

For: Ballston Spa Film Festival
Ballston Spa Business & Professional Association
<http://www.bspafilm.com>

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BALLSTON SPA FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES CELEBRITY JUDGES

The 4th annual Ballston Spa (International) Film Festival (BSFF) is ready to kick off another exciting year of short films from around the world and around the neighborhood. Judged by Hollywood professionals, the festival will be held in downtown Ballston Spa on August 4th-6th, with films screening at Wiswall Park and the Ballston Spa High School Auditorium. Admission is FREE and open to the public.

This year's judges include:

- **Daniel Fried** – Fried is the producer of *O* with Josh Hartnett and Julia Stiles and *Illusion* starring Kirk Douglas. *O* won the Golden Needle for Best Director at the 2001 Seattle Film Festival. Fried has also worked on such films as *So I Married an Axe-Murderer*, *Rudy*, and *Only You*. This is his fourth year judging BSFF.
- **Anne Marie Lizzi** – Lizzi is the editor and co-producer of the independent features *Dorian Blues* and *The Skeptic* (Tim Daly, Zoe Saldana, Edward Hermann, Tom Arnold) both shot in the Capital Region and Ballston Spa. She is the production director at Time Warner Cable and directs and produces local TV commercials. This is her fourth year judging BSFF.
- **Larry Jackson** – Jackson was the Executive in Charge of Production for *Mystic Pizza* and *Silence of the Lambs*. He directed *Bugs Bunny Superstar*, helped plan Robert Redford's Sundance Institute and was Executive VP at Miramax Films. This is his second year judging BSFF.

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- **Arthur Borman** – Borman has *produced Big Brother, Hell's Kitchen, Who Wants to Be a SuperHero?*, and *Oprah Behind the Scenes* to name only a few. This is his first year judging BSFF.

Forty-one films (including entries from Mexico, England, Poland, Australia, Argentina, Spain, Russia, India, Germany, New York, California, and the Capital District) will be screened this year and include submissions from Aardman Animation (*Wallace & Grommet*), 2011 Oscar nominee, *The Gruffalo*, and actors like Helena Bonham Carter, John Hurt, Paul Sorvino, Michael Sorvino, and William Sadler.

In addition to the screenings, other festival events include fire dancers, a film editing workshop, director discussions, after parties, and music by Vesper and Billboard recording artist, Patti Rothberg.

The BSFF is put on by the Ballston Spa Business and Professional Association, a non-profit community organization committed to making the Village of Ballston Spa a better place to live and work, and to bringing quality arts and entertainment events for all ages to the community. Funded in part by the Saratoga Program for Arts Funding and by area businesses, all proceeds go toward future festivals and other community events presented by the Ballston Spa Business & Professional Association. For more information on the films, talents, events, or sponsorship, go to <http://www.bspafilm.com>.

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