



הקרן לירושלים
THE JERUSALEM FOUNDATION
مؤسسة صندوق القدس

**Jerusalem Foundation Awards Bernstein Prize to
Sam Spiegel Film Student**

*Documentary TeleNovella will be screened at the 2012 International
Film Festival in Jerusalem this summer*

Jerusalem, Israel – March 18, 2012: Or Sinai, a 4th year student at the Sam Spiegel Television and Film School, was awarded the 40,000 NIS Bernstein prize, in memory of Lord Alex Bernstein of England, a long time friend of the Jerusalem Foundation and Jerusalem Cinematheque.

Students of film and television schools in Israel were eligible for the prize and more than 30 films were submitted for consideration for this first-time award. An illustrious panel of judges included film distributor Ruth Diskin and documentary film makers Bizi Goldberg and Yoram Sabo.

The film tells the story of a mother and daughter who emigrated to from Argentina to Jerusalem's Katamon neighborhood. Preparations for the daughter Violetta's bat mitzvah uncover the deep family divisions and conflicts between the two cultures: a single mother who must clean houses to support her family, Violetta's a rare bone disease that forever stunts her growth, a family divided between two continents and a cultural disconnect with their new country.

In awarding the prize, the judges noted that the film was composed of very strong characters and expected the "final film to be sensitive and moving," said the panel in announcing the award. Only a shortened version of the film was submitted to the panel, and the Gesher Multicultural Film Fund, a partner in the project, will grant artistic assistance during full film production.

"The Bernstein grant is one in a series of efforts to encourage filmmaking in Jerusalem" said Eyal Sher, director of the Jerusalem Foundation's Art and Culture Department. "The competition was open to all Israeli film and television students and the fact that it was awarded by a Jerusalem based organization strengthens the image of the city as young, dynamic and open."

Click on the link below to watch a short clip

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Woyo8IGqhU&feature=youtu.be>