

NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARDS

FINALISTS & WINNERS - MAY 2026

BEST FEATURE FILM

Silent Regrets Director Andrew Parnell (WINNER)

Khatai Director Radhika Bansal

Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi

BEST SHORT FILM

Pink Trees Director Malhar Abhijit Talwalkar (WINNER)

The Spark Directors Hai Tzu Wu, Chin Hsuan Chiu

Pain Sits Quietly Directors Ahsan Ali, Sabrina Aziz

A Dance Call Director Pablo Destito

The Communicator Director Christy Smith – Sloman

Endless and Alluring Like This Road Director Alireza Ghoreishi

The Homecoming Director Brian Timoney

Stai Bene Director Sean Daniel Cunningham

Toy Gun Director Keenan Gray

The Knowing Director Marcus January

Ogygia Director Nina Paterson

BEST UNDER 5 MINUTE FILM

A World Class Superpower Director Mikael Genachte-Le Bail (WINNER)

False Perception Director Sharon Eitany

Cebu Provincial Director Miguel Santillan

BEST INDIE FEATURE

Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (WINNER)

BEST INDIE SHORT

The Celebration Director Jack Kudas (WINNER)

Endless and Alluring Like This Road Director Alireza Ghoreishi

The Farewell Directors Joey Mosca, Kaia Josephine

BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

Unmistaken Director Chris Lang (WINNER)

From Gaza with Love Directors Charles Villa, Suhail Nassar

Bancorruptcy Submitter Scott Bartle

The hunt for the last nazis Director Dan Goldberg

BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

Wearing Colors Director Isaac Jaemin Shim (WINNER)

Shadows of the Korean Dream Director Shinwoo Kim

The twenty year cure Director David Fong Young Cheung

BEST STUDENT FILM

The Spark Directors Hai Tzu Wu, Chin Hsuan Chiu (WINNER)

Wearing Colors Director Isaac Jaemin Shim

MythoLogic Director Johnson Qiang

Hard Break Director Kaitlyn Maher

Hidden Jab Directors Michael Bernardi, Michael Fischer

BEST EXPERIMENTAL FILM

No Prompt Director Diego Clericuzio (WINNER)

BEST AI FILM

Emilys Submitter Alizard Jérôme (WINNER)

Splat Director Andrew Shaw

Doe Director Pierre Le Goff

Haydon: Patron Saint of the Obsessed Director Lucas Sabeau

Unfulfilled dreams Director Ajit Suryabhan Vahadane

Milo Director Venkatesh Balasubramanian

Immortality Director Min Chul Choi

BEST MUSIC VIDEO	BEST TRAILER
<p>Jorja Smith - Price Of It All Director KC Locke (WINNER) <i>Another Fall Directors Laura Katie mcentee, Eric Scott Klein Shannon Directors Ron Hood, Dean Lomax King Satan - Light of Darkness Director Seth Aleister de King Satan</i></p>	<p>Cat Cat Mouse Director Ornella Hawthorn Gardez (WINNER)</p>
BEST COMEDY FILM	BEST ADVENTURE FILM
<p>A World Class Superpower Director Mikael Genachte-Le Bail (WINNER)</p>	<p>The First Rain in May Director Asiana Weddington (WINNER)</p>
BEST ACTION FILM	BEST HORROR FILM
<p>Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (WINNER) <i>Five Stars Director Demetrius Joyette</i></p>	<p>The Celebration Director Jack Kudas (WINNER)</p>
BEST DRAMA FILM	BEST MUSICAL FILM
<p>Pink Trees Director Malhar Abhijit Talwalkar (WINNER) <i>The Service Entrance Director Colin Mercer Milo Director Venkatesh Balasubramanian</i></p>	<p>Rappaccini's Daughter Director Lorena Maza (WINNER)</p>
BEST FAN FILM	BEST INSPIRATIONAL FILM
<p>The Black Pearl Director Gaultier Barra (WINNER) <i>A World Class Superpower Director Mikael Genachte-Le Bail</i></p>	<p>A vast algorithm of humanity: The Movie Director Younguee Yoo (WINNER) <i>Unmistaken Director Chris Lang No Prompt Director Diego Clericuzio</i></p>
BEST DIRECTOR	BEST 1ST TIME DIRECTOR
<p>Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (WINNER - Feature) The Celebration Director Jack Kudas (WINNER - Short) <i>Pink Trees Director Malhar Abhijit Talwalkar The Homecoming Director Brian Timoney Five Stars Director Demetrius Joyette Small Talk Full Mouth Director Jelena Sorkin</i></p>	<p>Khatai Director Radhika Bansal (WINNER - Feature) The Spark Directors Hai Tzu Wu, Chin Hsuan Chiu (WINNER - Short) <i>The Communicator Director Christy Smith – Sloman Of Same River Directors Jiaxin Sun, Haoyu Shi</i></p>
BEST STUDENT DIRECTOR	BEST PRODUCER
<p>The First Rain in May Director Asiana Weddington (WINNER) <i>Hard Break Director Kaitlyn Maher</i></p>	<p>(Kane Kosugi, Shane Kosugi, Kansuke Asano, Misaki Ayano) Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (WINNER) <i>Daejeon Transit Director Seo Min-kyu</i></p>
BEST ACTOR	BEST ACTING ENSEMBLE
<p>(Ben Mackay) The Homecoming Director Brian Timoney (WINNER) <i>(Krystian Bester) Future Days Director Tom Xiao (Kansuke Asano) Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (Ahsan Ali) Pain Sits Quietly Directors Ahsan Ali, Sabrina Aziz</i></p>	<p>Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (WINNER)</p>

