



Sisters&Brothers roars at Leos

Comedy movie earns six, Blackstone gets four

BY GLEN SCHAEFER, THE PROVINCE MAY 27, 2012

STORY

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The APTN series Blackstone was the big winner in the TV category, winning four Leos including best series.

Photograph by: Submitted , The Province

Sisters&Brothers, an ensemble comedy that follows multiple stories about siblings, was the big winner at this weekend's Leo Awards for B.C. film and TV, winning six awards including best feature.

Langley-to-L.A. transplant Amanda Crew was named best actress for her role as a wannabe actress who falls for a con-man's pitch to head south.

Tom Scholte, the veteran Vancouver indie player who teaches acting at the University of B.C., was named best supporting actor opposite Crew as the fast-talking con man.

The movie's Carl Bessai was named best director and Sisters&Brothers also earned prizes for Daniel Moxon's score and Sabrina Pitre's editing.

Actor Ben Ratner was also nominated for his Sisters&Brothers role as a mentally troubled man, but picked up a Leo award for another role, his TV guest spot on an episode of the Toronto-filmed Flashpoint.

The Leos were handed out Friday and Saturday night at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, with Saturday's bash hosted by actors Amanda Tapping and Robin Dunne.

Other feature prizes were split among several movies.

The mock-documentary *Sunflower Hour*, about misfit contenders for spots as puppeteers on a children's show, earned Johanna Newmarch a supporting actress win for her role as the show's embittered producer. As well, the movie's casting director Maureen Webb was honoured for her work.

Busy B.C. actor Ryan Robbins was named best actor for his role as an armed robber with a soft heart in the crime drama *Marilyn*.

Cinematographer Jon Joffin earned a Leo for his atmospheric frames in the small-town teen drama *Daydream Nation*, which starred American Kat Dennings as the new kid in a town plagued by a series of killings.

Screenwriter Kris Elgstrand won a Leo for *Doppelgänger Paul*, the morosely comic road movie starring Tygh Runyan and Brad Dryborough as two losers seeking a stolen manuscript.

Director-star Bruce Ramsay's shot-on-the-fly noir adaptation of *Hamlet* won a Leo for costume designer Jenni Gullet.

Donovan's Echo, which starred Danny Glover as a scientist who fears the repeat of a past tragedy, earned Leos for best sound and sound editing.

The TV movie *Magic Beyond Words: the J.K. Rowling Story* earned Paul Joyal a feature prize for best production design.

Busy stunt co-ordinator Lauro Chartrand earned Leos in the feature category for the Steve Austin action flick *Recoil*, and in the TV category for the Steven Seagal crime series *True Justice*.

The APTN series *Blackstone* was the big winner in the TV category, winning four Leos including best series.

Steven Cree Molison was named best actor for the Alberta-filmed drama, *Tantoo Cardinal* won best supporting actress and Frank Cassini took the Leo for best supporting actor in a series.

The Vancouver-filmed sci-fi series *Sanctuary* - which starred Leo hosts Tapping and Dunne - ended its four-year run with a splash, scoring four Leo wins: Pascale Hutton for guest actress, Christina McQuarrie for costume design, Bridget McGuire for production design, and best visual effects for a team led by Lee Wilson.

Creator-star Brent Butt's now cancelled sitcom *Hiccups* was named best musical, comedy or variety series for its second season. Butt's wife Nancy Robertson starred as a short-tempered children's author.

Vancouver's Benjamin Arthur was named best performer in a musical, comedy or variety series for his work in the Winnipeg-filmed dysfunctional-family comedy *Less Than Kind*.

Victoria's Meg Tilly, making her return to acting last year, earned a Leo for best actress for Global's Second World War period series *Bomb Girls*. The show is currently filming its second season in Toronto.

Pete McCormack earned the best director prize for the documentary feature *I Am Bruce Lee*.

Ice Pilots NTW, the long-running series from Vancouver's Omni Film Productions, was named best documentary series.

The complete winners list is at leoawards.com
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