

## Winner of FIVE “Best Feature” Awards\*

Winner of TWO “Best Actress”

&

ONE “Best Supporting Actress” Awards

FESTIVALS – MethodFest\*, Los Angeles -- Beijing International Underground Film Festival, China -- La Femme Film Festival, Los Angeles -- Landlocked Film Festival\*, Iowa City -- Mammoth Film Festival, Mammoth -- North Carolina International Film Festival\*, Asheville, North Carolina -- Kansas International Film Festival\*, Kansas City -- Reading International Film Festival, Reading, Pennsylvania -- Napa/Sonoma Wine Country Film Festival, Napa -- Oneota Film Festival - Decorah, Iowa -- Miami International Women’s Film Festival, Miami -- Sedona International Film Festival, Sedona, Arizona -- Toronto Women’s Film Festival, Toronto -- Los Angeles Women’s Film Fest, Hollywood, California European Film Market at The Berlinale, Berlin, Germany Desert Film Society, Palm Springs.



## WHAT CRITICS ARE SAYING:

“...with intelligent characters and witty dialogue that Diablo Cody should take a note from...I enjoyed every minute of “16 to Life.” *The Film Snob Blog, 2009.*

“With *16 to Life*, Smith demonstrates her realistic insights on teenage life...” “Theresa Russell, who plays stand-owner Louise, is pitch-perfect as Kate’s semi-second mother...” *The Daily Iowan, 2009.*

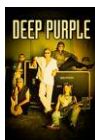
“*16 to Life*” is an insightful comedy...terrific depth of characters. In short, I loved the story, loved the characters, loved the movie.” *Dickinson County Register, 2009.*

“A sweet-tempered, yet savvy little film...Be prepared for several delightful surprises along the way.” *Mountain Express, Asheville, North Carolina, 2009.*

“The crowd ... roared with laughter during this quirky, well-acted, soundly produced romantic comedy.” *The Clayton County Register, 2009.*

“16 to Life”... like “Waitress”, focuses on the life of someone yearning for much more. Like “Juno”, it features smart dialogue and a winsome performance from Hallee Hirsh.... We care about the teenager’s fate because Smith makes it key to her world.” *Critic’s Corner, News Channel 4, Sioux City, IA., 2009.*

Featuring Music By Sunny Day Sets Fire ♦ Miss Li ♦ Owen Thomas & Lily Young  
Ane Trolle ♦ Donovan ♦ Deep Purple ♦ H. Scott Salinas ♦ Duke Ellington ♦ Lenka



For further information on *16 To Life* please visit [www.16tolifethemovie.org](http://www.16tolifethemovie.org), or for more information on theatrical booking please contact the film’s distribution and marketing coordinator Andy Stoll at [16tolifemarketing@gmail.com](mailto:16tolifemarketing@gmail.com), phone: 323-205-6382 or fax: 323-345-6382.

# 16 to Life

a film by Becky Smith

*16 To Life*, the first feature from Emmy-nominated writer/director Becky Smith (*Queer Eye For The Straight Guy*), puts a wry, witty and unpredictable ensemble cast in a small-town locale reminiscent of a Capra comedy. Often compared by critics to *Sixteen Candles* and *Juno*, *16 To Life* is a romantic comedy centered around Kate, played by Hallee Hirsh (*ER*, *You've Got Mail*), a small town girl whose angst about her sexual inexperience fuels a comic quest for love and understanding on a birthday to end all birthdays---Kate's turning Sweet 16 and she's never been kissed. In pursuit of a kiss before the clock strikes midnight, she'll learn more than most 16 year-old girls could imagine!

The film, whose cast includes Hirsh, veteran screen actress Theresa Russell (*The Last Tycoon*, *Spiderman III*), TV actress Mandy Musgrave (*South of Nowhere*) and up-and-coming actor Shiloh Fernandez (*United States of Tara*, *The Girl With the Red Riding Hood*), has been exciting festival audiences and has won multiple 'Best of Festival' awards across the country. *16 to Life* delivers an intelligent, feel good, laugh-out-loud treat for anyone who's ever gone in search of love.



