

# Young filmmaker part of award-winning team honoured for Owen Hart film

BY SHAWN LOGAN, CALGARY SUN, DECEMBER 10, 2014

At just 18, Wes Beiko already has his filmmaker's eye on the prize.

The Okotoks resident was honoured at the Monaco International Film Festival for his work on a short film chronicling the life and tragic death of Calgary wrestling legend Owen Hart, and the birth of the charitable foundation that now bears his name.

The 20-minute film called *The Owen Hart Foundation: A Look Back* captured four awards at the festival, including Best Short Documentary, Best Short Documentary Director, Best Film Editing for a Short Documentary, and the Humanitarian Angel Film Award.

Beiko worked as director of photography and editor, winning the honour after the film-loving youngster put an ad on Kijiji looking for work in the industry earlier this year.



Local filmmaker Wes Beiko, far left, poses with (from left to right) Martha Hart, Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi and James A Sinclair in Old City Hall in Calgary, Alta in July 2014. The film called "The Owen Hart Foundation: A Look Back" was produced by Sinclair and directed by Dr. Martha Hart. Photo courtesy Wes Beiko



Martha and her entourage — Tammi Christopher, Oje Hart, Virginia Xavier, Ashid Bahl and Darlene Chrapko — in the Monaco Film Festival Press Room

"Quite honestly it all started for me when I posted an ad on Kijiji looking for work," he said.

"I always had an interest in video and editing."

That leap of faith landed him a job with Be Institute Inc.

A few months after posting his ad, and Beiko had his first international film prize as editor of the film, as well as sharing in the rest of the awards haul.

Unable to fly to Monaco, he learned of the win from Martha Hart, who in addition to being Owen's widow and founder of the charitable society, also directed the film.

"When I found out at first I was in shock — I couldn't believe it was real," Beiko said. "Then it was just pure joy."

Hart, who captured best director honours for her first film, was "overwhelmed and humbled."

