



# 24 INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG AUDIENCE

## THE WINNERS

- The festival attracted about 25,000 visitors
- Main Prizes go to Estonia, France, Belgium & Germany
- 11 juries awarded 19 prizes, valued all together at 64,000 Euro (Most of this prize money will be invested in dubbing the films, to make them available for German audience.)
- The festival screened 233 productions in total, from 52 countries, 128 titles in competition

# THE WINNERS OF THE 24 INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SCHLINGEL

## AWARDS OF THE EUROPEAN CHILDREN'S JURY

European Children's Jury: 17 children from nine different countries

- **European Children's Film Award (Supporting Award) by the Saxon Ministry of Culture** ..... 4
- **DIAMANT – Award for the best child actor** ..... 4

## AWARDS OF THE PROFESSIONAL JURY FEATURE FILM INTERNATIONAL

Jury: Beate Biermann, MDR; Cosima Stracke-Nawka, SLM; Egmont Elschner, lecturer; Peter Kroker, journalist

- **SLM Top Award (Supporting Award)** ..... 5
- **Chemnitz Award (Supporting Award)** ..... 5
- **MDR Special Award (Supporting Award)** ..... 6

## AWARD OF THE YOUTH JURY ..... 7

Youth jury: six students of the Karl-Schmidt-Rottluff-Gymnasiums

## AWARD OF THE JUNIOR JURY ..... 7

Junior jury: five students of the Sportoberschule Chemnitz

## AWARDS OF THE PROFESSIONAL JURY FEATURE FILM NATIONAL

Jury: Maria Fiedler, Goethe-Institut Salvador de Bahia / Brazil; Tamta Gotchitashvili, Goethe-Institut Tbilissi / Georgia; Mirko Wiermann, DEFA-Foundation; Nepomuk Zettl, Goethe-Institut Munich

- **DEFA Foundation Award** ..... 8
- **Children's and Youth Film Award of the Goethe-Institut** ..... 8

## AWARD OF THE PROFESSIONAL JURY SHORT AND ANIMATED FILM ... 9

Jury: Dr. Rolf Giesen, film journalist; Mirjam Mager, Filmverband Sachsen; Ines Wolter, Filmwerkstatt Chemnitz

**AWARD OF THE ECFA JURY ..... 9**

Jury: Prof. Dr. Cecile Sandten, Germany; KIM Sang-hwa, South Korea; Nora Lakos, Hungary

**AWARD OF THE FIPRESCI JURY ..... 10**

Jury: Kamuran Egri, Germany; Ivan Magri-Chagnolleau, France; Roberto Tirapelle, Italy

**AWARD OF THE ECUMENICAL JURY ..... 10**

Jury: Dagmar Petrick, Germany; Carlos Aguilera Albesa, Spain; Jesper Ödemark, Sweden

**FAIR PLAY AWARD ..... 11**

Fair Play Jury: five students from Giffoni / Italy and six students of the Agricola-Gymnasium

**AUDIENCE AWARD ..... 11**

**AUDIENCE AWARD Filmpalast Astoria ZWICKAU ..... 11**

**AWARDS SHORT FILM COMPETITION (awarded on 9 October) ..... 12**

Jury: Dr. Rolf Giesen, Germany; Mirjam Mager, Germany; Ines Wolter, Germany

- **Short Feature Film Award National**
- **Short Feature Film Award International**
- **Short Film Award Animation National**
- **Short Film Award Animation International**

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**Press Contact**

Christin Franz M.A.  
Public Relations  
International Film Festival SCHLINGEL

Tel: +49 371 4 44 74-41  
Phone: +49 151 46 19 69 53  
[press@ff-schlingel.de](mailto:press@ff-schlingel.de)  
[www.ff-schlingel.de](http://www.ff-schlingel.de)

Organiser: Saechsischer Kinder- und JugendfilmDienst e.V. // Neefestraße 99 // 09119 Chemnitz, Germany

**// AWARDS OF THE EUROPEAN CHILDREN'S JURY**

**European Children's Film Award by the Saxon Ministry of Culture**

endowed by the Saxon State Ministry for Science & Fine Arts (12,500 Euros // supporting award)

**PHANTOM OWL FOREST**

**Estonia, 2018**

**Directed by: Anu Aun**

**Justification:**

This story has captivated us from the very start. We were happy to be enchanted and kidnapped to a beautiful winter wonderland. Unique images of endangered animals once again showed us the importance of nature's protection. We learned how valuable it is to spend time with your family and how important it is to communicate about all possible problems. Because only together we are strong!

