

# 2009 TORONTO STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

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Colin Cunningham

April 30, 2009

Dear TSFF Festival-Goers and Entrants,

Immediately following the April 25, 2009 festival, it was brought to our attention that one of the film-makers in the 2009 TSFF Nominee Showcase (and also an award-winner) is actually over age 21, a key requirement for the TORONTO STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL. .

Hence, we have disqualified "Alive," submitted by Dalmira Tilepbergenova from Russia. We have been in direct contact with Dalmira, and she has confirmed that she has indeed returned to secondary school studies, but has admitted that her age is well above 21.

This disqualification directly results in the following change in awards:

- **1st Place – Overall Film Achievement is now awarded to "Tiny Pillows" by Joseph Procopio. (previously 2<sup>nd</sup> place)**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Overall Film Achievement is now awarded to "Last Minutes" by Jeremy Thibodeau. (previously 3<sup>rd</sup> place)**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Overall Film Achievement is now awarded to "Marco" by Evgenia Golubeva.**

The film "Alive" was also chosen by the festival audience for the Smashbox People's Choice Award. While the film-maker has also returned this award, the Festival Executive is not comfortable in choosing an alternate winner for the People's Choice. Hence, the cash portion of this award will be retained by the TSFF and used for 2010 awards.

We regret this turn of events but wish to assure you and all future participants that the TORONTO STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL is committed to celebrating YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT in film and, as such, we pledge to be more diligent in confirming that all entries are submitted by qualified youth film-makers under age 21.

Please be sure to visit the TSFF web site to see a list of all award winners. This will be posted the week of May4th. We look forward to your submissions for the 2010 festival next Spring.

Sincerely,

Jamie Macrae  
Festival Director

Pat Macdonald  
Executive Producer

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TORONTO STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

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