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## HEARTLAND FILM FESTIVAL CONCLUDES WITH SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF "THE BOOK THIEF," ANNOUNCES AUDIENCE CHOICE & U.S. PREMIERE AWARD WINNERS

*"23 Blast" wins Audience Choice Award for Narrative Feature, "Blood Brother" and "Life According to Sam" tie for documentary feature, "The Amber Amulet" wins for narrative short and "Wrinkles of the City – La Havana" wins documentary short*

(INDIANAPOLIS) – The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Heartland Film Festival (Oct. 17-26) capped off its tenth and final day on Saturday with a special presentation of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox's **"The Book Thief"** (in theaters nationwide Nov. 8).



The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Heartland Film Festival hosted, from left, Actor Geoffrey Rush, Producer Karen Rosenfelt, Actor Sophie Nelisse and Director Brian Percival for its Closing Night Event presentation of "The Book Thief" (20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox).

After its presentation of the film, Heartland presented the Truly Moving Picture Award to Director **Brian Percival**, the Pioneering Spirit: Rising Star Award to Actor **Sophie Nélisse** and

the Pioneering Spirit Award (the organization's lifetime achievement award) to Actor **Geoffrey Rush**.



Also announced were Heartland's 2013 Audience Choice Award Winners and its inaugural U.S. Premiere Award Winners across all categories:

#### Audience Choice Award Winners

- Narrative Feature
  - **"23 Blast"** – Dylan Baker, director
- Documentary Feature (tie)
  - **"Blood Brother"** – Steve Hoover, director
  - **"Life According to Sam"** – Sean Fine & Andrea Nix Fine, directors
- Narrative Short
  - **"The Amber Amulet"** – Matthew Moore, director
- Documentary Short
  - **"Running Blind"** – Ryan Suffern, director

#### U.S. Premiere Award Winners

- Narrative Feature (\$5,000 cash prize)
  - **"Life Inside Out"** – Jill D'Agnew, director
- Documentary Feature (\$5,000 cash prize)
  - **"Little Hope Was Arson"** – Theo Love, director
- Narrative Short (\$2,500 cash prize)
  - **"My Guide"** – Barnabás Tóth, director
- Documentary Short (\$2,500 cash prize)
  - **"Wrinkles of the City – La Havana"** – J.R. and José Parlá, directors

Visit [HeartlandFilmFestival.org](http://HeartlandFilmFestival.org) for press materials and additional information.

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### **About Heartland Truly Moving Pictures**

*Heartland Truly Moving Pictures, a nonprofit arts organization, seeks to inspire filmmakers and audiences through the transformative power of film. Its flagship event, the Heartland Film Festival®, launched in 1991 and runs each October in Indianapolis, screening independent films from around the world. Each year, the Festival awards more than \$125,000 in cash prizes and presents its Festival Awards to the top-judged submissions. Heartland has awarded more than \$2.5 million to support filmmakers during the last 20 years. The organization's Truly Moving Picture Award was created to honor films released theatrically that align with Heartland's mission. By bestowing this award seal to honored films, the award allows studios and distributors to inform audiences of a film's transformative power and appeal. Heartland is also dedicated to cultivating youth, and thus created the Heartland Institute to provide innovative educational and outreach programs that enrich the minds and lives of youth and aspiring filmmakers. Heartland shares inspiring films year-round in the community through the Heartland Roadshow, bringing meaningful films across Indiana. For more information, visit [TrulyMovingPictures.org](http://TrulyMovingPictures.org).*