

WINNERS LIST OF 62ND ZLÍN FILM FESTIVAL 2022

Prizes awarded by the statutory juries

International Expert Jury for Feature Films in the Children's Category

Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Children's Category

Gandhi & Co. (IND, 2021), directed by Manish Saini

International Jury for Feature Films for Children and Youth awards the main prize to a loving, true and human story that emphasises to both child and adult viewers, with a precise amount of humour and pandering cliches, the universal values that are so necessary for our world.

Karel Zeman Award – Special Recognition for Best Visual Concept in a Feature Film in the Children's Category

Dragon Princess (FRA, 2021), directed by Anthony Roux, Jean-Jacques Denis

International Jury for Feature Films for Children and Youth awards the Karel Zeman Prize to a gentle and amiable film that, with its original and poetic treatment, brings to viewers a new way of understanding a powerful and so more important message about the need for love and hope.

International Expert Jury for Feature Films in the Junior and Youth Category

Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Junior Category

A Second Life (TUN, 2021) directed by Anis Lassoued

Anis Lassoued's A Second Life asks difficult questions and refuses easy answers regarding how we strike a moral balance between the rights of children and the responsibilities of their parents. This film's quietly audacious narrative structure and style help us to experience the disorientating and destructive effects of family secrets, and to understand that such secrets often affect the family's youngest members most of all. In doing so, A Second Life encourages us not simply to talk honestly about the lives of children, but also to talk honestly with children about their lives.

Golden Slipper for Best Feature Film in the Youth Category

Olga (FRA/SUI/UKR, 2021) directed by Elie Grappe

Elie Grappe's Olga speaks powerfully about our present moment in several ways. At the level of story, this film shares an intelligent and important analysis of the long-term political roots of the current crisis in Ukraine. But its sophisticated cinematographic choices also illustrate the complex ways in which contemporary screen and social media have the capacity to cut off, as well as connect, individuals and entire cultures from each other. Olga immerses its audience in the experience of the people and places it depicts. Yet it also reminds us that connecting to the lives of others is an ethical responsibility as much for the audiences who watch films as it is for the artists who make them.

Special Jury Prize in a Feature Film in the Junior and Youth Category

The Tenant (IND/USA, 2021) directed by Sushrut Jain

Sushrut Jain's The Tenant is that rarest of things: an elegant and engaging comedy of manners that treats both its adult and adolescent audiences with equal attention and respect. This film showcases a fine comic ensemble cast while also asking searching questions about the relationship between social media and sexual politics in modern-day Mumbai.

Special mention

Comedy Queen (SWE, 2022) directed by Sanna Lenken

Sanna Lenken's Comedy Queen is an emotionally generous and moving portrait of a young teenager learning to embrace life by confronting death. Taking its cue from the stand-up comedy world in which it is partially set, this film exemplifies the self-empowerment that comes from talking openly about taboos and the countless aspects of life that we permit ourselves to learn and laugh more about as a result.

Joint International Jury of Children and Adults for Short Animations for Children

Golden Slipper for Best Short Animation for Children

Suzie in the Garden (CZE, 2022), directed by Lucie Sunková

In this richly graphic film, a touching and poetic story is unfolded that tenderly relates and impacts young audiences as well as adults. The story is emphasized by a strong use of color and composition, and by a challenging technique and style.

Hermína Týrlová Award for Best Short Animation for Children up to 6 Years of Age

Water Drop (FRA, 2021), Anjun Zou, Melodie Leger Rimbart, Yu Liu, Kevin Hamimi

Through distinctive character design and an imaginative approach to environmental issues this animation creates an original world in which the young audiences can see the importance of the messages delivered.

Special mention

IDODO (SUI, 2022) directed by Ursula Ulmi

In this imaginative animated short film, a dazzling way of style is used to explore the untold stories that remain only as collective memory of communities but through this medium are given a voice for discovering new cultures and worlds.

Children's Jury for Feature Films in the Children's Category

Award of the Children's Jury for Best Feature Film in the Children's Category

Dragon Princess (FRA, 2021), directed by Anthony Roux, Jean-Jacques Denis

We, the Children's Jury for Feature Films in the Children's Category, chose the film Dragon Princess as the best feature film for children. It is a story of a dragon princess and a princess from a castle. The main role plays the friendship between the two princesses, which is complicated due to their origin. We were most captured by "fantasy" animation in the film, and also by its various plot, which does not concentrate only on good and evil. We appreciate the portrayal of the characters, which is why this film won in our category.

