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QFilms Long Beach announces festival winners and an encore showing of films from the festival online this weekend, October 7-10

The 28th Annual festival is a benefit for the LGBTQ Center Long Beach to support services for youth, older adults, trans health, legal services, and more

Long Beach, CA (October 6, 2021) – QFilms Long Beach, the film festival benefit presented by the **LGBTQ Center Long Beach**, announces today the winners from last week’s event and for the first time, an encore online festival of most films shown in the festival will be available. From Thursday, October 7 through October 10 nearly 70 films will be available to stream at www.QFilmsLongBeach.com, including Best Feature winner **SUMMERTIME** by **RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON** director **Carlos López Estrada**, Best Documentary winner **FANNY: THE RIGHT TO ROCK, JUMP, DARLING** featuring Oscar-winning actress **Cloris Leachman** in her last lead performance where she is recognized for Acting (Stand Out Performance, and Best Director (Documentary) **Andrea Meyerson**, a Long Beach resident, for **THIS IS JESSICA**. Tickets are \$7.50 per film or program or \$65 for a Virtual All Access Pass.

“We are thrilled to offer the opportunity for audiences to check out more films from the comfort of their own homes and devices,” said Carlos Torres, executive director of the LGBTQ Center Long Beach. “Our volunteer selection committee viewed hundreds of films and chose a diverse ray of films that reflect the LGBTQ population from around the world.”

THIS IS JESSICA follows a Long Beach transgender woman in her lifelong transition from a strict Mormon environment, through the military and traditional family rearing to gender transition and becoming a LGBTQ activist. Long Beach resident and director Andrea Meyerson was awarded Best Director (Documentary). **SUMMERTIME**, a spoken word musical that follows the lives of 27 Angelenos over the course of a day, picks up a total of 5 awards including Best

Feature, Best Screenplay, Ensemble, Music, and Cinematography. FANNY: THE RIGHT TO ROCK, a documentary about the first female band to be signed by a major label who went on to inspire David Bowie, Bonnie Raitt, Todd Rundgren, and the B-52s, picks up 2 awards for Best Documentary and Music. JUMP, DARLING was awarded for 2 ACTING (Stand Out Performance) awards, the Oscar-winning actress Cloris Leachman in her last lead role, and actor Thomas Duplessie. A full list of winners is available at www.QFilmsLongBeach.com/awards.

The festival which is a benefit for The Center is now in its 28th year and is the oldest film festival in Long Beach. The LGBTQ Center Long Beach supports more than 25,000 people a year through programs including youth and family services, older adult services, mental health counseling, legal services, domestic violence support, trans health programs, HIV and STI testing, and more than 20 weekly support groups. Currently many of these services are offered online during the pandemic.

Platinum Sponsors include the Los Angeles County Department of Arts & Culture. Silver Sponsors are the Arts Council for Long Beach, Keen Social, Lola's Mexican Cuisine, Patrick Doonan & Paul Thompson, Port of Long Beach, and St. Mary Medical Center Foundation. Bronze Sponsors are APLA, Downtown Long Beach Alliance, Keir Jones / State Farm, Water Replenishment District, and Nolan Ross & Company. Star Sponsors are Long Beach Transit, Los Altos United Methodist Church, Mike DeForeest & Greg Ainsworth, and Woody Sides & Robert Wallace. Film Sponsors are Earl Jordan / State Farm, AIDS Food Store, Sindee M. Smolowitz Of Counsel Velasco Law Group, and Temple Israel. Significant donations from the Nicandra Thomas Transgender Services Fund and several anonymous donors.

For more information on the LGBTQ Center Long Beach and QFilms Long Beach, visit CenterLB.org or follow @CenterLB on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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