



For Immediate Release

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NANTUCKET FILM FESTIVAL WELCOMES BRIAN WILLIAMS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Screenwriting festival announces also appoints Livia Bloom to
festival programming team**

The Fourteenth Annual Festival Takes Place June 19-21

New York, NY – Today the Nantucket Film Festival (NFF) announces that they are accepting submissions for the 14th annual festival. They also welcome two additions to the festival, including longtime participant Brian Williams joining its Board of Directors. Mr. Williams has served as the host of the festival’s Screenwriters Tribute since 1997. “Brian has become a constant of the festival over the years,” said Executive Director Colin Stanfield. “His participation in events such as the Screenwriter Tribute and Late Night Storytelling has always been a joy, and we’re glad to have him on board to take a more active role in the festival.”

NFF also adds Livia Bloom to its programming team. Ms. Bloom comes to the festival from the Museum of the Moving Image in New York, where she helped organize a rich, diverse film program that included historical retrospectives and exclusive preview events. Her credentials also include work with the Maysles Cinema in Harlem, the French Embassy in New York, The Jewish Museum, and the Film Society of Lincoln Center. Ms. Bloom is a regular contributor to the quarterly film journal *Cinema Scope* and she is currently editing a book on filmmaker Errol Morris for the University of Mississippi Press.

“We’re delighted that Livia Bloom has joined our festival programming team,” says Artistic Director Mystelle Brabbée, who will be working alongside Ms. Bloom. “Each year, the NFF film program takes on its own unique character and Livia adds a fresh, informed perspective that will appeal to loyal festival-goers and serious cinephiles as well as to new audiences.”

In addition to film submissions, the festival is also accepting submissions for the annual Screenwriters Competition. Winners of the Screenwriters Competition are invited to Nantucket’s Screenwriters Colony and Workshop. Ms Brabbée said, “The Screenwriters Colony is the perfect opportunity for these emerging talents to develop their scripts under steady guidance, and to really concentrate on their work with no distractions.” Scripts that have been developed at the Screenwriters Colony include Mitchell Lichtenstein’s *Teeth* and Sophie Bartes’ *Cold Souls*.

Previous winners include 2002 recipient *Down to the Bone* by Debra Granik, which went on to be included in the 2004 Sundance Film Festival; 2007 recipient *Peck* by Marc

Arneson, which recently filmed starring Marcia Cross; and 2006 recipient *Cold Souls* by Sophie Bartes, which stars Paul Giamatti and was acquired by Samuel Goldwyn as it played on the festival circuit. Ms. Bartes first met Mr. Giamatti at NFF, which is where she presented the script to him. "While the festival doesn't have a reputation as a marketplace, *Cold Souls* is yet another example of how the festival's intimate setting facilitates connections that make way for future projects," Ms. Brabbée said.

The NFF® was founded in 1996 to spotlight screenwriters, screenwriting and storytelling in today's cinema. The festival takes place over five days in June on the idyllic island of Nantucket, MA. Now in its fourteenth year, NFF® has become a prestigious annual event within the international film industry. The festival is a significant attraction that draws over ten thousand attendees, screenwriters, producers, agents and development executives each year.

For more information please visit our website at www.nantucketfilmfestival.org.

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