European Youth Jury for Feature Films for Youth

Award of the Youth Jury for Best Feature Film in the Junior and Youth Category

Olga (FRA/SUI/UKR, 2021) directed by Elie Grappe

We chose this film because of a historical sports story that is full of family relationships and politics. The main character of our age is a passionate gymnast with whom we were able to identify. The film is dramatically tuned to the last minutes. The visual page confirmed our choice, which is why we recommend this film to our peers and others.

International Expert Jury for Student Films Zlín Dog

Zlín Dog Award for Best Student Film (with prize money of EUR 1000)

A Dark Moment of Faith (GER, 2022) directed by Zornitsa Dimitrova

The film tells a story of a young woman who lives in a bleak, poverty-stricken society, where you need to sell your body as a commodity to survive. A sensitive social drama with good acting performances and a camera that used the environment very cleverly and provided us with a convincing view of the film. It is a strong, sad film that illuminates one of the darkest aspects of life, forced prostitution and human trafficking, unfortunately often practiced not only in "modern" Europe, but all over the world. And the prize for the best film goes to The Dark Moment of Faith.

Jury Award in the Animation Category

The Hole (POL, 2020) directed by Piotr Kaźmierczak

The short cartoon tells a simple story of a fight against absence, emptiness and loneliness of a man whose only friend is a hole in the paper. The award for the best student animated film goes to the Polish film A Hole.

Special mention

Goodbye, Jerome! (FRA, 2021) directed by Adam Sillard, Gabrielle Selnet, Chloé Farr

The jury has decided to give special mention to the student animated film, which brings the main actor to the unknown celestial corners of the fantastic world and together with he seeks answers to the questions.

Jury Award in the Live-Action Category

The Hero (POL, 2021) directed by Milena Dutkowska

This fleeting film poem is sensitively told from the point of view of a ten-year-old child who copes with the departure of a loved one. The poetic film first fascinated and amused us,

then made us sad so that it could gently caress and calm us in the end. The film Hero left us with a deep film experience.

Jury Award in the Documentary Category

Long Live Death (SVK, 2021) directed by Robert Mihály

The jury appreciates the students' determination to take to the streets and, with a certain urgency, to record the current events of turbulent Bratislava with pulsating views countering democracy. The footage and testimonies from the anti-vaccination demonstration are framed with the commentary by the creators that observes the theme of a divided society in the broader context of cultural and social values. They do so with distance and foresight. If, due to the encapsulation of opinions, it is not possible to debate freely in the streets face to face, the film itself becomes a way to learn and grasp this social phenomenon.

Prizes awarded by non-statutory juries

ECFA – International Jury

Europe Award – the European Children's Film Association Award for Best European Documentary Film for Young Audience

Gabi, Between the Ages 8 and 13 (SWE/NOR/DNK, 2021) directed by Engeli Brobert

The film we have found to be a unique insight into the life and mind of a young protagonist while defining the gender identity.

Special mention

Shabu (NLD/BEL, 2021) directed by Shamira Raphaëla

We have found this film to be an authentic portrait of an adolescent growing up in a Community, where family ties play an essential role. Also we appreciated the beautiful and innovative cinematic language of the film.

International Ecumenical Jury

Ecumenical Jury Award for Best Feature Film in the Junior and Youth Category

Coast (USA, 2022) directed by Jessica Hester, Derek Schweickart

For its unpretentious way of telling a simple coming of age story of the 16 years old Abby, growing up in a small rural Californian community with a large immigrant population. A place that a rebel such as Abby has to make out in order to find herself by leaving behind her roots, mother's footsteps, family and friends' issues, or even boredom. But sometimes dreams are just not big enough to leave home. A beautiful story about the prodigal son that never left town, but still made important life path choices by staying.

Mention

Bigman (NLD/GER, 2022) directed by Camiel Schouwenaar

For Dylan's inspirational drive to overcome sufferance and vulnerability and pursue happiness and fulfill his passion by any means and sacrifices. For depicting so nicely children's friendship, solidarity and wisdom above adults parenting shortcomings'.

Audience awards

Golden Apple – the City of Zlín Audience Award for Best Feature Film in the Children's, Junior and Youth Category

My Brothers Dream Awake (CHI, 2021) directed by Claudia Huaiquimilla

ČT: D Audience Award for Best Short Animation for Children

Sun (CZE, 2021) directed by Jakub Brokl

Patron of Children Award for Powerful Children's Story in the Children's, Junior and Youth Category

Olga (FRA/SUI/UKR, 2021) directed by Elie Grappe

Prizes awarded by the Filmfest

Festival President's Award

Pavel Zedníček, Karel Heřmánek