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Contact: Rick Eberle | [www.rickeberleagency.com](http://www.rickeberleagency.com)

[516-729-6872](tel:516-729-6872) | [rick@rickeberleagency.com](mailto:rick@rickeberleagency.com)

## **Jeff Waxman, Catherine Curtin and Greg Cergol to be Honored at the 25th Annual Long Island International Film Expo Closing Ceremony Sunday July 17th**

*Top Film Industry Professionals and Renowned NBC Newscaster to Receive Noteworthy Awards at 25th Anniversary Film Festival Finale*



**[www.LongIslandFilm.com](http://www.LongIslandFilm.com) • July 13 - 17, 2022**

Bellmore, NY (June 14th, 2022) On Sunday, July 17th beginning at 4:00pm, Please join discerning film aficionados across Long Island as Producer **Jeff Waxman** (*Don't Look Up, John Wick, Narc*) will receive the "Excellence in Film & TV" award, Actor **Catherine Curtin** (*Orange is the New Black, Stranger Things*) will receive the "Excellence in Creative Achievement" award and long time Channel 4 WNBC-TV Newscaster **Greg Cergol**, will receive the "Excellence in Newscasting" award at the closing ceremony of the 25th Anniversary presentation of the Long Island International Film Expo, happening at the historic Bellmore Movies 222 Pettit Ave, Bellmore, NY.

Hosted by Kevin Brown (30 Rock) with presenters Abigail Hawk (Blue Bloods), Robert Clohessy (Blue Bloods), Lukas Hassel (The Blacklist), Sal Rendino (Billions), Chad L. Coleman (The Walking Dead), Tara Westwood

(The Grudge) and others, the LIIFE closing ceremony will also feature, in person, many of the fine actors, directors, producers of the incredible films being shown all week. Additional presenters are being confirmed. Celebrities will appear, schedule permitting.

Festivals of the past have included such luminaries as the late Danny Aiello and Ed Asner, Robert Clohessy, Abigail Hawk, Ralph Macchio, John Amos, Daniel Baldwin, Ally Sheedy, 30 Rock's Kevin Brown, Cathy Moriarty, Steve Buscemi, Ed Burns, William Sadler, Ilene Kristen, and so many more.

The Long Island International Film Expo (LIIFE) is the premier filmmaker community on Long Island, and one of the most respected festivals of its kind in the world; showing almost 125 independent films in many different genres each year. Sponsored by the Long Island Film-TV Foundation (LIFTF), the County of Nassau, the Nassau County Industrial Development Agency and Gold Coast Studios, this year the 25th Anniversary installment will be held from July 13th - July 17th, 2022 at the historic Bellmore Movies and will feature panels, networking forums and films from around the globe.

Some highlighted selections for the festival include: Cool For You (Produced by Matthew Modine), John Gray's The Little Drummer Boy (starring Xander Berkeley), Hot Water On Long Island, Hudson Falls (Starring William Sadler, Richard Kind, Jessica Hect, Robert John Burke, Tara Westwood), Montauk77, UFO Club, Launch At Paradise (Starring Catherine Curtin) and Wishlab Inc. (Starring Chad L. Coleman).

For this, the 25th anniversary, LIIFE is proud to feature 22 films made by Long Islanders, 12 World Premieres, 4 US Premieres, 39 New York Premieres, 36 Long Island Premieres, and Films from 12 countries! There are also 40 Female Directors, a record for LIIFE.

LIIFE has become a must attend festival for filmmakers of all levels and nationalities; with local and foreign film screenings, celebrity appearances, entertaining and informative panels, a star-studded awards ceremony, Q & A with filmmakers from the world over and networking galore. Sponsored by the Long Island Film-TV Foundation (LIFTF), the County of Nassau, the Nassau County Industrial Development Agency and Gold Coast Studios.

For More Information on LIIFE or to purchase tickets, please visit:  
[www.LongIslandFilm.com](http://www.LongIslandFilm.com)

LIIFE's sister festival, Scared for Your LIIFE, a short horror festival, is open for submissions at <https://filmfreeway.com/ScaredforyourLiife>



Jeff G. Waxman has produced over thirty feature films including *Don't Look Up*, *Vice* (dir. Adam McKay), *John Wick II & III* (dir. Chad Stahelski), *The Fighter* (dir. David O. Russell), *mother!* (dir. Darren Aronofsky), *Out of The Furnace* (dir. Scott Cooper), *Law Abiding Citizen* (dir. F. Gary Gray), and *Before the Devil Knows You're Dead* (dir. Sidney Lumet). Waxman founded his own production company Waxylu Films Inc. which produced *Concrete Cowboys* (dir. Ricky Staub) for Netflix. Waxylu has multiple projects in development. In 1996 Waxman directed and produced the concert film "Freebird" which documented the legendary band Lynyrd Skynyrd. The film covered the original members' heyday and continued through to the events leading up to the tragic plane crash in 1977. Waxman was born in Queens, NY and graduated from Oswego College. He now lives in Long Island, NY.



Catherine Curtin was born in New York City, New York, USA. She is an actress, known for *Stranger Things* (2016), *Insecure* (2016) and *Orange Is the New Black* (2013). She was nominated for a 2000 Joseph Jefferson Award for Actress in a Revue for "Love, Janis," at the Reading Entertainment and Off-Broadway Investments Theaters in Chicago, Illinois.



Greg Cergol is NBC 4 New York's Long Island reporter, based at the station's Long Island news bureau in Melville. Cergol is a seven-time Emmy® Award winner for journalistic excellence and has also been recognized with four Edward R. Murrow Awards, including a national award earned for NBC 4 New York's 2012 coverage of Superstorm Sandy. Well-respected for asking the questions that viewers want answered, Cergol has covered Long Island's most high-profile and headline-making stories for NBC 4 New York since April 1999. In addition to Sandy, these include two presidential debates, the opioid epidemic, political and governmental corruption and the future of Long Island's economy. Cergol has been focusing on the biggest court cases that have impacted our community such as the murder of the boy scout, Andrew Morris and the death of young, Thomas Valva. Cergol's reporting was a key component of NBC 4 New York's award-winning COVID-19 coverage, honored in January, 2021 with the prestigious Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award for "creat(ing) a 360 view in real time of the coronavirus pandemic, with courageous and thorough reporting on the virus's explosion in New York City." The duPont has long been recognized as the broadcast, documentary and on-line equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize, also awarded by Columbia University. Cergol joined NBC 4 New York from News 12 Long Island, where he served as reporter and anchor for nine years. A native of Queens, Cergol's early career was spent in radio, at stations on Long Island, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Omaha, Nebraska and the NBC Radio Network. A member of the Long Island Press Club Hall of Fame, Cergol has

also been named "Journalist of the Year" by the Press Club in honor of his accomplishments and service. He has received the "General's Award" from the US Army Reserves, and has been honored by the NYS Broadcaster's Association, the Associated Press, Long Island Fair Media Council and others. Cergol is also an active volunteer who gives his time to support Long Island's non-profit community. Cergol is a graduate of Marquette University in Milwaukee and resides in Suffolk County with his family.

For Press Inquiries, Contact: [Rick@RickEberleAgency.com](mailto:Rick@RickEberleAgency.com)

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