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AFCI AWARDS DANCY JONES SCHOLARSHIP TO ORESUND FILM COMMISSIONER

The prestigious AFCI Dancy Jones Scholarship has been awarded to Sweden's Oresund Film Commissioner, Mikael Svensson. The coveted prize, valued at \$1000 US, provides financial assistance to one lucky film commissioner to further their professional development. Mr. Svensson was selected to receive the scholarship from a global group of AFCI member applicants because of a passionate essay that demonstrated his commitment to ongoing education and up holding the standards expected of an AFCI member commission.

Mr. Svensson attended two AFCI University courses during their initial offerings at AFCI Cineposium 07 in Santa Fe, New Mexico and will use the scholarship to attend the remaining two professional development courses required before one can apply for the designation of Certified Film Commissioner. The next professional development opportunities will be offered at AFCI Cineposium 08 in Wellington, New Zealand. "Before receiving the scholarship, attending AFCI University at AFCI Cineposium 08 was out of reach for me," said Mr. Svensson. "I am excited to have the privilege to continue my studies, learning from AFCI University and the great network of professionals there." The designation of Certified Film Commissioner is awarded to film commissioners who have achieved the highest level of accomplishment in the profession,

The AFCI Dancy Jones Scholarship was created in memory of the late Ms. Dancy Jones, longtime film commissioner from the State of Tennessee, who was a key figure in the early years of the development of national standards of education for film commissioners. Savannah Film Commissioner Jay Self, a longtime colleague of Ms. Jones, said, "Having known Dancy for years, it is exciting to see her legacy of helping others carried on through this scholarship".

"Mikael possesses the special kind of commitment to his jurisdiction and dedication to his profession that show him to be an exemplary film commissioner. His strong belief in continuing education makes him the ideal candidate for this award," said Mary Nelson of the Virginia Film Office and AFCI Vice-President of Professional Development.

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The Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI) is the global professional organization whose members are film commissioners that assist film, television and video production throughout the world. It is a non-profit educational association whose members serve as city, county, state, regional, provincial or national film commissioners for their respective governmental jurisdictions. Website: <http://www.afci.org>