

For Immediate Release

South East European Film Festival

Los Angeles - [www.seefilmla.org](http://www.seefilmla.org)

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Grant from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for the  
South East European Film Festival

(*Los Angeles, December 2011*) – The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the [South East European Film Festival](http://www.seefilmla.org) (SEE FEST) next year will be the proud recipient of a festival grant from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. SEE FEST was among the 24 film festivals in the U.S. who were awarded a grant for the 2012 calendar year.

Since its establishment in 1999, the Academy’s Festival Grants Program has distributed 277 grants totaling \$4.85 million in funding. The [Academy Foundation](http://www.oscars.org/academy-foundation) – the Academy’s cultural and education wing – annually distributes more than \$1 million to film scholars, cultural organizations and film festivals throughout the U.S. and abroad.

“We are greatly honored by this recognition and grateful to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for supporting festivals that bring films from lesser known cultures to America,” said **Vera Mijojlic**, founder and artistic director of SEE FEST. “This grant will make it possible for us to expand access to younger audiences across diverse communities with south east European heritage, and also support greater participation of the new generation of young filmmakers from south East Europe.”

While the Academy’s grants are awarded for a variety of festival programs, organizers are encouraged to submit proposals intended to make festival events more accessible to the general public, provide greater access to minority and less visible filmmakers, and help strengthen the connection between filmmakers and the general public.

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**ABOUT THE ACADEMY**

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is the world’s preeminent movie-related organization, with a membership of more than 6,000 of the most accomplished men and women working in cinema. In addition to the annual Academy Awards—in which the members vote to

select the nominees and winners—the Academy presents a diverse year-round slate of public programs, exhibitions and events; provides financial support to a wide range of other movie-related organizations and endeavors; acts as a neutral advocate in the advancement of motion picture technology; and, through its Margaret Herrick Library and Academy Film Archive, collects, preserves, restores and provides access to movies and items related to their history. Through these and other activities the Academy serves students, historians, the entertainment industry and people everywhere who love movies.

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### **About SEE FEST**

Founded in 2002, the South East European Film Festival, SEE FEST is the leading voice in the U.S. for the presentation of cinematic and cultural diversity of South East Europe. Annual Festival and year-round programming bring to American audiences films that tell a larger story about South East Europe, and unlock the delicate doors into human existence in this troubled region. SEE FEST also serves as the hub for cultural exchange, and resource for scholars and filmmakers on cinema and cultures of the region.

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