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## Winners

### 2002 Finalists

Family Theater Productions presents the

### 2002 Angelus Awards - Finalists

LIVE ACTION  
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ANIMATION

#### 2002 Angelus Awards - Finalists - LIVE ACTION

- Abbie Down East* **Directed by Ellen-Alinda Verhoeff**  
Columbia University, New York  
25:46  
At 14, Abbie finds strength within herself to protect her ailing mother and younger sisters who are stranded in a remote lighthouse during Maine's great storm of 1856. Based on a true story.
- Because of Mama* **Directed by Sergui Bassine**  
New York University  
18:00  
On the eve of his important cello recital, twelve-year old Slava Slonin struggles to practice as his father embarks on an extravagant drinking spree -- all /Because of Mama/.
- Beyond Therapy* **Written and Directed by Aimee Barth**  
Florida State University  
12:00  
In order to connect with his workaholic father, a young boy is convinced he must coax his father to climb a tree.
- Big Blue Bus* **Written, Directed, Produced & Edited by Ashley H Chiang**  
Loyola Marymount University  
25:00  
A subtly powerful portrayal of three recent immigrants from China, Mexico and France, who board a Los Angeles city bus and learn to move on as they adjust to life in America.
- The Cricket Player* **Directed by Adam Rubin**  
University of Southern California  
17:45  
Cricket and baseball take on new significance as 11-year-old Mick and his family from Apartheid-era Johannesburg struggle to fit into their new home in idyllic Illinois.
- Empty* **Written and Directed by Micah Herman**  
New York University  
23:09  
As the Reich crumbles, two boys escape a death march fate and find shelter from a snowstorm. In that same abandoned barn, two stray German soldiers retreating from the front lines emerge and their lives are tragically changed forever.

#### IN THE SPOTLIGHT



- The Penny Game*      **Written and Directed by Connie DiCicco**  
Florida State University  
16:40  
It's 1955 and 12-year-old Sam has a huge crush on Cherry, the beautiful lifeguard. To get her attention on this last day of summer, Sam must compete against her high school peers by diving for pennies in the deep end of the pool.
- Rocks and Chocolate*      **Written, Produced and Directed by Teddy Sharkova**  
Savannah College of Art & Design  
12:00  
A little girl steals from the jar containing her poor family's meager savings. However, her real intentions unfold in this warm tale of the love between a daughter and father.
- The Wormhole*      **Directed by Jessica Sharzer**  
New York University  
19:00  
Wally, a boy haunted by the disappearance of his younger brother and the breakup of his family, overhears his grandmother talk about time travel and starts to search for a wormhole to help him go back in time.
- The Yard Sale*      **Co-Written and Directed by Ray Kimsey**  
**Produced by Stephanie Watanabe**  
American Film Institute  
18:50  
At a family yard sale, three women—a mother with Alzheimer's disease, her daughter who must sort through her mother's belongings to prepare to move to a nursing home, and the granddaughter who doesn't agree with the family's decision to sell Grandma's possessions—detach from things of the past to make room for treasures of the future.

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**2002 Angelus Awards - Finalists - DOCUMENTARY**

- Angelus Plaza*      **Directed by Miriam Kim**  
University of Southern California  
26:33  
Living independently in a retirement home in downtown Los Angeles, three extraordinary senior citizens face life and its struggles by really living.
- The Children of Ibdaa*      **Directed by S. Smith Patrick**  
San Francisco State University  
29:30  
Showing one side of a tragically complex political issue, a West Bank children's dance troupe presents the history, struggle and aspirations of Palestinian refugees. Through their creative performance, they express a desire to return to their homeland and live in peace with Israelis.
- I Am Khmer*      **A Documentary by Steven Bray and Sarorn Sim**  
Sheridan College, Ontario  
45:26  
In this first-person spiritual journey, a Cambodian-Canadian travels with his parents to their Asian homeland. When the filmmaker encounters family he has never known and the dark history of the war and genocide that occurred in Cambodia, he identifies with and begins to understand the foreign culture with which he has been raised.

*Left Behind*

**Produced and Directed by Christof Putzel**  
Connecticut College, CT  
LEFT BEHIND reveals the devastating effects of AIDS on Kenya's children by exploring the lives of HIV-positive orphans and the survival of homeless children in nearby Dagoretti.

*Our Road to Kosovo*

**Directed by James Saldana, Produced by Richard Carsley**  
Southern Illinois University  
29:30  
A gripping front-line Kosovar Albanian perspective documents life in a refugee camp and the process of reclamation that ensues. In their once-familiar society, now only liveable under constant military supervision, these Kosovars become foreigners in their own land.

*Project Nepal: A Time to Learn*

**Directed by Grant Knisely**  
University of Denver  
Ten students from the University of Denver spend 23 days serving and learning in one of the richest and poorest countries in the world.

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**2002 Angelus Awards - Finalists - ANIMATION**

*Bert*

**Directed and Animated by Moonsung Lee**  
Academy of Art College/San Francisco  
4:30  
BERT shares the poignant tale of a young vegetable's search for family.

*Bluegaroo*

**Created by Silvia Uchida**  
Academy of Art College/San Francisco  
4:30  
When Tabitha, a lonely 4-year-old little girl, meets Bluegaroo, an imaginary 6-foot-tall blue flying kangaroo with a pouchful of special toys and objects, they embark on a fantastic journey.

*Letter from Heaven, The*

**Created by Jae-Young Lee**  
School of Visual Arts, New York  
12:10  
When a mailman intercepts a son's letter to his deceased father, he secretly answers with correspondence that helps the boy cope with his father's death.

*Match Scratch Fever*

**Directed and Animated by Kristin Solid**  
University of Calif, Los Angeles  
3:05  
When a match escapes his box, ready to ignite a dream, he enters the world and soon discovers his true destiny.

*Shadowplay*

**Written, Directed and Animated by Dan Blank**  
New York University  
Shadowplay is the story of Akio, a shadow of a young boy, who wanders Hirsoshima searching for his family, while trying to make sense of the atrocity.

*Sognatore*

**Directed and Animated by YiKuong Chen/Kim**  
University of Southern California  
1:55  
The music of Vivaldi transports an aspiring musician beyond his dull bedroom to a fanciful stage where notes come alive and discipline and practice bring him to the stars.

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Creativity ▪ Compassion ▪ Respect

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