

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AWARD WINNING WEB SERIES ONCE YOU LEAVE COMES HOME TO POLARI FILM FESTIVAL

Austin, Texas (September 16, 2012) – *Once You Leave* is the first ever web series to be selected to screen at the 25th Annual Austin Gay & Lesbian International Film Festival (aGLIFF-Polari). *Once You Leave* kicked off the second half of the season continuing its first run on OneMoreLesbian.com and is now featured on AfterEllen.com and PNT TV. The series will end with the world premiere of the final episode at aGLIFF- Polari, October 7, at 2:45pm in Austin's own Stateside Theatre.

Once You Leave is an independent multi-platform project that features a 12 episode web series, digital comic book, character blog, and exclusive behind-the-scenes videos. *OYL* is written, directed and produced by Emmy® Award winning creator, Nate Locklear (*The Daytripper*). The series is co-produced by award-winning actress, Kayla Olson, who also plays the lead character; co-star Samantha Ireland, voice of C.T. on Rooster Teeth's *Red vs. Blue*; Jason Massey; Anita Garza; and critically acclaimed indie author Michele J. Hale, who is also contributing as an additional writer.

The web series focuses on a young woman's journey to find her place in the world. Lost and alone, Kayla must contemplate her next move. Where do you go when the road has run out? How did she get here? She retraces her steps, haunted by shadows of her past and confronted by demons in her present. On the road she must face the reality of lost, unrequited love, the dark hearts of men and dream-shattering disappointment. Will Kayla find the strength to go on, to find herself, to find her home? They say you can never go home again, Once You Leave.

In addition to the series is the award-nominated, multi-platform content including *Rachel Perkins Blog*. Rachel, played by TXRD Lonestar Rollergirl, Jacki Brinker, is a fan favorite character. As the series opens, we see that Rachel has drowned, her death shrouded in mystery. The character blog tells the story of her journey in Kayla's absence and gives insight into the life and death of the young woman seen only in flashbacks throughout the series.

Rounding out the *OYL* story is the one-issue digital comic book, illustrated by Austin artist Karla Moya. *Without You I Am Lost, the making of Once You Leave*, an exclusive behind-the-scenes series. And finally, the award-nominated soundtrack, comprised mostly of musicians from Austin's eclectic music scene including Kacy Crowley, Telegraph Canyon, Smoke & Feathers, MVP, Go to Stereo, Liz Simmons, Stirling Johnson, Bobee, Through the Eye and Jennifer Leonhardt.

The aGLIFF-Polari Film Festival Program entertains the community through the exhibition and support of the best in recent LGBTQI international, national, and regional films. The festival showcases features and shorts, in addition to mainstream, and avant-garde films. Festival events connect members of the community. Symposia and panels explore current political and social trends; and increasingly the festival serves as a venue for first-time filmmakers.

"We are very excited to include this smart, absorbing and beautifully realized web series in the 25th anniversary program for the largest and longest running LGBTQIA festival in the American Southwest," states Curran Nault, Director of Programming for aGLIFF-Polari. And IndieIntertube.tv, a podcast dedicated to independent streaming entertainment says, "Moving, real and beautifully shot. [Once You Leave] is great Drama!"

To find out more about the *Once You Leave* project please visit **OnceYouLeave.com** and for info and tickets to the aGLIFF-Polari Film Festival visit **PolariFest.com**

OYL Press Contacts:

Michele Hale (michele@onceyouleave.com) (512) 810-8163
Nathan Locklear (nate@onceyouleave.com) (512) 496-4194