

The logo for the Hawaii International Film Festival (HIFF) is displayed in white text on a black rectangular background. The letters "HIFF" are large and bold, with the words "HAWAII INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL" stacked to their right in a smaller, all-caps font.

# HIFF HAWAII INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, November 3, 2009

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**HAWAII INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL  
ANNOUNCES 2009 AUDIENCE AWARD WINNERS**

HONOLULU, HI (Tuesday, November 3) - The 29<sup>th</sup> annual Hawaii International Film Festival (HIFF) has unveiled its audience awards winners from this year's Fall Festival on Oahu.

Throughout the festival, ballots were distributed for the first screening in Honolulu of every eligible film.

The following films were chosen by audience members as their favorites:

FAVORITE NARRATIVE FEATURE was a tie between HIFF's Gala Presentation of PRECIOUS BASED ON THE NOVEL PUSH BY SAPPHIRE and directed by Lee Daniels, and the world premiere of the Made in Hawaii film BARBARIAN PRINCESS, directed by Marc Forby and starring Q'orianka Kilcher.

FAVORITE DOCUMENTARY FEATURE went to another Hawaii Made Film PIDGIN: THE VOICE OF HAWAII, directed by Marlene Booth.

FAVORITE SHORT FILM was awarded to AJUMMA: ARE YOU KRAZY?, directed by Brent Anbe.

**FESTIVAL INFORMATION**

Established in 1981, the Hawaii International Film Festival is dedicated to the advancement of understanding and cultural exchange among the peoples of Asia, the Pacific and North America through the medium of film. HIFF is the premier international film event in the Pacific and has won the praise of governments, filmmakers, scholars, educators, programmers and film industry leaders throughout the world. For the discovery and exhibition of Asian and Pacific features, documentaries and short films in the nation, it is a primary source. The festival has premiered such movies as ONCE WERE WARRIORS, THE PIANO, SHINE, SHALL WE DANCE, Y TU MAMA TAMBIEEN and CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN

(more)

DRAGON. Plus, DEPARTURES, a Japanese film, had its U.S. premiere at HIFF in 2008, won the HIFF Audience Award and then went on to win the 2009 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film.

HIFF's major sponsors include: Regal Entertainment Group, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Hawaii, Halekulani, Hawaii Tourism Authority and The VILCEK Foundation.

The 2009 Hawaii International Film Festival was held October 15-25 at the Regal Dole Cannery Stadium 18 Cinemas. For more information please visit our website at [www.hiff.org](http://www.hiff.org).

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