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NANTUCKET FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES TOM MCCARTHY TO RECEIVE 2017 SCREENWRITERS TRIBUTE AWARD

NICK BROOMFIELD TO BE RECOGNIZED WITH SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT IN DOCUMENTARY STORYTELLING

NFF WILL ALSO HONOR LEGENDARY TV CREATORS/WRITERS DAVID CRANE AND JEFFREY KLARIK WITH THE CREATIVE IMPACT IN TELEVISION WRITING AWARD

New York, NY (April 6, 2017) – The Nantucket Film Festival announced today the honorees who will be celebrated at this year's Screenwriters Tribute—including Oscar®-winning writer/director **Tom McCarthy**, legendary documentary filmmaker **Nick Broomfield**, and ground-breaking television creators and Emmy-nominated writing team **David Crane** and **Jeffrey Klarik**. The 22nd Nantucket Film Festival (NFF) will take place June 21-26, 2017, and celebrates the art of screenwriting and storytelling in cinema and television.

The 2017 Screenwriters Tribute Award will be presented to screenwriter/director Tom McCarthy. McCarthy's most recent film *Spotlight* was awarded the Oscar for Best Picture and won him (and his co-writer Josh Singer) an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay. McCarthy began his career as a working actor until he burst onto the filmmaking scene with his critically acclaimed first feature *The Station Agent*, starring Peter Dinklage, Patricia Clarkson, Bobby Cannavale, and Michelle Williams. McCarthy followed this with the equally acclaimed film *The Visitor*, for which he won the Spirit Award for Best Director. He also shared story credit with Pete Docter and Bob Peterson on the award-winning animated feature *Up*. Previous recipients of the Screenwriters Tribute Award include Oliver Stone, David O. Russell, Judd Apatow, Paul Haggis, Aaron Sorkin, Nancy Meyers and Steve Martin, among others.

"With the festival's passionate commitment to highlighting the art of screenwriting, it is an honor to recognize four luminaries at the peak of the careers," said Mystelle Brabbée, Executive Director of the Nantucket Film Festival. "From the searing pertinence of Tom McCarthy's films, to the remarkable humanity in Nick Broomfield's body of work, to the relatable and satirical power of Jeffrey Klarik and David Crane's humor—these are four honorees who exemplify the power of storytelling in today's media landscape, and its use as a tool for audience empowerment and enlightenment around the world."

Acclaimed documentary filmmaker Nick Broomfield will be presented with the Special Achievement in Documentary Storytelling Award. The BAFTA-winning filmmaker is best known for his celebrated work spanning over forty years, including *Kurt & Courtney*, *Biggie and Tupac*, *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer*, and *Tales of the Grim Sleeper*. His latest

documentary *Whitney: Can I Be Me,* co-directed with Rudi Dolezal, tells the story of Whitney Houston's extraordinary life and tragic death.

The Creative Impact in Television Writing Award will be presented to writing partners Jeffrey Klarik and David Crane. Crane and Klarik are co-creators of the four-time Emmy-nominated Showtime series *Episodes*, starring Matt LeBlanc. David Crane is best known as the co-creator of the long-running comedy series *Friends*, for which he won numerous awards including an Emmy for Outstanding Comedy Series. He also co-created *Veronica's Closet*, *The Powers That Be*, and the much-beloved HBO series *Dream On*. Jeffrey Klarik's work on the hit comedy *Mad About You* earned him a Golden Globe as well as an Emmy nomination. Klarik and Crane also co-created the award-winning CBS comedy *The Class*.

For the first time the Nantucket Film Festival assembled a jury of four esteemed writers to bestow its top award, the Screenwriters Tribute Award. The Screenwriters Tribute Award Jury is comprised of some of the most gifted storytellers, each bringing their own approach to writing and each having made an impact on American Cinema and culture. The jury includes Barry Levinson (2012 NFF Screenwriters Tribute Award Recipient), Ben Stiller (NFF Board Member and Presenter of the All-Star Comedy Roundtable at NFF), Nancy Meyers (2010 NFF Screenwriters Tribute Award Recipient) and Nathaniel Philbrick (recipient of the National Book Award for Nonfiction for *In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex*).

The Screenwriters Tribute will take place on Friday, June 23. Award presenters will be announced in the coming weeks. Past presenters have included Diane Keaton, Glenn Close, Zachary Quinto, Bradley Whitford, and Lorne Michaels.

The 22nd Annual Nantucket Film Festival runs from June 21-26, 2017. Festival passes are on sale now and ticket packages will go on sale April 25th on the festival's website (www.nantucketfilmfestival.org).

ABOUT THE NANTUCKET FILM FESTIVAL

The Nantucket Film Festival was founded by brother and sister team Jonathan and Jill Burkhart in 1996 to promote the cultural awareness and appreciation of the fine art of screenwriting in the world of cinema. Since then, NFF has become one of the premier destination film festivals in the world. Visitors come from all over to experience the preview screenings, unique signature programs, and stand out hospitality on a magical island rich with history, a friendly atmosphere, and beautiful sandy beaches. In addition to screening over 75 films across six days, NFF presents the Screenwriters Tribute, In Their Shoes... hosted by Chris Matthews, Late Night Storytelling, and our daily Morning Coffee With... series.

The Nantucket Film Festival is supported by Showtime, The White Elephant Nantucket Island Resorts as Major Sponsors; A&E IndieFilms, EPIX, BrandContent, and Delta Air Lines as Signature Sponsors; Diageo, Cape Air/Nantucket Airlines, Stella Artois, Entravision, Harborview Nantucket, Pure Leaf Iced Tea and Travel+Leisure as Producing Sponsors; and The Beachside on Nantucket, Citi, Maui Jim, Inquirer & Mirror, Nantucket Today, Nantucket Bank, SAGIndie, Festily, and the WGA East as Contributing Sponsors.

The 22nd Annual Nantucket Film Festival will take place June 21-26. For further information on the 2017 Nantucket Film Festival, please visit www.nantucketfilmfestival.org.

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