



**San Diego International Film Festival Announces
Litecoin Foundation Filmmaker Award
Attendees of 2019 Festival to receive Litecoin cryptocurrency**

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San Diego, CA * **For immediate release** *

The **San Diego International Film Festival** is excited to announce an exciting sponsorship with the Litecoin Foundation. Litecoin is one of the world's most popular cryptocurrencies and attendees of the 2019 **San Diego International Film Festival** purchasing 6 Day Festival passes will receive Litecoin cryptocurrency that may be donated to films accepted into the 2019 Festival line-up. The filmmaker/film that receives the most Litecoin donations will be awarded with the Litecoin Foundation award on Saturday Oct 19 at the Filmmakers Award Show. The Litecoin award includes an additional \$1000.00 in Litecoin currency.

Festival attendees will be encouraged to "vote" with their Litecoins and award their favorite film with Litecoin cryptocurrency. Litecoin team members will be available to Festival attendees to assist with receiving complimentary Litecoin currency and in donating Litecoin to their favorite filmmaker/film.

CEO and Artistic Director of the San Diego International Film Festival, Tonya Mantooh, shared *"Embracing cutting edge digital currency - like Litecoin's cryptocurrency - allows us not only the ability to explore new technology with our audiences, but also to provide fiscal support to the filmmakers who make our festival possible. We are so grateful that we have the opportunity to collaborate with so many passionate filmmakers who have such powerful perspectives. We want to share those perspectives with our festival patrons, and also provide fiscal support to filmmakers so they can continue telling stories. We are grateful to the Litecoin Foundation for helping us do just that."*

Kyle Tekiela, Litecoin Foundation member and Executive Producer of the film **Mudbound** shared *"As a filmmaker, Litecoin and the underlying blockchain technology, opens up tremendous opportunities for the financing of films, the payment of vendors and crew, and the distribution of the finished product. The current banking system of expensive escrows, wire fees, and limited banking times to transfer money — especially across borders and on weekends — is antiquated and cumbersome in today's digital world. Litecoin and the Litecoin Foundation are forward thinking and actively working to provide solutions to the challenges we face in the movie business. At this year's fest, the audience will be able to "vote" for their favorite films by sending Litecoin directly to the filmmakers. I think this idea is a game changer for both festivals and filmmakers and I expect to see engagement like this happen throughout the industry — but the San Diego International Film Festival is the first festival to give attendees and filmmakers the opportunity to implement and utilize this incredible technology."*



Litecoin Founder, Charlie Lee shared *"The Litecoin Foundation is excited to actively engage such an open and adapting community as the film industry in regards to cryptocurrency adoption. The San Diego International Film Festival is a perfect opportunity to not only educate, but also integrate the technology in a real, tangible manner to those attending. The decision to partner with the San Diego International Film Festival to make this possible at an international level was an easy one to make. We look forward to seeing how the voting turns out, and who will walk away with the award."*

About the Litecoin Foundation

Litecoin was created by Charlie Lee in 2011 and is built on the premise of quick confirmation times and low transaction fees. These features, combined with the increasing desire to have greater control over one's finances, are quickly propelling Litecoin towards becoming the new global payments standard for consumers and businesses worldwide.

The Litecoin Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to advance Litecoin for the good of society by developing and promoting state-of-the-art blockchain technologies. Registered in Singapore, the Foundation is comprised of fulltime and volunteer support from around the globe. For more information, visit www.litecoin-foundation.org.

About the San Diego International Film Festival:

The San Diego International Film Festival presented by the San Diego Film Foundation (501.c.3) is the region's premier film event and one of the leading stops on the independent festival circuit. SDIFF celebrates film's power to create empathy via new perspectives that emerge from powerful and compelling storytelling. Great film sparks great dialogue, so we are dedicated to giving our audiences the unique opportunities to meet with and hear from first time and veteran filmmakers as they debut their latest work. Watch major studio premiers on the road to the Hollywood awards season. SDIFF also has a robust year-round calendar of unique events, special screenings and film tracks.



About The San Diego Film Foundation (501.c.3) :

The San Diego Film Foundation is dedicated to creating empathy through the experience of film. We believe that film can be transformative and we are bound together through human connection. Our mission is to use the experience of film to explore issues of global impact, to create dialog, and ultimately to develop empathy and understanding in an increasingly diverse and complex world. A 501c.3. 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 (October 15-20, 2019)
- FOCUS on Impact Film Program for high school students (Spring & Fall)
- Film Insider Screenings (Feb-July, 2019)

Plus a variety of community and private events throughout the year.

Leadership:

San Diego Film Foundation Board of Directors:

Vicky Carlson, Board Chair, San Diego Film Foundation
Naila Chowdhury, Board Member
Kristian Forster, Board Member
Tonya Mantooth, Executive & Artistic Director - SDIFF
Scott Mantz, Board Member, Co-Director of Programming
Mark McClure, Board Member
Cecilia Peck, Board Member

Co-Founders

Patti Judd, Judd Brand Media
Kevin Leap, San Diego International Auto Show
Tonya Mantooth, CEO/Artistic Director San Diego Intl Film Festival
Dale Strack

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