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WAKE UP Film Wins BEST PICTURE and BEST ACTOR Awards at 2021 SUNSCREEN FILM FESTIVAL

HERMOSA BEACH, Ca (November 8, 2021) - **WAKE UP**, an independent film based on true stories of child sex trafficking, wins **Best Picture** and **Best Actor (O'Shay Neal)** at the 2021 **Sunscreen Film Festival West** in Hermosa Beach on November 6th.

The film also received nominations for Best Director (Janet Craig), Best Cinematographer (Mark David), Best Actor (David Gridley) and Best Composer (George Gabriel).

The festival marked the World Premiere of **WAKE UP**, a thriller designed to raise community awareness on trafficking, especially about the targeted victimization of youths in foster care, and to promote prevention.

Director-Producer **Janet Craig**, who received a standing ovation from the audience, explains "Sex trafficking is modern day slavery. We are working to end this scourge that preys on vulnerable children, especially youths in foster care. We are pleased the film has received such a positive reception."

WAKE UP tells the story of a quiet community rocked when a pair of foster youth are targeted and taken by a sex trafficking ring.

Prominent human trafficking survivor and outspoken advocate **Rachel Thomas**, delivers an essential message at the end of the film about the widespread reality of sex trafficking in America.

A national big city tour with special screenings of **WAKE UP** will kick-off in January to coincide with Sex Trafficking Awareness Month. At each event, two producers of **WAKE UP**, who themselves are foster moms, will recognize organizations that serve survivors of trafficking and operate prevention programs. Audience members are encouraged to support these organizations. In Los Angeles, the producers of **WAKE UP** will recognize the nonprofits ZOE (gozoe.org), Raising Hope (raisinghope.org), and Forever Found (foreverfound.org).



For additional information, visit: <https://www.officialwakeupmovie.com>

World Premiere event photos – [CLICK HERE](#)

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