

January 28, 2015

Dear Volunteers, friends, supporters,

It's saddens me to report that a long-time volunteer and supporter of the film festival, Ric Jones, passed suddenly on Monday. Ric is someone I've come to know as a very giving, generous supporter of everything film. He's the type of guy that signs up for two shifts but works 11. There's not much Ric wouldn't do to help us out.

That's why I've decided to create a new award in his honor. From now on, after every festival, we will give the volunteer who most exemplifies Ric's amazing generosity a Ric Jones award—a plaque and a flight to the Sundance and Slamdance Film Festivals. (We may be able to offer a free volunteers' pass too, but that's still being negotiated.)

Ric always told me that he wanted to go to Sundance. He never made it. With this award, we fulfill his wish vicariously. Ric's sister has graciously approved the idea. Our deepest condolences go out to her and all of Ric's family and friends.

Ric loved movies. And we love Ric. He once told me life's too short to do things you don't love, and encouraged everyone to follow their passion. Let's do our best to follow Rick's advice.

Warm Regards,

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