



***LESS THAN KOSHER* wins the Grand Prize at T.O. Webfest**

Toronto, Canada – September 21, 2023 T.O. Webfest presented 37 awards at its Gala Awards ceremony last night, with *Less Than Kosher*, produced by Laura Nordin and Emily Andrews and created by Shaina Silver-Baird and Michael Goldlist winning the Festival's Grand Prize, as well as Best Comedy, Best Writing (Silver-Baird and Goldlist) and Best Actor (Shaina Silver-Baird). The series is available for screening online on highballtv.com.

The 10th annual T.O. Webfest, honoured the best in international short form series. With 95 official entries from over ten countries, Canadian series stood out, with series from Australia, Russia, US and France also winning in key categories. Over 40 web series producers and crew took part in the peer group judging process to select the nominees and winners.

A list of all winners is available [here](#).

With 15 nominations, James Stewart's season 2 of *Chateau Laurier* won Best Drama, Best Supporting Actor (Emmanuel Kabongo) and Best Costume Design (Melissa Bessey). Also with three awards, *Top Dogs: Vengeance* was recognized as Best French Canadian series for producer Vincent Chabot, while the award for Best English Canadian series went to *Streams Flow from a*

River from Fae Pictures' Shant Joshi, Abdul Malik, Linsay Blair Goeldner. Australian series *#VANLIFE(Emotional)* was the top international winner as Best Sci-fi/Horror series and Best international Supporting Actor (Leinad Walker).

Toronto's Headspinner Productions (Michelle Melanson and Ken Cuperus) is the only company to win for two different series: Best Animated Series: *Gisele's Mashup Adventures*, and Best Childrens' Series (12 and under) for *Happy House of Frightenstein (season 2)*.

"The Awards Gala was a fabulous celebration of the incredible talent in short form from across Canada and around the world. This year had an extremely competitive lineup and it just goes to show how many unique stories there are out there in short form." - Leah Rifkin, Festival Director

T.O. Webfest was a 2-day event with a conference, panels and screenings of nominated series, culminating in the Awards Gala. Preceding the Festival was an International Summit with 35 industry leaders discussing the world of short form series and its role in the media ecosystem. A full report from this event and strategies to develop talent and audiences will be released soon.

T.O. Webfest, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, is presented by WebSeries Canada, a non-profit membership organization dedicated to advancing the short form series industry in Canada.

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