BEST CHILD ACTRESS	BEST YOUNG ACTRESS
Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (WINNER)	(Isol Young) Hard Break Director Kaitlyn Maher (WINNER)
BEST STUNT PERFORMER	BEST COSTUMES
Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (WINNER)	The Celebration Director Jack Kudas (WINNER)
BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY	BEST ORIGINAL PROP
(CJ Savastano) The Celebration Director Jack Kudas (WINNER) <i>Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi</i>	(Gaultier Barra) The Black Pearl Director Gaultier Barra (WINNER)
BEST SOUNDTRACK	BEST SONG
(Peter Chiang) The Spark Directors Hai Tzu Wu, Chin Hsuan Chiu (WINNER) <i>Monterrey East Director Gabriela Téllez</i>	(Ron Hood) Shannon Directors Ron Hood, Dean Lomax (WINNER) <i>(Ca devait arriver by Jay Hawkins, Guy Marchand, Ginger Britt Daniels)</i> <i>Cat Cat Mouse Director Ornella Hawthorn Gardez</i>
BEST FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHY	BEST DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY
Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (WINNER)	A Dance Call Director Pablo Destito (WINNER) <i>(Mia Sommer) Coming Up Roses Director Mia Sommer</i>
BEST EDITING	BEST ORIGINAL STORY
Seek II: The Unsung Scars Director Shane Kosugi (WINNER)	(Bushra Farook) Baba Director Bushra Farook (WINNER)
BEST FEATURE SCRIPT	BEST SERIES PILOT SCRIPT
Broken Worlds Writer Terry Luke Podnar (WINNER) <i>Cael Writer Christian Dalton</i> <i>Not Yet Submitter Taylor Bartczak</i> <i>Don't Eat the Mushrooms Writer Robert C. Hall</i>	Love, In Theory Submitter Isabel Lorraine (WINNER)
BEST SHORT SCRIPT	BEST SCI-FI SCRIPT
The Higher To Heaven You'll Be Writers Justin V. Ricci, Lolia Etomi (WINNER) <i>The Review Panel Writer Nathaniel Brooks</i>	Broken Worlds Writer Terry Luke Podnar (WINNER)
BEST DRAMA SCRIPT	BEST 1ST TIME SCREENWRITER
Not Yet Submitter Taylor Bartczak (WINNER) <i>The Review Panel Writer Nathaniel Brooks</i>	Scallywags Writer Jason McCullough (WINNER) <i>Batam Crossing Writer Arief Nugroho</i>
BEST ORIGINAL SCRIPT	
Not Yet Submitter Taylor Bartczak (WINNER)	

HONORABLE MENTIONS

**(Ahsan Ali) Pain Sits Quietly Directors Ahsan Ali, Sabrina Aziz
(Actor)**

**The Communicator Director Christy Smith – Sloman
(1st Time Director - Short)**

**Endless and Alluring Like This Road Director Alireza Ghoreishi
(Indie Short)**

**The Homecoming Director Brian Timoney
(Director – Short)**

**Five Stars Director Demetrius Joyette
(Action Film)**

**Hard Break Director Kaitlyn Maher
(Student Film)**

**Milo Director Venkatesh Balasubramanian
(Drama Film)**