

News Release

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Contact: Armando P. Ibanez, 312-342-9067

armando.ibanez@utrgv.edu

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## South Texas International Film Festival

### Selects Six Films by UTRGV Students and a Professor

The South Texas International Film Festival judges designated six films by UTRGV students, a professor and graduates as *Official Selection*, and awarded them four nominations in a number of award categories.

“STIFF is a competitive film festival that showcases the work of visionary filmmakers from all over the world,” states the festival’s posting on Film Freeway, a clearinghouse for film festivals.

“These nominations, along with the increasing number of awards won by students in our film track, show a wonderful upward trend in both quality and visibility of work by our students,” says Theatre Department Chair, Prof. Peter Mikolasky. “They are to be congratulated.”

STIFF Official Selection Films and their respective nominations are:

- **3 am The Graveyard Shift**, in the Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Category, written, produced and directed by Armando Ramirez Cardenas, currently a senior at UTRGV, who is also **nominee** for the *South Texas Director Award*, Rio Grande Valley Category.
- **Hit Astray**, Jared Palomares and Andrew Perez, UTRGV 2023 graduate, RGV Short Film category, nominee RGV Short Film Award and Perez is a nominee for the *South Texas Cinematography Award*.
- **Loki**, International Short Film Category, Diego Alexander Gonzalez.
- **I’m Everything, I’m Nothing**, RGV Shorts category and is a nominee in the RGV Short Film Award.
- **As Time Goes On, or (The Space Between Us)**, nominee for the *Animated Film Award*, directed by Nicholas Ivan Tapia.
- **Waiting for Sandoval**, Texas Feature Film category, written and directed by Prof. David Carren, Theatre Department, with a cast and crew primarily students of then UTPA; starring Jason J. Barrera, Perla Rodriguez and Fred Galvan, edited, special effects and graphics by Rudy Davila.

In addition, **Lux Aeterna**, written by Carlos Alfredo Zapata Rubio, is a semi-finalist in The Pitch: Screenwriting category.