



PRESS RELEASE

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'Hope For Steve' Chosen For 2015 Gwinnett International Film Festival Documentary Selected For Screening "Closing Night"

Atlanta, Georgia – July 6, 2015 – Today, H4S Films, an Atlanta-based film company announced that its documentary *'Hope For Steve'* has officially been chosen for the 2015 Gwinnett Center International Film Festival (GCIFF). The documentary also received the prestigious placement for screening as the Closing Night film in the 2015 event.



"We loved your film so much in regards to the story and what you had to say about ALS," said Kevin Powers, program director for GCIFF. "To us, it's an uplifting story that needs to be seen by as many people as possible, so we have chosen *'Hope For Steve'* as the "Closing Night" film for our 2015 event," Powers added. This positioning allows the directors and producers to conduct a Q&A with the audience and precedes the GCIFF Awards Ceremony.

The film chronicles a two year journey of Hope and Steve Dezember from their carefree romance to Steve's diagnosis at 28-years old with ALS, a terminal and progressive neurodegenerative disease. Two days after being diagnosed Steve proposed to his girlfriend. "This is going to be really hard, and if you leave, I understand. But if you stay...will you marry me?" She said YES! Steve was diagnosed with ALS in August 2011 and they were married two months later.

"We are grateful that Kevin and his team recognized the significance of this story and are so excited to share the importance of this documentary," said Sarah Spicer, co-director and producer. "The "Closing Night" screening, prior to the Awards Ceremony, will provide a solid platform to deliver the messages of hope and living life to its fullest regardless of what is put in your path. We are deeply honored and excited to be chosen," Spicer added.

Powers stated, "All in all, we believe "Hope for Steve" should have the opportunity to be seen by as many people as possible and we would like to help make that happen in any way that we can!"

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as "Lou Gehrig's Disease," affects the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. ALS is terminal; it has no cure. ALS progressively robs those affected by causing muscle weakness, paralysis and, ultimately, respiratory failure. The average lifespan after diagnosis is two to five years.

For more information about the documentary, go to www.hopeforstevefilm.com. To view the trailer, please go to: <http://youtu.be/tQvMNPIbFvY>.

TO HELP FIND A CURE: www.ALS.net.

ABOUT GWINNETT CENTER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: The third annual International Film Festival will be held July 31 – August 2, 2015. This festival celebrates the efforts of local, independent filmmakers, while providing awareness of filmmakers from across the country and internationally. This festival is open to filmmakers of any age. For more information: <http://www.gciffilmfest.com/>