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## Indie Movies Storm Thailand National Film Awards



 tang\_wong\_still\_bk\_5

There was a considerable upset at the 23rd edition of the [Thailand National Film Awards](#) this week as the independent films [MARY IS HAPPY, MARY IS HAPPY](#) and [TANG WONG](#) stormed the mainstream opposition, coming away with a staggering four Golden Swan trophies each, while the hotly tipped blockbuster [PEE MAK](#) left almost empty handed.

The Subhanahongsa Awards for Best Picture, Best Director and Best Screenplay went to [TANG WONG](#) and writer director Kangdei Jaturanasmee. The film focuses upon four Thai schoolboys immersing themselves in traditional culture in exchange for their prayers being answered at a holy shrine. Nutthasit Kotimanuswanich, one of the film's young stars, came away with best supporting actor. The film premiered at last year's [Berlin International Film Festival](#) and has since screened at the [Hong Kong International Festival](#) and maintained a Thai theatrical run.

The Thailand National Film awards for best actress and best supporting actress went to Patcha Poonpiriya and Chonnikan Netjiu for their role as inseparable friends in [MARY IS HAPPY, MARY IS HAPPY](#), the unusual story of a disaffected boarding school attendee and was based upon 410 consecutive messages from a real-life Bangkok schoolgirl's Twitter feed!

Other award winners on the night included Tony Jaa's 3D martial-arts action movie [TOM-YUM-GOONG 2](#), which received two awards – visual effects and sound.

Former Federation president Jaruek Kaljaruek, an executive at the Kantana studio, was given the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The full list of winners is as follows:

Best Picture: Tang Wong

Director: Kongdej Jaturanrasmee, Tang Wong

Screenplay: Kongdej Jaturanrasmee, Tang Wong

Actor: Nadech Kugimiya, Koo Kam

Actress: Patcha Poonpiriya, Mary Is Happy, Mary Is Happy

Supporting Actor: Nutthasit Kotimanuswanich, Tang Wong

Supporting Actress: Chonnikan Netjui, Mary Is Happy, Mary Is Happy

Cinematography: Pairach Khumwan, Mary Is Happy, Mary Is Happy

Film Editing: Chonlasit Upanigkit Mary Is Happy, Mary Is Happy

Recording and Sound Mixing: Ram Indra Sound Mixing Studio, Tom-Yum-Goong 2

Original Song: "Yuewya", Cin Thosaporn Achawanantakul, Last Summer

Original Score: Chatchai Pongprapapan, Jan Dara: The Finale

Art Direction: Akradej Kaewkote, Pee Mak Phra Khanong

Costume Design: Vorathon Krisanakalin, Koo Kam

Makeup: Arporn Meebangyang, Thongsuk 13

Visual Effects: Surreal Studio Company and Thossaporn Poonart, Tom-Yum-Goong 2

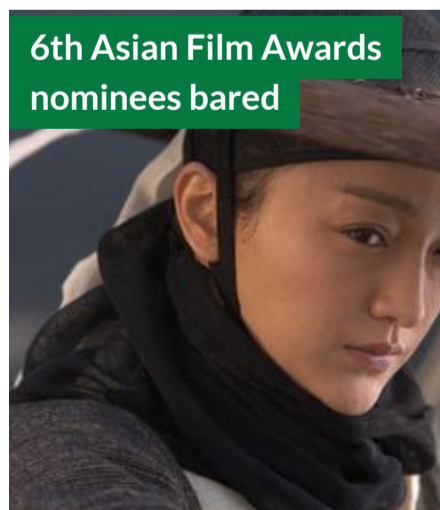
Lifetime Achievement Award, Jaruek Kaljaruek

Popular Vote Awards: actor Nadech Kugimiya and actress Suthata Udomsilp

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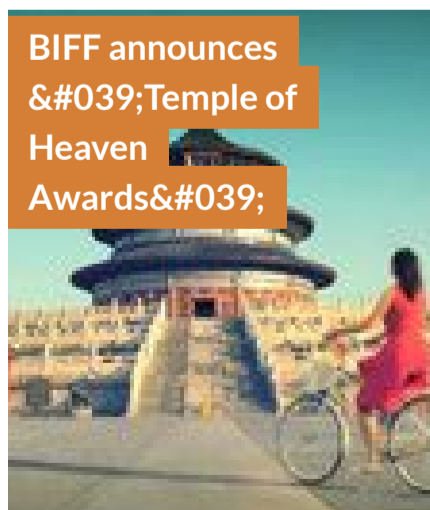
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Hong Kong Film

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