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Catch Rising & Diverse Film Talent at University of Arizona's *I Dream in Widescreen* on April 29, 2017

March 3, 2017

I Dream in Widescreen | idiw.tftv.arizona.edu Doors open 6:00pm | Screening 7:00pm \$5 General Admission | Fox Tucson Theatre UA Fine Arts Box Office for Advance Tickets NOW Screening Sponsors Rica & Harvey Spivack (520) 621-1162 | M-F | 12pm – 4pm or online at tickets.arizona.edu

Tucson, Arizona – "I'm learning to make movies for you, Grandma," said senior filmmaker, Stacy Howard, whose Navajo grandmother asked her why she was going to school for filmmaking. Howard is originally from Mexican Water, Arizona, an unincorporated community in the Navajo Nation in Apache County, and her thesis film at *I Dream in Widescreen* is called, *Amásání* (*The Grandma*). Howard's short film is just one of many unique stories by emerging University of Arizona filmmakers in 2017.

I Dream in Widescreen is an annual screening event where people have the chance to see original films from the UA Film & Television program before they travel the world to major international film festivals, such as Sundance and the Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale).

"The growing quality of this work by our students is bringing increasing distinction to not only the filmmakers, but also to the faculty, the School of Theatre Film & Television, and the University of Arizona," said UA School of Theatre, Film & Television Director, Bruce Brockman. "National and international film festivals and industry partners are continuing to take note of this amazing film work."

The Film & Television program is welcoming some new sponsors and some returning sponsors from the film industry, including Fancy Film Post; Entertainment Partners, the creator of Movie Magic Budgeting and Scheduling; Film Tucson; Neil Benton Arts & Entertainment, Pollution Studios; Other World Computing; as well as the UA Hanson Film Institute. Some of the sponsors are offering generous and meaningful awards to celebrate the film students' accomplishments and help them continue to make films.

The graduating BFA filmmakers will compete for the Fancy New Filmmaker Award and the Other World Computing Award for Excellence in Editing, in addition to other awards that offer a cash value.

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From a timely and moving story about an undocumented immigrant mother by Tanya Núñez, called *Dios Nunca Muere (God Never Dies)*, to a mystery-comedy about cheating students and a teacher who is determined to find their method in *Pizza*, by Evan Colten, this year's thesis films are both imaginative and diverse.

"I know my classmates and I are really looking forward to sharing *I Dream in Widescreen* with anyone who loves movies," said graduating senior filmmaker, Margaret (Maggie) Adams.

This year's BFA thesis film competition will be judged by Katie Walsh, a Los Angeles-based film critic and journalist; Lars Kelto, the Technology Director, Shorts Programmer and Animator for Michael Moore's Traverse City Film Festival; and Mike Plante, University of Arizona Media Arts alum, who is a Senior Programmer with Short Films for the Sundance Film Festival.

Graduates from the UA Film & Television program have achieved success in writing, directing, development, production, talent management, cinematography and special effects. Notable alumni include Ari Sandel (*West Bank Story*); producer, Scott Stuber (*Ted, Ted 2, The Third Wheel*); 20th Century Fox's Visual FX Executive, John Kilkenny (*X-Men, Life of Pi, Titanic*); and Kendall Aliment Ostrow, now Digital Agent for United Talent Agency.

I Dream In Widescreen is made possible with support from the UA School of Theatre, Film & Television's Student Differential Tuition Funds, the UA Hanson Film Institute, the UA Student Faculty Interaction Grants Program, The Fox Tucson Theatre, Ricoh and last but not least, screening sponsors Rica and Harvey Spivack. Please visit <u>idiw.tftv.arizona.edu</u> for film stills, filmmaker and juror bios and photos, event trailer and more!