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NEWS

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“2017 Sun Valley Film Festival opens submissions for Idaho-centric 1 Potato Short Screenplay Competition”

Sun Valley, ID..... Now entering its 3rd year, the 1 Potato Short Screenplay Competition has come to mean more than just its \$5,000 cash prize. The Sun Valley Film Festival began the program with the aim to support emerging filmmakers and to encourage filmmaking in the State of Idaho. As the 1 Potato Initiative grows, the driving force behind it remains focused on creating opportunity. With submissions for the 2017 edition now open, SVFF and 1 Potato are searching for the next great Idaho-based story.

This past March, a hung jury was at odds in picking one winning script from among two amazing 1 Potato finalists. SVFF decided to award both excellent short screenplays the grand prize, announcing two winners and vowing to raise the additional funds. Airstream Adventures Northwest stepped up on the spot to sponsor the second cash prize, allowing for a total of 10k to be granted towards making films in Idaho. The 2016 winners are currently in production, and will have their world premieres at SVFF 2017.

The winner of the inaugural 1 Potato competition, *Carbon*, been playing festivals across the country and recently took home the ‘Best Genre Film’ award at Best Short Fest. Filmmaker Christian Lybrook has gone on to produce a feature film in Idaho with some prominent filmmakers he met through the festival. "One of the hardest things about filmmaking today is finding support that translates into something more than words. Sun Valley Film Festival's One Potato award not only got behind *CARBON* with needed funding, but they went well beyond that to see things through to the end with a world premiere at one of the best festivals around. That kind of support is rare." said Lybrook.

The winner of the 2017 1 Potato competition will receive \$5,000 towards filming their story on location in Idaho for a world premiere at the 2018 Sun Valley Film Festival along with a host of other benefits that includes hands-on mentoring from industry professionals. As a producing partner on the film, SVFF will connect the winner with seasoned filmmaker participants and award-winning filmmaker advisors, broker deals on production resources, and help build a presence for the film. The winning short screenplay will be announced at the 1 Potato Film Initiative reception during the 2017 Sun Valley Film Festival in March.

The 2016 Sun Valley Film Festival's unique 1 Potato short screenplay competition is now open and accepting submissions through December 16, 2016. Full details on submission requirements can be found under Submissions at: www.sunvalleyfilmfestival.org

About the Sun Valley Film Festival

The Sixth Annual Sun Valley Film Festival, presented by Zions Bank, will run March 15-19, 2017, and will feature a curated slate of more than 60 cutting-edge films and TV premieres, engaging Coffee Talks with top industry insiders, fabulous parties and panels, a Screenwriters Lab led by award-winning writers, and the spectacular SVFF Awards Bash. The combination of innovative programming and bona-fide insider access in a fun, relaxed atmosphere is making the Sun Valley Film Festival a rising star in the world of destination festivals. This coming spring, filmmakers from around the world will bring their vision to the Sun Valley Film Festival, and movie lovers are invited to watch it come into focus. For festival details visit www.sunvalleyfilmfestival.org. Get festival updates on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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- Images available for download at <http://sunvalleyfilmfestival.org/media/>