



Marieme, Katniss, Sin-Dee, Minnie, Lale, Ellen, Dr. Stone and Dorothy. What do all these people have in common? They're the hero of their story.*

NFFTY (National Film Festival for Talented Youth) and Canine Productions are pleased to announce the second annual The Dorothy Awards, which seeks to support strong female protagonists in film. "We're excited to see more young filmmakers telling stories that feature complex female leads," said producer Ilona Rossman Ho from Canine Productions. "Not only is it inspiring for girls, it's also good business. According to SeeJane.org films led by women in 2015 grossed 15.8% more on average than films led by men."

To compete for The Dorothy Award, which comes with a \$500 cash prize, filmmakers under 25 years of age may submit their films to NFFTY's 11th Festival. The NFFTY Programming Team with Canine Productions will make the final selection from all NFFTY 2017 Official Selections and announce the winner on NFFTY's Closing Night.

NFFTY is the world's largest film festival for emerging filmmakers under 25 years of age. For the fourth year, NFFTY is supporting its Young Women in Film Initiative as a way to support gender diversity in front of the camera and behind the scenes. NFFTY has announced that the Final Deadline for submitting films in consideration for the 2017 festival is January 30, 2017. For more information including deadlines, entry fees and eligibility can be found at: www.nffty.org/submit or visit [FilmFreeway](#).

NFFY 2017 is April 27 - 30 in Seattle, WA.

For updates and news on the festival, visit: www.facebook.com/nffty or www.nffty.org

**Girlhood, The Hunger Games, Tangerine, Diary of a Teenage Girl, Mustang, Alien, Gravity, The Wizard of Oz*

About NFFTY

Twice named One of the 50 Film Festivals Worth the Entry Fee by MovieMaker Magazine and currently a Top 100 Reviewed Festival Status on FilmFreeway, NFFTY is the largest and most influential youth film festival in the world (supporting filmmakers under 25 years of age). NFFTY occurs each spring in Seattle, Washington and includes over 200 film screenings, filmmaking panels, film contests, parties and opportunities for filmmakers to network with industry professionals and each other. Young filmmakers from around the world submit feature-length and short films in narrative, documentary, animation, music video, and experimental. More than 12,000 film fans are expected to attend NFFTY 2017.

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<http://www.nffty.org/press/the-dorothy-award-supporting-female-voices-in-film>