



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME
A U S T R A L I A

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Media Release

Notre Dame filmmakers win top honours at film festival awards

Filmmakers from the University of Notre Dame Australia have been recognised at the WA Made Film Festival Student Awards, taking home honours for Best Producer and Best Sound.

Final year film student Elsie Taylor received Best Producer and recent graduate Taylor Finch was awarded Best Sound for their work on the short drama *Holding* .

Holding follows Max, a lost spirit, and Vivian, a grieving widow, as they form an unlikely connection amidst a climate crisis, forcing them to confront their past and find solace in each other.

Shot across two Western Australian locations, the film brought together exterior scenes shot in the remote town of Sandstone and interior scenes captured in Mandurah.

Elsie and Taylor said they felt honoured to receive the awards and see their work recognised by the industry.

“Not only did we get to create such a fun film with an amazingly talented crew, we were also greatly supported by our lecturer Brendon and his team at Notre Dame,” they said.

“As one of our capstone films, we are lucky to have gotten to create something that’s been recognised by such exciting festivals.”

The WA Made Film Festival Student Awards recognise emerging talent in the Western Australian film industry and highlight the creativity of the next generation of filmmakers.

The team behind *Holding* received widespread recognition, earning nominations in the categories Best Film, Best Director, Best Editor, Best Cinematography, Best Production Design, Best Costume Design and Best Performance (under 18).

Notre Dame Film and Screen Production Lecturer Dr Brendon Briggs the awards were well-deserved recognition of Elsie and Taylor’s outstanding work.

“Everyone at the Fremantle Film School is incredibly proud of Elsie and Taylor for their outstanding

work,” he said.

“Elsie and Taylor were both deeply dedicated to their work and brought their creative and professional talents to every step of the project.

“Taylor’s sound design really elevated the project, serving the tone, character, story and overall audience experience. Elsie’s producing allowed the team to create a film that utilised the town of Sandstone for exteriors – 800km from the site of all the interior shots of the film.”

Dr Briggs said the filmmakers were part of a highly collaborative and talented team, whose shared commitment to the project was reflected in its strong recognition at the awards.

“All the students from the team behind the film *Holding* were nominated for awards with a total of nine nominations, which shows how their shared dedication to the project created such a cinematic outcome,” he said.

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