

Prize-winner to open Gold film festival

AFTER their win at the Berlin International Film Festival, the brothers behind Minnie Loves Junior are looking forward to their short film's Queensland debut.

The Berlinale Jury Special Mention winner opens this year's Heart of Gold Film Festival in Gympie today.

Andy Mullins said he and his brother Matt wrote and directed the 13-minute film with Heart of Gold in mind because the festival's program includes more light-hearted and quirky films, such as Minnie Loves Junior.

"Sue Murray (executive producer) from Ten Canoes was really pivotal in our decision to make this film," Mullins said.

"She said look at the festivals people want to see them at ... Heart of Gold was one that came up straight away.

"We made the film for this festival and to be given the privilege of opening the festival, we don't take that lightly."

The film follows the at first unrequited love between Aboriginal

children Minnie (Wyntah Shaw) and Junior (Latrell Stuart).

"Little girls are so aware of what's happening now and in the future and boys really aren't," Mullins said. "Boys are very much in the moment, versus this almost wisdom (in girls). Boys' heads are down and girls' heads are looking at the sunset."

Minnie Loves Junior is the third short film from the Melbourne brothers.

All three films focus on Aboriginal characters and the Mullins worked with the subject of their first film, Russell Smith, on Minnie Loves Junior.

"He's a guy we met six years ago," Mullins said.

"There is one film we made about him, one film we were connected to because of him, and this film we made with him."

The brothers are currently working on two feature films.

The Heart of Gold Film Festival runs from today until Sunday at the Gympie Civic Centre.

For more information go to www.heartofgold.com.au.



QUEENSLAND DEBUT: Minnie Loves Junior opens this year's Heart of Gold Festival in Gympie today. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Powerlink route will be checked

POWERLINE Action Group Eumundi's proposal to route a proposed new Powerlink line down an easement on the Bruce Highway would be thoroughly investigated, Member for Nicklin Peter Wellington said.

Mr Wellington met representatives from the independent Energy Sector Monitoring Unit and the State Government's Department of Energy last week regarding the proposed Woolooga to West Cooroy line.

He presented a submission outlining PAGE's proposal and said he came away satisfied its call for an alternative route to that proposed by Powerlink would be given full consideration.

Mr Wellington said he had been shown examples of other challenges to Powerlink proposals that had been reviewed by the unit.

Eerwah Vale residents are concerned at the potential damage to koala and Richmond Birdwing butterfly habitat and to the loss of amenity for land owners if the route goes ahead.

Mr Wellington said he had been given an "iron clad guarantee" that the PAGE submission would be given equal attention.

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