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## MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

### UWinnipeg's 5th Annual Student Film Festival Welcomes New Media

WINNIPEG—The University of Winnipeg's 5th Annual Student Film Festival wrapped up April 27, 2007 with a lively discussion about new media and a celebration of well-deserving award-winners. A province-wide invitation for submissions to post-secondary filmmakers once again provided a high level of competition with exciting and innovative films ranging from documentaries and animated shorts to comedies and hard-hitting dramas.

This year's event, held April 25-27 at The University of Winnipeg, attracted 68 film submissions from 41 student filmmakers from the University of Manitoba, Red River College and The University of Winnipeg. Festival highlights included the screening of 33 films selected by a committee of three local film instructors and filmmakers; the world premiere of *Till Death do us Part*, a half-hour noir drama produced by senior UWinnipeg filmmakers; Special Guest **Shereen Jerrett** who screened some of her work while talking about the emergence of filmmaking on the internet and other new media topics; and a gala awards ceremony and lively closing reception celebrating the achievements of new and emerging student filmmakers.

This year's Awards Jury was comprised of **Danishka Esterhazy**, a local writer and director whose films have been shown at festivals around the world; **Dave Barber**, the programmer for *Cinematheque*; and **Tara Walker**, Executive Director of Manitoba Motion Picture Industry Association (MMPIA.)

The following filmmakers were recognized as The University of Winnipeg 2007 Student Film Festival winners:

Editing: Raymond Friesen for *The First Rule*  
Cinematography: Swani Landry, Kirsten Whitehill, and Craig Becker for *In Passing*  
Sound: Steven Kostanski for *Fantasy Beyond*  
Actor: Chris Epp in *Street Racer* (Matthew Kennedy, Director)  
Actress: Judy Dougall in *Fire Hazard* (Kyle Sanderson, Director)  
Screenplay: Matthew Kennedy for *Street Racer*  
Director: Matthew Kennedy for *Street Racer*  
Best Film: Matthew Kennedy for *Street Racer*  
Audience Favourite: *I Will Be Grateful for this Day*, Nick Friesen, Director

The 6th Annual University of Winnipeg Student Film Festival is scheduled for April 23-25, 2008. Full submission and festival information will be posted at <http://theatre.uwinnipeg.ca> after January 7, 2008.

*The Department of Theatre and Film at The University of Winnipeg offers programs in Acting, Design, Drama in Education, Filmmaking, Playwriting, and Production/Stage Management. Our classes are small and our programs practical. Our faculty is comprised of highly respected and award-winning professionals who are experienced teachers and remain active in their disciplines, bringing relevant and up-to-date instruction to our students.*

*Located in the heart of downtown, The University of Winnipeg is a compact, diverse, multicultural academic community committed to access and excellence. Home to more than 9,200 full- and part-time students, UWinnipeg has been ranked by our graduates in the Top Ten of all Canadian universities when asked about their "Entire Educational Experience" (Maclean's Graduate Survey, June 2006). The Globe & Mail 2006 Report Card gives The University of Winnipeg an overall 'A' grade in the areas of quality of education, teaching quality, class sizes, faculty-student interaction, and the availability of faculty outside classroom hours. Find out why. Visit [www.uwinnipeg.ca](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca)*

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