No Letting Go (Randi Silverman)

Producer/Co-Writer: Randi Silverman

Film Director: Jonathan Bucari

"No Letting Go" is based on a true story and adapted from the award-winning short film, ILLNESS, is a feature drama that follows one family's journey to understand and to cope with the erratic behavior and emotional instability of their middle son, Tim. The family's world starts to unravel as they discover that their son's increasing fragility is due to mental illness. Tim's painful, yet invisible, struggle takes its toll on his parents and the well-being of his two brothers. Anger, resentment, and conflict arise as Tim's parents desperately search for answers. His family must play an integral role in finding the help he needs, but will it be too late? Will love, strength and courage prevail to reveal the resiliency of the human spirit?"

"No Letting Go is a dramatic, independent feature film adapted from the award-winning short film, ILLNESS, and based on the real-life story of producer and co-writer <u>Randi Silverman</u> and her family. The film is a heartfelt look at one family's journey to understand and to cope with the erratic behavior and emotional instability of their middle son.

While writing the screenplay with the film's director, Jonathan Bucari, Randi used her own very personal experiences to create true to life characters, scenes, and dialogue that would honestly reflect the struggles her family faced as they discovered that their son's behavior was the result of a serious mental health disorder. Given that 1 in 5 children suffers from a diagnosable mental health condition, Randi was determined to give voice to the millions of families who suffer alone and in silence.

No Letting Go was made with the purpose of sharing the honest truth about the devastating impacts of childhood mental illness in an effort to create conversations, end the silence caused by blame and shame, create awareness and understanding, and help people know they are not alone. As a result, the producers of No Letting Go have partnered with The Youth Mental Health Project, a nonprofit organization, which seeks to promote awareness and understanding of the mental health of children, adolescents, and young adults in an effort to improve the lives of children and families and reduce the incidence and severity of mental illness.

The goal is to bring No Letting Go to as many communities as possible in an effort to create dialogue and open conversations that will lay the important foundation for early intervention and prevention strategies."

Awards, Nominations, Recognitions

Accolade Global Film Competition 2015

AWARDS WON

- Award of Excellence
 Disability Issues

 Jonathan D. Bucari, Demian Pictures
- Original Score
 - Alain Mayrand
- Leading Actress
 Cheryl Allison
- Supporting Actor Richard Burgi

Awareness Film Festival 2015

California

NOMINATED

• Merit Award of Awareness

Jonathan D. Bucari (Director), Demian Pictures

Back in the Box, California 2015

NOMINATED

• Best Film Jonathan D. Bucari

EyeCatcher Film Festival 2015

Oklahoma

The Film Awards 2016

AWARDS WON

• Best Feature *Jonathan D. Bucari* (Director), *Demian Pictures*

Helios Film Festival 2015

Ohio

The IndieFest Film Awards 2015

AWARDS WON

- Award of Excellence Leading Actress
 - Cheryl Allison
- Disability Issues
 - Jonathan D. Bucari, Demian Pictures
- Best of Show
- Feature Film *Jonathan D. Bucari*

Carina Rush

Randi Silverman

Demian Pictures

Julien Dubuque International Film Festival 2016

NOMINATED

• Best Feature Film

LA Femme International Film Festival

Los Angeles, California

NOMINATED

- LA Femme Filmmaker Award
- Best Feature

Jonathan D. Bucari

Carina Rush

Randi Silverman

Demian Pictures

LA Indie Film Fest 2016

Los Angeles, California

AWARDS WON

Best Screenplay

Jonathan D. Bucari (Screenplay/ Based on the Short Film) Randi Silverman (Screenplay)

Best Feature

Jonathan D. Bucari (Director)

Demian Pictures (Production Company)

Long Beach International Film Festival 2015

Long Island, New York

NOMINATED

Best Feature Film
 Jonathan D. Bucari (Director)
 Demian Pictures

NYC Mental Health Film Festival 2105

AWARDS WON

• Best Narrative Feature

Jonathan D. Bucari, Demian Pictures

Palm Beach International Film Festival 2016

Florida

NOMINATED

Best Feature Film

ReadingFilmFEST 2015

Pennsylvania

AWARDS WON

- People's Choice Award
- Narrative Feature

 Jonathan D. Bucari, Demian Pictures

Shadows of the Mind Film Fest 2016

Ontario, Canada

Official Selection

Southampton International Film Festival 2015

Southampton, England

3 AWARDS WON, 6 NOMINATIONS

- Feature Screenplay
 Jonathan D. Bucari (Screenplay/based on the short film)
 Randi Silverman (Screenplay)
- Leading Actress in a Feature Cheryl Allison
- Supporting Actor in a Feature *Noah Silverman*

NOMINATED

- Best Feature
 - Jonathan D. Bucari (Director), Demian Pictures
- Best Score in a Feature
 - Alain Mayrand (Composer)
- Achievement in Hair and Make-up
 - Amy Wadford (Makeup/Hair Artist)
 - Jessica Mellow (Makeup Artist)

Sydney Indie Film Festival

Sydney, Australia

AWARD WON

• Best Female Lead Cheryl Allison

6 NOMINATIONS

- Best Film
 - Jonathan D. Bucari, Demian Pictures
- · Best Screenplay
 - Jonathan D. Bucari
 - Randi Silverman
- Best Drama
 - Jonathan D. Bucari
 - Demian Pictures
- Best Male Support
 - Richard Burgi
- Best True Story Award
 - Jonathan D. Bucari, Demian Pictures

YoFi Fest 2015

NY

NOMINATED

• Narrative Feature

Jonathan D. Bucari, Demian Pictures

Vero Beach Wine and Film Festival 2016

Florida

OFFICIAL SELECTION

2016 VOICE Awards

SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

• Honorable Mention

2016 Media Award

National Alliance of Mental Illness, New York State (NAMI NYS)

Randi Silverman is the co-Founder and President of The Youth Mental Health Project and an award-winning screenwriter and producer of the feature film, No Letting Go, national public speaker and presenter on the topic of children's mental health,

Randi sparks meaningful conversations that provide insight into the challenges faced by families with a loved one who struggles with mental illness.

A believer in the power of storytelling, Randi used her real-life experiences as the mother of a child with a mental health disorder to co-write and produce the multi-award winning film, NO LETTING GO. Receiving critical acclaim from film reviewers and mental health organizations alike, the film has won over 20 awards at independent film festivals world-wide.

As President of The Youth Mental Health Project, Randi's work creates opportunities for open community dialogue and increased awareness and education about children's mental health. In 2011, Randi co-founded a local community Parent-to-Parent Support Group, which has served over 1000 families in Westchester, NY. As a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Randi also uses her knowledge of the law to help parents advocate for the educational needs of their children who suffer from mental health challenges.

Randi is a member of the Board of Directors for the International Bipolar Foundation.