



IMTA ALUMS BRIANNA HILDEBRAND & MATEO ARIAS IN *FIRST GIRL I LOVED*; *ARIAS & GOOD KIDS*

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First Girl I Loved opens in limited release and is on VOD Tuesday, October 18th
Good Kids is in limited release and VOD Friday, October 21st

“Brimming with authenticity and humor, First Girl I Loved offers a delightful, contemporary perspective on the jitters of new romance and the age-old heartbreak of love.” – SlashFilm.com

Shortly after IMTA alum Brianna Hildebrand completed filming her scene-stealing, breakout role as Negasonic Teenage Warhead for the hit *Deadpool*, she quietly filmed a role in a small independent movie titled *First Girl I Loved* alongside fellow alum Mateo Arias. And while *Deadpool* catapulted Hildebrand’s star into the X-Men universe, it was the premiere of *First Girl I Loved* at last January’s Sundance Film Festival—nearly a month prior to *Deadpool*’s release—that made audiences and Hollywood take notice of Hildebrand, particularly when the film was the winner of the Festival’s Best of NEXT Audience Award. Arias, already an established actor, has appeared in several films and TV shows, including starring for four seasons on Disney’s *“Kickin’ It”* as the quirky, loveable Jerry Martinez.



In *First Girl I Loved*, an awkward love triangle forms when Anne (Dylan Gelula) realizes she is in love with Sasha (Hildebrand), the most popular girl at her high school. She confesses this to her friend Clifton (Arias), who has a thing for her. He becomes jealous and, predictably, it gets awkward.

“They might seem different, but there are similarities,” Hildebrand said about her roles in her first films. “In *Deadpool*, Negasonic Teenage Warhead is a goth mutant with a very tough exterior, but deep down she feels misunderstood, so she’s built this hard, apathetic outer shell. In *First Girl I Loved*, my character is not yet sure who she is. Both teenage girls are struggling with their identities and figuring out what they want.”



Arias said he had more trouble with his role. “I read the script and I loved everything except for the role of Clifton because he was so diametrically opposite to what I was,” Mateo explained. “But I met with [Director] Kieram and he kind of made me come to the realization that if I’m going to be an actor, then I need to come out of my comfort zone.”

Arias also co-stars in *Good Kids*, opening on Friday, which follows a group of over-achieving high school students on Cape Cod the summer after graduation. After realizing they missed out on some key life experiences by always being “Good Kids,” they decide to reinvent themselves before college, resulting in disastrous consequences.

Produced by the same team that brought *American Pie* and *About a Boy* to the screen, the ensemble comedy also stars Zoey Deutch, Nicholas Braun, Israel Broussard, Julia Garner, Ashley Judd and Demián Bichir.

Hildebrand just completed filming *Tragedy Girls*, a horror comedy about two death-obsessed teenage girls who use their online show about real-life tragedies to send their small mid-western town into a frenzy and cement their legacy as modern horror legends. Scheduled for a 2017 release, the film also stars Alexandra Shipp, Josh Hutcherson and Craig Robinson.