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## **THE TRADITIONAL FILM FESTIVAL GETS AN OVERHAUL**

*First Web-Based Film Festival Goes Live on [www.IndependentFeatures.com](http://www.IndependentFeatures.com)*

May 5, 2008 – New York, NY – The first and only film festival to open up their entire film selection process to the public goes live today at [www.independentfeatures.com](http://www.independentfeatures.com). The Independent Features Film Festival is the only film festival where the public selects which of the 300 full length feature film and short submissions are selected to screen at the festival at Tribeca Cinemas in New York City July 25-27, 2008.

This year, the online viewing and voting process has been significantly enhanced with the addition of Lycos's Next Generation Lycos Cinema (<http://cinema.lycos.com>) Player. Lycos's patent-pending synchronous *Watch & Interact* technology now enables thousands of people to view the movies at the same time with anyone, anywhere, at anytime – while chatting and socializing. The added functionality will enable the public to screen, chat and vote for their favorites alone or with a group of friends. Another new addition to the festival will be several “special screenings” where a director, producer or talent will be in the screening room answering questions live.

“The Independent Features Film Festival is the perfect catalyst for Lycos Cinema. The Festival enables us to truly showcase the best of what Lycos Cinema has to offer by providing film fans the ability to discover, share and come together to vote on their favorite films,” said Chuck Ball, vice president of sales and marketing for Lycos, Inc..

“We are thrilled at the addition of Lycos to the festival,” said Philip Nelson, founder of Independent Features Film Festival. “The Lycos Cinema product will greatly enhance the festival experience for the public and filmmakers alike and helps fulfill our mission of carrying the empowerment of web distribution and access with the spirit of filmmaking.”

All 300+ film submissions will be available online free of charge starting May 5, 2008 until June 30, 2008. This year’s entries consist of a mixture of action, comedy, documentary, drama, foreign, horror and shorts.

“This festival is truly groundbreaking as it provides global awareness for all of the submitted films, not just those selected to screen at the festival,” said Erin B. Lanuti, President of Blink Entertainment. “All 21 selected films are truly unique in that they have a built-in global fan base which should increase their chances for gaining distribution.”

Another addition to this year’s film festival is a New York-based college short film competition called the VNSNY Living History Project. Founded in 1893, the Visiting Nurse Service of New York is celebrating 25 years of providing VNSNY Hospice service to New Yorkers. The VNSNY Living History Project will pair up and coming student-filmmakers with hospice patients to portray important New York City memories. Five finalists will have their films screened at the Festival and the lucky winner will receive \$10,000 for their education.

To read more about the entries or to view them in their entirety, visit

[www.independentfeatures.com](http://www.independentfeatures.com).

### **About Independent Features**

Independent Features combines the technology of streaming video with the tradition of an independent film festival. The Independent Features Film Festival is the world’s first film festival in which films are chosen by a global audience via a web-based competition.

### **About Lycos, Inc.**

Lycos, Inc. operates search and technology web sites that foster online communities, including the new Lycos Cinema community, bringing people together one flick at a time. Other Lycos products and sites include Lycos.com, Hotbot.com, Tripod.com, Angelfire.com, Gamesville.com, Lycos Mail, WhoWhere.com and The Lycos 50™. Lycos, Inc. (www.lycos.com) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Daum Communications Corp., a leading Internet portal and e-commerce destination in Korea with a growing presence throughout the Asian markets. Lycos was acquired by Korean Daum Communications Corp. in October 2004 and has its U.S. headquarters in Waltham, Massachusetts. Daum Communications Corp. is traded on the KOSDAQ: 035720, [www.daum.net](http://www.daum.net).

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