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Triton College Adjunct Instructor and Filmmaker Marshall Gibson Wins Prestigious Award at Black Harvest Film Festival



Marshall Gibson

RIVER GROVE – Triton College adjunct instructor Marshall Gibson can now add award-winning filmmaker to his ever-growing resume. Gibson won the prestigious Sergio Mims Award at the Black Harvest Film Festival for his film, *Life in My Eyes*, in November.

The film centers around Gibson's childhood friend, Stephen Anderson, who is visually impaired. After experiencing a stroke at the age of 30, Anderson underwent rehabilitation to regain the skills needed for independently living. *Life in My Eyes* focuses on Anderson's day-to-day life, as well as others who are visually impaired.

"Receiving this honor is a humbling experience, especially for my first film," said Gibson. "To submit work in honor of Sergio Mims' name is an amazing achievement."

With over 400 film submissions, only 117 films from 18 different countries were chosen to be a part of the festival.

According to its website, The Black Harvest Film Festival is an annual showcase for Black filmmakers. The festival is way to celebrate the Black experience, hoping to enrich Black culture. The late Sergio Mims was a film critic, journalist, historian and cofounder of the festival.

"Sergio Mims was a champion bringing Black filmmakers together," said Gibson.

Outside of filmmaking, Gibson teaches two classes at Triton, Graphic Design (VIC 100) and Designing for Social Media (VIC 275).

"Marshall is extremely enthusiastic and resonates great with students," said Jill LoBianco-Bartalis, Visual Communications coordinator and instructor of Visual Communications. "Students do not have to go to a four-year university to receive an incredible experience. At Triton, students are taught from award-winning faculty and industry faculty members."

Gibson aims to create more films with his production company, L8Bloomers, while continuing to learn and grow within the Triton community. As a self-proclaimed "south-sider," he wants to familiarize himself within the Triton neighborhood and hopes to expand with teaching and filmmaking.

"It's a growing, learning curve and I'm here for the ride," he said.

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Media Contact:

Melissa Ramirez Cooper | melissacooper@triton.edu | 708-456-0300, Ext. 3692 Maryann Dibari | maryanndibari@triton.edu | 708-456-0300, Ext. 3202 ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE Triton College is an institution of higher education dedicated to student success. Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs designed for students to realize their career aspirations and effectively compete in a global economy. The college campus spans 110 acres in River Grove, Illinois, holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's exemplary faculty and staff work to provide high-quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 10,000 students each year. Triton College is a member of The Community Colleges of Illinois and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at http://triton.edu/.