



# News Release

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## **Area Filmmakers with Detroit Pride Awarded at PAH-fest Closing Night Ceremony**

LIVONIA, Mich. — It's a wrap for the third annual Project Accessible Hollywood (PAH-fest) Motown, a week of digital filmmaking fun at Madonna University. Christopher Coppola, founder of PAH-fest and adjunct faculty member at Madonna, was on hand for the closing night awards ceremony, Sunday, July 19.

The festival's main event, Mobiflicks, involved six teams producing a six-minute film in just four days with coaching from industry professionals. Each Mobiflick was screened at the awards ceremony, before any of the awards for the Cell Phone Art, DigiPortraits and Tone Poems were presented.

"The digital competitions were interesting and fun," said Cell Phone Art winner Rosalyn Tzau, of Livonia. "This was a great summer activity to do with my son."

The Mobiflicks film that walked off with the top cash prize was *Lost in Detroit*, produced by: Natalie Ennis of Bloomfield Hills; Nora Shkodra of Troy; Peter Murray of Detroit; Sean Cook of Redford; Christopher Coppola (coach) of Hollywood; and Jeff Arwady (composer) of Chesterfield, Michigan. The documentary captured the places, people and charm that make the city unique.

"Participating in PAH-fest gave me a chance to shine a light on the city that I love," said Peter Murray. "The biggest challenge was trying to fit all of Detroit's great stories into one shoot day."

The People's Choice Award went to *Open Door*, a film inspired by the true story of a homeless man who was helped by the Open Door Soup Kitchen in Detroit. The Mobiflick was produced by Detroit residents Daryl Burgess, Willie Bell, Shirley Burgess and Damon Brown; Livonia resident Roger Ryan (coach); and area resident Garrett Schmittling (composer).

"Creating this film was an amazing experience, I have learned so much this week," said Daryl Burgess. *Open Door* received the most votes on the festival's Web site, [www.pahnation.com](http://www.pahnation.com), where all PAH-fest productions can be viewed.

Mobiflicks teams produced their films using state-of-the-art digital equipment in the media studios of Madonna's new sustainable Franciscan Center. "Madonna University is fast becoming a real Hollywood connection," said Chuck Derry, director of Madonna's Broadcast and Cinema Arts program.

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PAH-fest Motown typically occurs the second week in July on Madonna University's campus in Livonia [www.madonna.edu](http://www.madonna.edu). The unique, entirely free, digital media festival travels to cities throughout the U.S. and internationally. "I always will come to Motown because Detroit is the one city that has taken the seed and made it grow," said Coppola, who was on campus the week of the festival.

The events and competitions are open to people from all walks of life — no filmmaking experience is necessary, just a story to tell.

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