

For immediate release:

**KATHRYN HAHN, JOHN CHO AND CHRISTIAN NAVARRO TO BE HONORED WITH AWARDS
AT 2018 SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**

Festival to kick off this year from October 10th to October 14th

SAN DIEGO/LOS ANGELES, CA (September 25, 2018) – The San Diego International Film Festival produced by the San Diego Film Foundation, announced today that they have honored Emmy-nominee Kathryn Hahn, star of Tamara Jenkins' "Private Life" with the Fairbanks Award, to honor her contribution to independent film, John Cho, star of "Searching," with the Spotlight Award which recognizes an actor with the tenacity to forge new ground within their craft, and Christian Navarro, from the Gala Feature "Can You Ever Forgive Me?" with the Rising Star Award. The awards will be presented October 11th at *The Night of the Stars Tribute* at the Pendry San Diego in Downtown San Diego, CA.

Now in its 17th year, the San Diego International Film Festival will run from October 10th through October 14th in San Diego, CA. The most up to date festival information is available at www.sdfilmfest.com

Fairbanks Award-Winner Kathryn Hahn's versatility in both comedy and drama has made her one of Hollywood's most sought after actresses. Upcoming, Hahn stars in Tamara Jenkins' "Private Life," the new Amazon series "The Romanoffs," and HBO's "Mrs. Fletcher." On television, Hahn was recently seen in "I Love Dick" and "Transparent," for which she received a 2017 Emmy Award nomination. Other TV credits include "Happyish," "Parks & Recreation," "Newsroom," "Girls," "Chozen," "Bob's Burgers," and "American Dad!" Film credits include "Bad Moms," "A Bad Mom's Christmas," "Flower," "Hotel Transylvania 3," "Captain Fantastic," "The Visit," "The D Train," "Tomorrowland," "Stepbrothers," "This is Where I Leave You," "Revolutionary Road," "Afternoon Delight" and many more.

John Cho is one of our most dynamic actors, continuing to deliver compelling performances in both film and television. He can currently be seen in Aneesh Chaganty's award-winning "Searching" – a tense, emotional thriller told entirely through screens. The film was rapturously received at the Sundance Film Festival, voted by audiences as the winner of the festival's Next category of innovative filmmaking. Cho was a critical standout, listed by many as one of the best performances of the festival, with THE LOS ANGELES TIMES saying "The key to Cho's charisma, a quality that Hollywood seldom knows what to do with anymore, is that he can just sit there and still hold your attention. He may just be a guy in a plaid shirt mumbling into a webcam, but that doesn't make him any less of a movie star." Last year, Cho earned rave reviews for his performance in Kogonada's "Columbus" opposite Haley Lu Richardson and will next be seen in "The Oath" from Ike Barinholtz and "The Grudge" opposite Demian Bichir and Andrea Riseborough. Cho is currently in production on the multi-generational drama "Tiger Tail" from Alan Yang for Netflix, starring opposite Tzi Ma and Christine Yo.

As the recipient of Rising Star Award, Christian Navarro is quickly becoming one of the most highly sought after actors in Hollywood. He stars as the sensitive yet Steve McQueen cool 'Tony' on the critically acclaimed Netflix series 13 REASONS WHY. On the big screen, he will next be seen in the Melissa McCarthy/Fox Searchlight comedy CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE ME?, which screened at both the Telluride and Toronto International Film Festivals. His other film work includes a role in Jonathan Milott and Cary Murnion's (XYZ Films) BUSHWICK, which screened at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival and in the Director's Fortnight section at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival. Christian's additional

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television credits include a memorable recurring role of Jorgé, a young and savvy record producer on Martin Scorsese's HBO series VINYL, opposite Bobby Cannavale. He has also guest starred on several shows including Showtime's THE AFFAIR, Amazon's THE TICK and Fox's ROSEWOOD.

Leading the program at this year's festival are the Gala Features screenings, which include 7 titles of various genres.

In addition, the San Diego International Film Festival is proud to screen narrative, documentary and short films, both in and out of competition, vying for top award honors. The lineup below includes 115 films total, 7 Narrative Spotlight Competition films, 17 Narrative Competition films, 13 Documentary Competition films, and 72 Short films.

Screenings will be held in the historic Balboa Theater and Regal Theaters in Downtown San Diego, and ArcLight Cinemas in La Jolla. The complete list of 2018 San Diego Film Festival titles including descriptions will soon be available at www.sdfilmfest.com

Passes are currently on sale to VIP members and the general public. In addition to screenings and events, VIP passes provide access to the official festival lounge and parties where pass holders interact with Festival filmmakers and professionals in the film community. Individual tickets are currently on sale.

For more information regarding passes/tickets, press accreditation, industry passes, or sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.sdfilmfest.com
San Diego International Film Festival is produced by the nonprofit, San Diego Film Foundation.

More additions will be added to the program and announced soon.

About the San Diego International Film Festival

The San Diego International Film Festival is the region's premier film event and one of the leading stops on the independent festival circuit. The San Diego International Film Festival offers a totally unique film experience; including world premieres, never before seen studio releases, the best in independent filmmaking and a full schedule of glamorous parties and intimate events with filmmakers.

Learn more: www.sdfilmfest.com

About the San Diego Film Foundation

The San Diego Film Foundation is a 501(c)3 dedicated to making a difference through film. We believe that film can be transformative and we are bound together through human connection. Our mission is to use film to explore issues of global impact, to create dialog, to encourage self-reflection, and ultimately to develop empathy and understanding in an increasingly diverse and complex world.

The San Diego Film Foundation brings the finest independent cinematic storytelling from around the world to San Diego each year. We present films that make a difference through a robust variety of events and programs including:

The San Diego International Film Festival (Oct. 10-14, 2018)
FOCUS on Impact Film Tour for high school students (Spring 2019)
Film Insider Screenings (Feb-July, 2019)
Industry Insider Series (Patrons Only)
Annual Oscar Awards Viewing Party & Fundraiser

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