light house studio

LIGHT HOUSE STUDIO FILMS WIN 2016 VIRGINIA FILM FESTIVAL COMPETITIONS

Films created by local high school students honored at nationally renowned festival.

Charlottesville, VA – November 7, 2016 – **Light House Studio**, an award-winning nonprofit filmmaking center for youth in central Virginia, is honored to announce several prize-winning films at the 2016 **Virginia Film Festival**.

The **Adrenaline Film Project** is a 72-hour filmmaking competition where small teams of filmmakers work together to write, cast, shoot, and edit a film in only three days. The films feature local actors from UVA and the Charlottesville community, and the competition culminates in a public screening and award ceremony during the Festival. High school, college, and adult teams from throughout the Commonwealth and beyond compete for top prizes.

Light House Studio's high school students Caroline Cox, Gemma Fasciano, and Becca Meaney created *Turning Tables,* which won of the Adrenaline **Jury Award.** Young filmmakers Ryan Beard, Stephen Gentry, Zachary Phillips, and Nathaniel Ridings created *Germ*, which won the **Audience Award** as well as **Best Actor Award** for Paul Stober.

"I am so proud and fortunate to have worked alongside Light House students for the Adrenaline Film Project over the last two years. Their level of maturity is outstanding, and their positivity is contagious. During the competition, they were not seen or treated as high schoolers, but as fellow filmmakers alongside much older and more experienced teams," says **Dallas Sims**, Adrenaline Film Project Coordinator. "**Their domination over the awards was even more impressive because the twelve films this year were of the highest caliber I've seen during my last four years attending the screening.** The Light House kids set the tone this year and solidified their position as the teams to beat next year."

Another Light House Studio student film, *Loop*, was selected as this year's winner of the **Virginia Film Festival ACTION! Competition**, open to rising 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students who are current residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia. *Loop* was directed by Ryan Beard, Stephen Genry, and Eli Hall, and was created in Light House Studio's Narrative film workshop this summer. The film played to a sold-out crowd before the Festival's closing night film, *La La Land*, and filmmakers received a $1,000 Grand Prize.

In addition to winning local film competitions, recent Light House Studio films have been accepted to recent national and international film festivals including the **National Film Festival for Talented Youth** in Seattle, the **Los Angeles Film Festival, Future Filmmakers Showcase**, and the **Santa Monica International Teen Film Festival,** among others.

About Light House Studio
Light House Studio is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit filmmaking center dedicated to helping students develop their vision and show their work. We believe in the importance of collaboration and community, the creativity of young minds, and the lasting benefits of our hands-on mentor-based approach to teaching the art of filmmaking. Since Light House was founded in 1999 we have helped youth create thousands of documentaries, dramas, and animated films. Many of our students have received national awards, including a Peabody Award, a Gold World Medal at the New York Festivals International Television and Film Awards, and a CINE Golden Eagle award. ###