

Press Release



Berlinale 2019: Crystal Bears and Deutsches Kinderhilfswerk (The Children's Charity of Germany) Awards in *Generation Kplus*

The members of the Children's Jury in *Generation Kplus* - Lorenz Deutsch, Luis Leonard Hanft, Jonas Khadiri, Sarah Marie Paulick, Pepe Reisinger, Anouk Sommerfeldt, Rosalie Stauffacher, Nikita Takasaki, Johanna Wallrafen, Liv Grete Weinhold and Helene Zschaubitz - give the following awards:

Crystal Bear for the Best Film: *Une colonie* (A Colony)

by Geneviève Dulude-De Celles, Canada

In the winning film, the lives of teenagers are depicted realistically. We thought it was great how the various types of love were related in an understandable way. The excellent camerawork and acting made us feel like we were right there in the middle of the action and let us laugh and cry and give vent to our emotions in diverse situations.

Special Mention: *Daniel fait face* (Daniel)

by Marine Atlan, France

This film whisks us away to a seemingly normal school day that then takes an unexpected turn away from the every-day world. Intimate and moving encounters accompanied by emotional music generate a mysterious and unique atmosphere. Finally, we were delighted by the performances of the extremely talented actors and actresses.

Crystal Bear for the Best Short Film: *Juste moi et toi* (Just Me and You)

by Sandrine Brodeur-Desrosiers, Canada

This film moved us deeply and it communicates a powerful message. The selected acting performances and the beautiful landscape images led to a final product worthy of distinction thanks to good camera perspectives.

Special Mention: *#pestverhaal* (#bullyingstory)

by Eef Hilgers, Netherlands

A brave girl tells us her intimate everyday story in an unusual way. She gives us a glimpse into her emotional world and relates the struggle against dark thoughts. The internet and social media play a large role in her story. Through contact with other individuals similarly affected, she regains hope and shows that no one is alone.

The members of the *Generation Kplus* International Jury - Kamila Andini, Tilda Cobham-Hervey and Jerzy Moszkowicz - give the following awards:

The Grand Prix of the *Generation Kplus* International Jury for the Best Film, endowed with 7,500 euro by the Deutsches Kinderhilfswerk (The Children's Charity of Germany):

69. Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
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Di yi ci de li bie (A First Farewell)

by Wang Lina, People's Republic of China

The Grand Prix of the *Generation Kplus* International Jury for the Best Feature Film goes to an honest cinematic exploration of what it means to grow up in the Uyghur minority in China. This poetic and intimate film gives us insight into the changing relations within two families living in a culture caught between traditional and modern perspectives. Visually arresting and deeply moving, this film makes us question what it means to be close, what it means to be distant and how the young protagonists of the film evolve through their first farewells.

Special Mention: *Mijn bijzonder rare week met Tess (My Extraordinary Summer with Tess)*

by Steven Wouterlood, Netherlands / Germany

The Special Mention goes to a unique tale that tactfully explores difficult discussions around mortality, loss and trying to find one's place in the world within an uplifting coming of age story full of light and infectious joy. This film teaches us about the importance of connection. It is full of surprises, humour and is accessible for all generations.

The Special Prize of the *Generation Kplus* International Jury for the Best Short Film, endowed with 2,500 euro by the Deutsches Kinderhilfswerk (The Children's Charity of Germany):

El tamaño de las cosas (The Size of Things)

by Carlos Felipe Montoya, Colombia

The Special Prize of the *Generation Kplus* International Jury for the Best Short Film goes to a film that explores multiple perspectives. This film captures a unique indigenous vision of the world and poses many philosophical questions, whilst still relating to people of all ages and experiences. It is concise, aesthetically strong and full of surprises.

Special Mention: *Pappa (Dad)*

by Atle S. Blakseth / Einar Dunsæd, Norway

The Special Mention for a short film in *Generation Kplus* goes to a film that captures our imagination and takes us on a surreal and beautiful journey of love and longing. This vivid portrayal of a young boy's impressions of his father left us with a contemplative and curious sense of togetherness. We were especially impressed with the film's distinct and outstanding artistry.

Press Office
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