



Press Release

Thursday, 8th December 2016

Directors UK Presents Best Director Award at Underwire Festival

Directors UK would like to congratulate Eva Sigurdardottir, winner of the Best Director award at the Underwire Awards, sponsored by Directors UK.

On Sunday 3rd December 2016, Eva received the award for her short film *Rainbow Party*. The Best Director award, sponsored by Directors UK, at Underwire recognises excellence in directing short films. As part of her prize, Eva will also receive a year's free membership to Directors UK. Eva will also have a mentoring lunch with Lisa Clarke, an experienced director and a Directors UK member, to help the winner with the next stage in her career.

Directors UK, the professional association for British screen directors, works to ensure that directors, and their work, are recognised at every level. With a growing community of over 6,400 members – working across television, film, music, commercials and video-games – Directors UK collects and distributes royalty payments and provides a range of services to members including legal advice, exclusive events, private screenings and director Q&As, career development opportunities and more.

Abigail Berry, Member Services and Events Manager at Directors UK said: "We are delighted to have been involved with this event; sponsoring the Best Director award represents a perfect partnership for us and the continuing work we are doing to drive gender equality, championing and campaigning for women in film and TV. I hope the awards and the work Underwire is doing helps to encourage other women in the creative industries, and ultimately help improve employment and opportunities for women in the film and TV industry. Congratulations again to Eva Sigurdardottir, we look forward to her joining our community of directors and seeing her progression and development in the industry. Her annual membership will grant her access to a range of exclusive services, benefits, events, that will help contribute to the success and growth of the industry".

Directors UK is continuing to work closely with organisations, broadcasters and commissioners to help increase visibility and access to work opportunities, for fairer employment and career progression for under-represented groups in UK film and television.

Full details can be found at directors.uk.com/news or on the Underwire website at underwirefestival.com

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Notes to Editors:

About Directors UK:

Directors UK is the professional association of UK screen directors. It is a membership organisation representing the creative, economic and contractual interests of over 6,400 members - the majority of working TV and film directors in the UK. Directors UK collects and distributes royalty payments and provides a range of services to members including campaigning, commercial negotiations, legal advice, events, training and career development. Directors UK works closely

with fellow organisations around the world to represent directors' rights and concerns, promotes excellence in the craft of direction and champions change to the current landscape to create an equal opportunity industry for all.

About Underwire Festival:

Underwire is the UK's only film festival celebrating female filmmaking talent across the crafts. Founded in 2010 by Gabriella Apicella and Gemma Mitchell with the aim to change the face of the industry from the inside out, the festival has awarded training and mentoring opportunities to over 40 filmmakers, and has screened over 300 films. The festival recognises talent across directing, producing, screenwriting, editing, cinematography, sound design and composing, and any short film that has a woman in one of those roles is eligible.

- Further information can be found at www.directors.uk.com
- Directors UK Social Media handle: [@directors_UK](https://twitter.com/directors_UK)

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