Hallee Hirsh stars as Kate, Sweet 16 and never been kissed.

The film was shot entirely on location in McGregor, Marquette and Stone City, Iowa and is slated for domestic and international theatrical release in the Fall of 2010.

## About Writer/Director Becky Smith

Becky Smith is an Emmy-nominated writer/director based in Los Angeles, California. Smith has directed for networks including MTV, MTV2, NBC, Fox, Disney Channel, PBS, Fuse and ABC Family. Smith was nominated in 2004 for an Emmy in directing for her work on *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*, the same year the show took home the Emmy for Best Reality Program. Her documentary on Title IX, *In the Game* received numerous awards, including Best Television Documentary of the Year from Women in Radio and Television. Smith received grants for her work from Women In Film, the California Arts Council and AFI. Smith teaches at the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television.

## Key Cast Members



### **KATE – Hallee Hirsh**

Though only in her twenties, Hallee Hirsh is a veteran of some of TV's most loved series. Beginning her acting career at the tender age of three she has gone on to act in numerous television shows including *Grey's Anatomy*, *JAG*, *Boston Legal* and *Flight 29 Down*. Hirsh is most often recognized for playing Tom Hank's aunt in *You've Got Mail* and for her reoccurring role as Rachel Greene on television's *ER*. More recently, Hirsh has guest starred in *Saving Grace*, *Ghost Whisperer* and *90210*.



### **DARBY – Mandy Musgrave**

Originally from Orlando, Mandy Musgrave starred as Ashley Davies on the television series *South of Nowhere* and portrays the part of Misty in the web series *Girltrash!*. She has appeared in some of television's top shows including *Days of Our Lives*, *CSI* and *The King of Queens*. Musgrave recently completed production on the television show *Dan's Detour of Life* and will reportedly guest star in an upcoming episode of *90210*.



### **RENEE – Shiloh Fernandez**

Shiloh Fernandez moved to Los Angeles at age nineteen and within just a few years, he received critical praise for his role in the movie *Crossroads: A Story of Forgiveness*, which *Variety* noted, "...Fernandez, who bears a strong resemblance, acting chops and all, to Joaquin Phoenix, is a crucial part of the story's success." Fernandez has had reoccurring roles on a number of popular television dramas including *Jericho*, *Three Rivers* and *The United States of Tara*. He most recently starred in *Skateland*, a Grand Jury Prize nominee at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival.

### **LOUISE – Theresa Russell**



Veteran screen star Theresa Russell began her film career the old fashioned way – she was discovered by a famous director. Elia Kazan saw the teenage Russell in Lee Strasberg’s acting class and promptly cast her as Robert Mitchum’s daughter in *The Last Tycoon*, where she starred opposite Jack Nicholson and Robert DeNiro. She later earned wide acclaim and recognition portraying Mo Dean in *Blind Ambition*, and shortly thereafter began her long collaboration with Nicolas Roeg--whom she subsequently married. She starred opposite Bill Murray in *The Razor’s Edge* and then starred in the hit film *Black Widow*, where she received wide acclaimed for her portrayal of the stylish serial killer, Catherine, chased down by Debra Winger’s FBI Agent. Over the course of her career, Russell has worked opposite some of the greatest actors of our time, including Dustin Hoffman, Robert DeNiro, Paul Newman, Kevin Bacon, Harvey Keitel and Gene Hackman. Her recent films include *The Believer*, *Wild Things*, *Empire Falls*, and Ed Harris and Sony Pictures’ *Spiderman III*.



### **RONALD – Jaime Gomez**

Jaime Gomez’s acting career spans twenty years of television and film. He’s best known for his role in the hit CBS series *Nash Bridges* where he played young super cop Evan Cortez. Gomez has appeared in films including *Crimson Tide*, *Clear and Present Danger* and *LA Story*, and worked along side Denzel Washington, Harrison Ford, William Dafoe and Gene Hackman. Jaime recently completed his first feature as a writer/director, *In the Blink of an Eye*.