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Brazos Progressives Announces the Winners of the 7th Annual Red Wasp Film Festival at StageCenter

BRYAN, TX—On Friday and Saturday, November 6 and 7, 2009, Brazos Progressives presented the 7th Annual Film Festival at StageCenter Theater in downtown Bryan. The following awards were presented on Saturday night:

- Red Wasp Best Screenplay Award: *Hotel School* by Robert Kirschten.
- Red Wasp Best Film Award: *The Christmas Conspiracy* by Jennifer Clary and Kevin Haberer.
- Red Wasp Audience Favorite Award: *Forgotten Lives* by Jeff Garrison-Tate and Josh Tate.
- Red Wasp One to Watch Award: *Bad Timing* by Keller Davis.
- Red Wasp Most Entertaining Award: *Do You* by Gordon S. Williams.
- Red Wasp Social Awareness Award: *Forgotten Lives* by Jeff Garrison-Tate and Josh Tate.

Artist Theodora Saladino Krc created the Red Wasp Best Film trophy presented to Jennifer Clary and Kevin Haberer, and Square One, Art979, and Caffe Capri donated bottles of wine and gift certificates for the other prizes. The festival, which was attended by over 180 people, screened fourteen films that were entered in a competition for festival prizes. The Brazos Valley Rak Ensemble opened the festival on Friday with two dances. After the awards were presented on Saturday evening, Austin-based Ovnio Films closed the festival with “The Making of *Unsmokin’ Drake*,” a presentation that included clips and a discussion about *Unsmokin’ Drake*, a work-in-progress that was filmed on location in Bryan, TX.

Carol and Craig Conlee started the Red Wasp Film Festival in 2003 at the 7F Lodge in Wellborn. After battling the red wasps at 7F Lodge, Carol decided to make peace with the insects by naming the independent film festival after them, thus transforming the familiar insect into the festival’s namesake. In 2006, Brazos Progressives began helping the Conlees organize the Red Wasp Film Festival so that the festival could continue after they moved to Mason, TX. That same year, the festival

moved to Conlee Auctions in downtown Bryan, where it was held for two years. This is the second year that the festival was held at StageCenter.

The 7th Annual Red Wasp Film Festival was sponsored by Revolution Cafe & Bar; the Texas Film Commission; Texas State Optical of Bryan, G.D. Phillips, O.D.; Third Eye Productions; Stearns Design-Build; Caffè Capri; As You Wish; Captured Moments Portraitart & Photography; Daniela Weaver Photography; K. Norwood Portraiture; Essence Photography; Lancaster Capital; Web Unlimited; The Creative Space; The Internal Medicine Center, Elizabeth C. Berigan, M.D.; All Things Spiritual, Teri A. Massengale, M.-Div.; Brazos Natural Foods; Earth Art; Square One Bistro; Madden's Casual Gourmet; Art979; Village Cafe; Jenn Atkins, Certified Nutritional Consultant; KEOS; and the Arts Council of Brazos Valley.

Brazos Progressives looks forward to future film festivals, as the organization continues to promote art and independent film as an integral part our community. For a complete list of films screened at this year's Red Wasp Film festival, visit redwasp.org. For more about Brazos Progressives, visit brazosprogressives.org.