

# DEAR FRIEND, WHERE HAVE YOU GONE?

The Story of  
Jayden Martin



PDF Press Kit





# Project Details

Run Time: 28m 45s

Genre: Documentary, Short

Year: 2023

Language: English

Country of Origin: Canada

Format: 3840 x 1746 | 2.2:1 | 23.98 FPS | 5.1 Sound

Production Companies: Lone Pine Media

Paper Padlock Productions

Studio 205 Productions

Sales / Distribution: CFMDC

Contact: Nicholas Koscik

lonepinemediainc@gmail.com

Official IMDB: [www.imdb.to/42t7Kyr](http://www.imdb.to/42t7Kyr)

Official Web Page: [www.nicholaskoscik.com/dearfriend](http://www.nicholaskoscik.com/dearfriend)

Social Media Tags: #dearfriendwherehaveyougone

#dearfriend

#dearfriendmovie

# Logline

A powerful story of one artist's determination to succeed, as he uses art to overcome addiction and mental health struggles and pursue his dreams in rural Canada.

## Synopsis

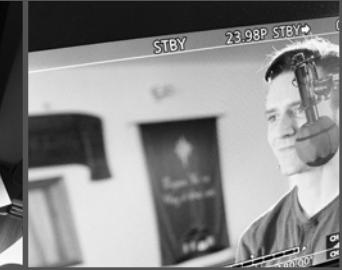
For Jayden Martin, art is more than just a hobby. It's his escape, his passion, and his lifeline. But as an artist in the small, rural community of Englehart, Ontario, Jayden's dreams of making it big seem almost impossible. Despite growing up with divorced parents and struggling with addiction, mental health, and suicide, Jayden remains determined to succeed.

"Dear Friend, Where Have You Gone?" offers a rare glimpse into Jayden's world as he navigates the challenges of small-town life and grapples with his own inner demons. This powerful documentary is an inspiring reminder of human resilience and the transformative power of Canadian art.



# Our Story

Making *Dear Friend, Where Have You Gone?* was an incredible experience for us – we're a group of filmmakers who all come from small towns, so telling Jayden's story was deeply personal. We knew we had to shine a light on the lack of arts funding in Northern Ontario, and we had a blast making this film a reality. With the help of our incredible crew, we were able to capture the essence of Englehart and create a film that is both heart-wrenching and uplifting. We hope this film inspires others to pursue their passions, no matter where they're from.



# About Jayden

Jayden Martin is a 23-year-old artist from the small town of Englehart, Ontario. He's a talented musician, singer, and songwriter, and his work draws from a diverse range of influences, including folk, blues, and rock. Despite facing numerous personal struggles, including addiction and mental health issues, Jayden remains deeply committed to his art. He's constantly pouring his heart and soul into his work. He's also a black-and-white film photographer, writer, antique collector, and coffee roaster.

With his unique blend of artistic talents, Jayden is a creative in the truest sense of the term.



# Director | Nicholas Koscik

Nicholas Koscik is an award-winning director, writer, and producer from rural Northern Ontario. He currently resides in Toronto, Canada.

His short film *Nature Boy* was a standout success, earning Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Editor, and Best Sound at the 2018 Toronto Smartphone Film Festival's 48-Hour Kabaret and the Grand Jury Prize at the African Smartphone International Film Festival. Other notable works include *Stanislaw*, *Flower*, and *70 Years of Sears*, a short documentary commissioned by Sears Canada.

Nicholas specializes in narrative fiction and commercial work, with experience in genres like drama, documentary, and comedy. His ability to navigate different storytelling styles renders him a unique and versatile filmmaker.



# Director's Statement

"Dear Friend, Where Have You Gone?" is a film that's incredibly personal to me. Having grown up in Englehart, I've seen firsthand the obstacles artists face when pursuing their careers in rural Northern Ontario. Through Jayden Martin's story, we explore the extraordinary challenges of trying to grow and thrive as an artist in a small, underfunded Canadian community.

The dwindling funding for the arts in Ontario, particularly in public schools, is a growing issue that demands attention. While Northern Ontario is full of cultural richness, many talented individuals are forced to leave to find better opportunities elsewhere due to a lack of support. This phenomenon, often called the "brain drain," has left our community and others like it struggling to retain its artistic talent.

As a region that comprises just 10% of Ontario's population, we in the North feel our voices and needs are often ignored. The truth is that the decision-making power for all of Ontario is largely centred in Toronto and Ottawa. Through our film, we hope to raise awareness of the unique challenges confronting Northern Ontario's artistic community and encourage more substantial investment in its cultural development.

At its core, "Dear Friend, Where Have You Gone?" delves into Jayden's roots and the experiences that have influenced his art. His journey towards growth and healing is an inspiration to anyone who has experienced difficulties, be it with mental health, addiction, or childhood trauma. We hope that Jayden's story will touch audiences and give them a renewed appreciation for the importance of supporting the arts in communities around the world, big or small.



## Co-Producer | David M. James

David James is an accomplished Italian-Canadian film producer from Toronto, Ontario. He's produced, and executive produced several feature films that have premiered at SXSW, TIFF, and Sundance.



## Cinematographer | Dylan M. Young

Dylan M. Young is a cinematographer based in Toronto, Canada and has dedicated himself to feature and commercial work. He's lauded for his risk-taking composition and multi-tonal lighting.



## Editor | Eric Metzloff

Eric Metzloff is a freelance editor, colourist, and photographer currently creating in Toronto, Canada. When he's not in the edit suite, Eric can be found with a camera, capturing as many portraits as he can.



# Credits

Directed by: Nicholas Koscik

Produced by: Nicholas Koscik & David M. James

Starring: Jayden Martin

Cinematography: Dylan M. Young

Editor & DIT: Eric Metzloff

Assistant Editor: Chad Danger

VFX: Evraam Soliman

Original Music by: Jayden Martin

Original Score by: James M. Findlay

Re-Recording Mixer: Carlos Valdez

Music Editor: Michael Henley

Stills Photographer: Eric Metzloff