**DIAMANT – Award for Best Child Actor**

endowed by Diamant Fahrradwerke GmbH Hartmannsdorf

**Paula Rits (PHANTOM OWL FOREST)**

**Estonia, 2018**

**Directed by: Anu Aun**

**Justification:**

We want to award a realistic and very convincing performance. We could easily identify with the character's situation and felt with her. She never gave up on her final goal, bringing her beloved ones back together. Through her strong will, she managed to save not only her family, but also the common habitat of humans and animals.

## // AWARDS OF THE PROFESSIONAL JURY FEATURE FILM INTERNATIONAL

### SLM Top Award

endowed by the Saxon State Institute for Private Broadcasting and New Media SLM (10,000 Euros, supporting award)

#### **OF LOVES AND LIES**

**France / Belgium, 2019**

**Directed by: Julien Rappeneau**

#### **Justification:**

The award goes to a film whose wonderful, young protagonists have secrets that can only be revealed with unimaginable consequences. Football is a central theme, impersonated by „The Ant“, a nickname for one of the talented young players. His invitation for a test in the "Arena" excites many people, even if it's based on a lie. "Ant" and his dad team up again. An ultimate computer nerd and hacker admits that there is a real world out there, and an overstressed job planner finally has the courage to give up his job. In an empowering way, the film shows that giving up is not an option, even if goals sometimes can't be achieved and simply admitting your mistakes is not enough to save a problematic situation. The interaction between the young protagonist and his father is exceptional. With nothing polished, and nothing exaggerated, the story offers different approaches at different levels for spectators of all ages. This touching film paints a realistic picture of everyday life, entwined with the wishes and dreams of ordinary people. This film for adults and teenagers pays honour to the „Ant“ symbol.

### Chemnitz Award

endowed by the city of Chemnitz (5,000 Euros, supporting award)

#### **BORI**

**South Korea, 2018**

**Directed by: Jinyu Kim**

#### **Justification:**

Eleven-year-old Bori lives in South Korea - her parents and younger brother are deaf. Bori is the one handling things in the family. She orders pizza or discusses with the taxi driver. In this happy, loving family, Bori feels a stranger. Deafness seems to connect her brother and her parents. Bori decides she also wants to be deaf, to get closer to her family members. After a diving accident, she upholds the illusion that now she is deaf too. She experiences how people behave when they believe they can't be overheard. They will talk badly about you, they will cheat. When Bori can no longer keep up her lie and bursts out in tears, it is her family who embraces her. Bori's desire to become deaf turns the normal world upside down. The self-evident happiness in this family amazes the audience and questions the usual thought patterns about what is normal and what is not. This film is a clear and uncomplicated plea for inclusion.

## **MDR Special Award**

endowed by the public broadcaster MDR (1,000 + 5,000 Euros, supporting award)

### **SPREAD YOUR WINGS**

**France, 2019**

**Directed by: Nicolas Vanier**

#### **Justification:**

A film that inspired us all - in the purest sense of the word – showing how one can achieve its goal through courage, passion and determination. The actor dives deep into his role and takes us on an adventurous journey, during which he exceeds his own strength. A boy, hoping to spend his holidays playing computer games, doesn't feel like spending a summer with his father in the middle of nowhere. He gradually develops an interest in considerably taking care for the animals and their habitat. He takes responsibility for the environment that surrounds him. His smartphone is no longer a game console, but is indispensable as a navigation tool. In this film, a boy and his parents meet at eye level. Even adults are allowed to have their weaknesses. To rise to the occasion, the characters in this film grow closer, using their skills to save a endangered species.

// **AWARD OF THE YOUTH JURY** (1,000 Euros)

**BROKEN MIRRORS**

**Israel, 2018**

**Directed by: Imri Matalon, Aviad Givon**

**Justification:**

Multi-layered storylines, which at the end come together like a puzzle, show the complexity of the film in subtle details. Because of a disturbed father-daughter relationship, young girl Ariella sees only one way out of her problems: escaping from her family. This will lead her into great danger. Her father is also facing multiple problems, fighting with his past, that he has kept secret from his family. This is what he has to overcome in order to save his daughter. Due to strong performances, the audience feels compassion and solidarity with each character. Focusing on only a few characters lends the film its impressive profundity. Sudden turns and unpredictable situations evoke an unrelenting tension from the first moment. Well-developed secondary characters add to the film's passion for details, and create a tense atmosphere. The unpleasant reality is strongly portrayed in all its ruthlessness and openness. The topic of self-injury is illustrated from a completely new perspective.

