be Carried Away*, by UNC School of the Arts senior and Narrative Features juror Alexander Roth, will be screened with NC Shorts.

Some jurors are returning to the festival after competing in previous years. Susan Gluth, winner of the Best Director award in the Documentary Features Competition at RiverRun last year for her film *Soap and Water*, will serve on the Documentary Shorts Jury.

“We’ve balanced each jury with artists at different points in their careers and different takes on indies and film festivals,” said Rodgers. “That diversity will ensure a fair vote for the best pictures.”

Each jury decides not only the best film in each category, but also determines best director, performance, screenplay and cinematography in the feature categories and best student film in the shorts categories. The juries also have the opportunity to award special jury prizes, which have included editing and nonfiction storytelling in past Festivals.

This year, the Narrative Features jury will give out the first ever Peter Brunette Award for Best Director. The award was renamed last year to honor a valued RiverRun supporter: the late scholar and film critic, Peter Brunette. Brunette was honored for his constant involvement in the Festival that shaped RiverRun into the Festival it is today.

Listed below are the 2011 RiverRun Jurors.

## 2011 JURIES

### NARRATIVE FEATURES JURY

**Ava DuVernay**, filmmaker, *I Will Follow, This is the Life*  
**Aaron Katz**, UNCSA graduate and filmmaker, *Cold Weather*  
**David Morgan**, Deputy Editor, *The Hollywood Reporter*  
**Brit Withey**, Artistic Director, Denver Film Society  
**Alexander M. Roth** – student filmmaker UNCSA, *All That You Love Will Be Carried Away*  
**Will Jones (alternate)** – student filmmaker UNCSA

### DOCUMENTARY FEATURES JURY

**Michael Koresky** – writer and associate editor, Criterion Collection; co-founding editor, *Reverse Shot*  
**Amy Letourneau** - Senior Director of Acquisitions, PBS Distribution  
**Ashley Sabin** – filmmaker, *Girl Model*  
**Kelly Williams** - Film Program Director, Austin Film Festival; filmmaker, *Perils in Nude Modeling*  
**Roman Safiullin** – filmmaker, *The Attic Door, Outside Orlando, A Natural Death*  
**Hillary Pierce (alternate)** – student filmmaker, Wake Forest University, *The Mantis*

### NARRATIVE SHORTS JURY

**Roger Moore** - film critic, *Orlando Sentinel*  
**Malcolm Pullinger** – filmmaker, *Winnebago Man, Following Sean, and The Key of G.*  
**Lindsey Pulsipher** – actress, *True Blood, The Oregonian, The Beast*  
**Fred Espinoza** – student filmmaker UNCSA, *Allure, Ultra Magnetic Showroom*  
**Edward Varnie** – student filmmaker UNCSA

### DOCUMENTARY SHORTS

**Susan Gluth** – filmmaker, *Soap and Water*  
**Matt Brunson** – Senior Editor, *Creative Loafing*  
**Jeff Reichert** - co-founder, *Reverse Shot*; managing editor, SundanceNOW blog  
**Meredith Duncan** – student filmmaker UNC Greensboro  
**Synclair Maye-Key** – student filmmaker UNC Greensboro

### ANIMATED SHORTS

**Cheryl Cabrera** – animator/professor, University of Central Florida  
**Troy Cummings** - children’s writer/illustrator, *The Eensy Weensy Spider Freaks Out! (Big Time!)*  
**Amanda Dague** – animator, Rhythm & Hues Studios, *Hop, Happy Feet*  
**Antonio de Graffenreidt** – student filmmaker Winston-Salem State University  
**Leslie Miles (alternate)** – student filmmaker Winston-Salem State University

**ABOUT RIVERRUN:** The RiverRun International Film Festival is a non-profit cultural organization dedicated to the role of cinema as a conduit of powerful ideas and diverse viewpoints. Founded in 1998, RiverRun is a competitive event that annually showcases new films from both established and emerging filmmakers around the world. Each spring, RiverRun screens new narrative, documentary, short, student and animated films, offering both audience and jury prizes in competition categories. The Festival also presents a broad range of special events each year, including high-profile regional premieres of significant films, celebrity tributes, family matinees and classic retrospectives as well as a variety of panel discussions and parties.

**SPONSORS:** The sponsors of the 2011 RiverRun International Film Festival help sustain the organization's mission to foster a greater appreciation of cinema and a deeper understanding of the many people, cultures and perspectives of our world through regular interaction with great films and filmmakers. This year's Festival sponsors includes: Title Sponsors – Reynolds American and The Arts Council of Winston-Salem; Presenting Sponsors – City of Winston-Salem, the Millennium Fund, the Winston Salem Foundation and University of North Carolina School of the Arts; Marquee Sponsors – BB&T, Flow Automotive, Hanesbrands Inc., Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, a/perture and ShapiroWalker Design.

**TICKETS AND INFO:** This year, RiverRun will be show films at a/perture cinema (311 W. Fourth St.), Hanesbrands Theatre (209 N. Spruce St.) and at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (1533 S. Main St.). Tickets are on sale now at the Stevens Center box office, via [www.riverrunfilm.com](http://www.riverrunfilm.com) or over the phone (336-721-1945). For up-to-date information, or for details about volunteering at the Festival, visit [www.riverrunfilm.com](http://www.riverrunfilm.com) or call 336-724-1502.

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