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ZAMBIAN DOCUMENTARY WINS AWARD AT NEW YORK FESTIVAL

The Zambian documentary *Tikambe* ("Let's Talk About It") has won a Silver World Medal at the New York Festival's 48th annual international Film & Video Awards for its portrayal of a Zambian woman and a Zambian couple struggling to live positively with HIV and AIDS.

The New York Festival winners were announced at a gala black tie awards presentation in New York on January 28. The ceremony was held at the Hudson Theatre in the heart of Manhattan's theater district and attended by some 450 producers, directors, and production company executives and their clients from around the world.

The film portrays two life stories. The first features Harriet, a widow suffering from AIDS and rejected by her family. After receiving educational counseling on HIV and AIDS, Harriet's mother and sister decide to reconcile with Harriet, who proudly walks through her town wearing a T-shirt proclaiming her positive status to serve as an example of someone living positively with HIV/AIDS. She also speaks openly with her neighbors about how to prevent HIV infection and how to survive if infected.

The second story follows an HIV- positive couple, the Yengwes, through their discovery of their positive status and their personal journey in coming to terms with their status, disclosure to family and friends and advocacy to others to know their status. Mr. Yengwe, an ex-police officer, with his wife, talks to colleagues and makes compelling arguments for getting tested and knowing one's status.

Directed by Carol Duffy Clay, *Tikambe* was singled out from nearly 1,000 entries from 32 countries. It was produced by the Zambia Integrated Health Programme (ZIHP), the Network of Zambian People Living with HIV (NZP+), and the Center for Communication Programs (CCP) based at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. ZIHP was a joint effort of the Government of Zambia and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Now in its 48th year, the New York Festivals International Film & Video Awards is the world's largest competition for non-broadcast media, and is one of the most important events in the communications industry calendar.

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