Honorable Mention: PAPICHA (Algeria, France, Morocco, and Qatar, 2018, 105 Min.,  
Directed by: Mounia Meddour)

// **AWARD OF THE JUNIOR JURY** (non-monetary prize)

**THE LEGEND OF THE CHRISTMAS WITCH**

**Italy / Spain, 2018**

**Directed by: Michele Soavi**

**Justification:**

We award a film that is funny and thrilling at the same time, and that contains many magical moments. Children want to save their teacher who turns into a Christmas witch every year. This is the revenge of Mr. Johnny, a famous toy manufacturer who got profoundly disappointed during his childhood years. The students' dramatic rescue operation can only succeed if they stand together, and include the qualities of each individual.

Honorable Mention: KATJA (Russia 2019, 97 Min., Directed by: Wladimir Potapow)

## // AWARDS OF THE PROFESSIONAL JURY FEATURE FILM NATIONAL

### DEFA Foundation Award

endowed by the DEFA Foundation (4,000 Euros)

**SWIMMING**  
**Germany, 2018**  
**Directed by: Luzie Loose**

#### **Justification:**

Discomfort is the crucial feeling that is both shown and evoked by this film. Discomfort with one's own body, discomfort with a social environment - and that same feeling is also generated in the audience. Sometimes, however, these negatively connoted emotions are necessary in order to gain a deeper insight into the increasingly complex processes of today's world. Like in this case. Which pathways can young people take in this vulnerable age? What could be the right ways, what could be the wrong ways? At the same time, the film highlights threats that open the way to a demarcation of a boundary between the private and public life today, turning modern media into tools of exclusion and compromising. The element of water, omnipresent in the film, underlines metaphorically the fluidity and unpredictability of interpersonal relationships: swimming in a world without clearly defined places to rest. Last but not least, *SWIMMING* impresses with its metaphores, its laconic narration, shifting from sharp to blurry, and an open ending, that doesn't offer the audience a general conflict resolution.

### Children's and Youth Film Award of the Goethe-Institut

endowed by Goethe-Institut (The prize includes the purchase of the non-commercial rights and the subtitling of the films into minimum five languages.)

**TOO FAR AWAY**  
**Germany, 2019**  
**Directed by: Sarah Winkenstette**

#### **Justification:**

This film deals with the challenges of a new beginning. Sarah Winkenstette's film *TOO FAR AWAY* tells about two boys meeting each other. Through Tariq and Ben, a connection is made between the war-torn Aleppo and a village cleared for industrial exploitation. The sensitive performance of the two leading actors (Sohbi Awad and Yoran Leicher) and the multi-layered dialogues add a sensitive approach to a complex friction between alienation and the search for a homeland – a tale told for children as well as for teenagers and adults. The film shows what can be achieved when we overcome our insecurities and engage with genuine concern for our fellow human beings.



## // AWARD OF THE PROFESSIONAL JURY SHORT AND ANIMATED FILM

### Animated Feature Film Award

endowed by the German Institute for Animated Film DIAF (1,000 Euros)

#### **MUZBALAK**

**Kazakhstan, 2018**

**Directed by: Turdybek Maidan, Tilek Toleugazy**

#### **Justification:**

An animated fable from an unexpected country, a shamanic and therefore archaic nature-related story, told by people rooted in their narrative tradition - what we in the West can only afford by outsourcing to low-wage countries. Powerfully animated 2D. Yes, discoveries can really be made outside the animated Disney and Pixar universe.

## // AWARD OF THE ECFA JURY (non-monetary prize)

#### **SPREAD YOUR WINGS**

**France, 2019**

**Directed by: Nicolas Vanier**

#### **Justification:**

Based on a true story, the film that we selected from a most fascinating list of titles, tackles problems such as the difficulties of a young boy whose parents are separated and who unwillingly has to spend his summer holidays in the remotest corner of the Provence in France with his father, who is an obsessed scientist. However, the boy – like any other teenager in an urban environment today – is interested in computer games and social media, only. This coming-of-age story shows in a beautiful cinematic way how a teenage boy connects to nature and eventually takes responsibility for 22 geese as well as for his own family. The film succeeds in creating a compelling message for the public, designed to change our culture and to celebrate and perhaps even to help rescuing the environment and its exceptional wildlife. The story emotionally moves without being overbearing, and contains moments of fun, reconciliation, happiness and finally success. The twist of the story appears naturally, with well-chosen actors acting in a seemingly natural way.

// **AWARD OF THE FIPRESCI JURY** (non-monetary prize)

**PHANTOM OWL FOREST**

**Estonia, 2018**

**Directed by: Anu Aun**

**Justification:**

This film shows how it is possible to live in harmony with nature and animals, that family relationships are very important and that all generations should be involved. We praise the film's staging and cinematography. Nature and people are recorded beautifully. The very effective music soundtrack launches joyful feelings. The theme of this film is very up to date, in times when we tend to underestimate the importance of the environment in which we live and the need to protect it. The main character– a great role for Paula Rits – is the unifying force in her family.

