

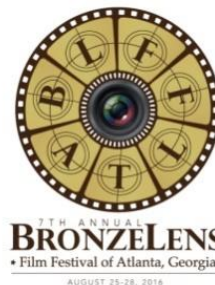
# BronzeLens Newly Named Oscar® Qualifying Festival Film Festival in Short Film Category

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## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release:

BRONZELENS FILM FESTIVAL  
NAMED OSCAR® QUALIFYING FESTIVAL  
IN SHORT SUBJECT COMPETITION



(Atlanta)---January 12, 2017 – Producers of the **BronzeLens Film Festival** (BronzeLens) are pleased to announce the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has approved BronzeLens as a qualifying festival for the Short Film Awards category. The short film that receives the BronzeLens Best Short Award may now be eligible to enter the Academy’s Short Subject competition for the concurrent season.

“We are honored to have the Academy’s approval as a short film qualifying festival. This distinction allows **BronzeLens** to continue play a pivotal role for filmmakers of color in obtaining recognition for their work at the highest level within the industry”, said BronzeLens Executive Producer Kathleen Bertrand.

Now in its 8<sup>TH</sup> year, **BronzeLens Film Festival** (BronzeLens) will return as a summer experience August 16-20, 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia. Since its inception BronzeLens has provided a platform to showcase the work of some the world’s most talented independent filmmakers. Ava DuVernay (*Queen Sugar, I Will Follow, Middle of Nowhere, SELMA*), Abderrahmane Sissako (*TIMBUKTU*), Issa Rae (*Insecure, The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl*), Deborah Riley Draper, (*Olympic Pride American Prejudice, Versailles’73*), Nefertiti Nguvu (*In The Morning*), Russ Parr (*Ringside, 35 and Ticking, Hear No Evil*), S. Epatha Merkerson and Rockell Metcalf (*The Contradictions of Fair Hope*), Chris Eska (*The Retrieval*), Mahmet-Saleh Haroun( *Bye Bye Africa, Grisgris, Screaming Man*), are among distinguished BLFF alumni.

### About BronzeLens Film Festival

The BronzeLens Film Festival of Atlanta, Georgia, is a non-profit organization, founded in 2009, that is dedicated to bringing national and worldwide attention to Atlanta as a center for film and film production for people of color. Its mission is two-fold: to showcase films and provide networking opportunities that will develop the next generation of filmmakers and to promote Atlanta as the new film mecca for people of color. For more information regarding the BronzeLens Film Festival, please visit [www.bronzelens.com](http://www.bronzelens.com)

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