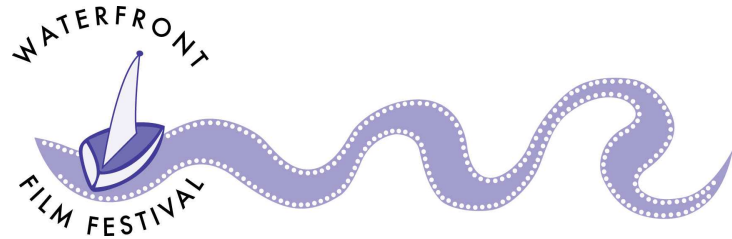


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Waterfront Film Festival wins ‘ArtsAlive!’ *Annual non-profit film festival garners 16,655 votes*

Allegan County, Michigan, Oct. 28, 2011 – Waterfront Film Festival finished first among 17 Allegan County arts organizations in the annual Keep Your ArtsAlive! competition held by the Allegan County Community Foundation.

Supporters of independent film voted 16,655 times for Waterfront Film Festival, providing a dollar in direct funding for each of those votes. With the first place finish, the festival also earns a \$5,000 prize; bringing in a much-needed boost of more than \$21,000 to go toward the 2012 festival (June 14-17, 2012).

ArtsAlive! allows the public to vote an unlimited number of times, for \$1 per vote. The funding goes directly to the chosen arts organization and helps keep vital programs and services in place for the coming year.

“The ArtsAlive! competition was an amazing idea of the Allegan County Community Foundation. It provides a platform for arts organizations to raise additional funds, money they would otherwise not have,” said Waterfront Film Festival Co-Founder Dori DePree.

More than 600 people from 15 states voted in the 2011 competition. In all, nearly \$90,000 was raised for participating organizations.

Top-five finalists

- 1st place – Waterfront Film Festival, 16,655 votes (\$21,655)
- 2nd place – Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 13,726 votes (\$18,726)
- 3rd place – Mason Street Warehouse, 9,618 votes (\$14,618)
- 4th place – Allegan Area Arts Council, 4,744 (\$9,744)
- 5th place – Children’s Museum of Fennville, 4,270 votes (\$9,270)

Waterfront Film Festival is a non-profit organization that relies on donations to operate each year. Donations to Waterfront are tax deductible, and all donations go to operating the annual volunteer-run festival, held each June in Saugatuck, Mich. Unique and exciting perks and opportunities are provided to cash and in-kind sponsors of the Film Festival.

For more information on becoming a sponsor, contact sponsorship@waterfrontfilm.org

About Waterfront Film Festival

Now in its fourteenth year, Waterfront Film Festival celebrates independent film and filmmakers in a non-competitive environment. Located in Saugatuck, Mich., WFF is one of the leading destination film festivals in the Midwest, regularly hosting Midwest premieres of Academy Award-winning and -nominated documentaries. It has been recognized as one of the top five film festivals in the United States.

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