// **AWARD OF THE ECUMENICAL JURY** (non-monetary prize)

**TOO FAR AWAY**

**Germany, 2019**

**Directed by: Sarah Winkenstette**

**Justification:**

Distances can concern many things, not only geography. Separated from his roots, eleven-year-old Ben discovers the beauty of friendship by connecting with a young refugee from Syria and this boy's pain. This story of change, migration and tolerance is beautifully and tenderly told in a child friendly manner. The film makes us question our place in life when it comes to home, relationships, environment and how the dignity of human beings does not depend on religion, culture or identity. Your value does not depend on your position in a family, a classroom or on a soccer field but rather on how you perceive yourself as an important part of something bigger.

**// FAIR PLAY AWARD**

**PAPICHA**

**Algeria / France / Morocco / Qatar, 2018**

**Directed by: Mounia Meddour**

**Justification:**

PAPICHA follows the story of Nedjma, a university student trying to put up a fashion show during the Algerian civil war. Not only due to its authentic setting, the movie raises awareness for women living in oppressive systems, fighting for their rights. This is still an important and up-to-date issue in many countries around the world. The characters, very well written and acted out, motivate the audience to develop a deep connection with them. We found this movie especially touching regarding the specific topics showcased, such as sexual abuse, terrorism and pursuing dreams. We love and highly recommend this movie!

**// AUDIENCE AWARD CHEMNITZ**

**BORI**

**South Korea, 2018**

**Directed by: Jinyu Kim**

**// AUDIENCE AWARD Filmpalast Astoria ZWICKAU**

**GIANT LITTLE ONES**

**Canada, 2018**

**Directed by: Keith Behrman**

## // AWARDS SHORT FILM COMPETITION

### Short Film Award National

endowed by Filmverband Sachsen (500 Euros)

#### **SAVEGAME**

**Germany, 2019; 5 Min.**

**Directed by: Diana Kaiser**

#### **Justification:**

Earning money with computer games is one of teenagers' strongest desires. Diving into virtual worlds is so appealing. But what happens if you can no longer top your score? At first the story seems predictable, but then follows an unexpected plot twist. The film convinces not only with its surprising dramaturgy, but also with a thoughtful narrative. In less than five minutes, the director tells a story, making a statement that might be extensively discussed over a much longer time.

Honorable Mention: Booxze (Germany 2018, 6 Min., Directed by: Till Sander-Titgemeyer, Diego Hauenstein)

### Short Film Award International

endowed by Filmverband Sachsen (500 Euros)

#### **TRACES**

**Belgium, 2018; 12 Min.**

**Directed by: Sébastien Pins**

#### **Justification:**

Among 81 short films in competition, this one was exceptional. TRACES doesn't easily expose itself to the audience, it requires the public's full attention for human handwork in the depths of the Ardennes forest, once a battlefield of war. Not another short film has visualised this theme, as if it had long been hidden in the minds of its creators.

Honorable Mention: Slowdance (Sweden 2018, 6 Min., Directed by: Christian Hansson Zetterberg)

### **Short Film Award Animation National**

endowed by AG Animationsfilm (500 Euros)

**NEST**  
**Germany, 2019; 4 Min.**  
**Directed by: Sonja Rohleder**

#### **Justification:**

Behind this colourful minimalism hides a strong piece of work, paying great attention to details. With deliberately restrained colours and sounds, the artist creates an animalistic world of extravagance. This short film manages, despite its visual restraint, to showcase the most pathetic affair in the world of nature. Seldom the search for a partner was more complicated, and even more seldom it was as successful.

### **Short Film Award Animation International**

endowed by AG Animationsfilm (500 Euros)

**HORS PISTE**  
**France, 2018; 6 Min.**  
**Directed by: Léo Brunel, Loris Cavalier, Camille Jalabert, Oscar Mallet**

#### **Justification:**

Entertaining 3D animation as it should be: A comical rescue operation in the high mountains - excellent characters, quality animation with an eye for detail, superb comical timing, soundtrack - animation that doesn't exclude a single age group, pure laughter, to which our sponsor might feel a little offense, but the audience was totally convinced. One of the few short films in this selection, that one would like to see again and again – which really means something.

Honorable Mention: Wolf Paths (Czech Republic 2018, 10 Min., Directed by: Noemi Valentíny, Vojtěch Dočkal)