

# MEDIA ALERT

## KINGDOMWOOD CHRISTIAN INT'L FILM FESTIVAL· SCORED BIG WIN WITH ATTENDEES

**ATLANTA, GA** – (October 30, 2017) The Kingdomwood International Film Festival (KIFF), held at the JW Marriott, October 7-9, 2017, offered a festival filled with networking and information that empowered this year's attendees.

KIFF is an annual event that showcases the projects of filmmakers engaged in the genre of faith-based. Daily screenings, workshops, panel discussion and award presentations are important components of the festival activities. Narrative Shorts, Documentary Short Films, and Screenwriters were nominated, acknowledged and rewarded this year. Eighteen (18) of them received 1st, 2nd and 3rd place Awards as the 2017 winners! Features receiving top honors this year were *Because of Garcia*, by Writer, Producer and Director, Thomas Dale Simes, featuring Actress Lisa Arnold who attended the ceremony; and Kevin Peeples, Director and Writer of *Like Arrows: The Art of Parenting*.

KIFF's Screenwriters presentation featured a live Synopsis of the screenwriters' vision for a potential future feature film. Writer and Director Rhonda Baraka of the TVOne movies, *Bobbie Christina Story* and the Series *DownSize* starring Nicole Ari Parker and Boris Kodjoe offered invaluable information on the screenwriting process.

The festival kicked off with its first ever daytime Gala featuring Georgia Film and Music Deputy Commissioner, Lee Thomas who shared a video on the booming film industry in Georgia. Friday and Saturday Red Carpet Interviews and Screening were another spectacular highlight of the festival.

Attendees were also treated to the panel discussion entitled *Film Fatales* which consisted of noted and recognized Women Directors and Producers. This panel was sponsored by Georgia Production Partnership (GPP), and moderated by GPP's Fran Burst-Terranella a well-known and respected Director in Georgia's film community. Panelist included Shandra McDonald, Kristen McGary, Deborah Riley Draper, and director guest Lisa Arnold.

Gil Robertson's African America Film Critics Association (AAFCA) were present, in giving the best movie critique session, on films that were selected to earn feedback from AAFCA professionals.

KIFF's Workshops and Panels included *You Got Legal*, hosted by Gia Compton, Doc Benson of Indie Film Express led and informative Q&A Discussion and *Inspired Family Entertainment*, hosted by Verity Marketing Solution, and Jet-stream Network workshop presentations.

KIFF also launched its first Kingdomwood Christian Women in Films conference, which honored women currently working in the faith-based industry as actors, writers, producers, and directors. A total of ten (10) Women received the first KIFF's "Let Thy Kingdom Come" Award at KIFF's closing ceremony. In 2018, KIFF will celebrate its 10th Anniversary and plans are underway to make the 10th anniversary celebration both memorable and impactful for the filmmakers and attendees.

Film Fans! Get Ready!

-30-

Angela E. Smith  
Writer/PR Consultant

[aja495@aol.com](mailto:aja495@aol.com)

[www.linkedin.com/in/aes8294723](http://www.linkedin.com/in/aes8294723)