MEET EVAN HARA: WRITER, DIRECTOR, FILMMAKER

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Evan Hara was just 16 and still at school when he produced his first full-length feature film. At the film's premiere there was a red carpet, paparazzi and movie posters. Did it take place in Hollywood? No, in Plano, Texas. I've seen the film and it's great! It's called *The Boundary* and tells the story of astronauts who travel to the edge of the universe. I caught up with Evan to find out more about this exciting young filmmaker.

A Evan has always enjoyed all things related to film. He has won a local filmmaking competition, has run the school news channel, which he also created, and has written a series for TV. But his adventures began behind the camera when he was much younger, when he used to make films of his toy cars using his dad's video camera. There is, of course, a huge difference between the camera he used then and the DSLR camera that he had to use when he joined the Dallas Young Actors Studio. Evan also has his own YouTube channel. You can see some examples of his work there, ranging from comedy skits to short films.

B As if this were not enough, at just 14 years old, Evan took the lead role in the film *Round of your Life*. When asked about the experience of acting, he said 'I loved it. There really is no other experience like it – it was amazing to get to know what it feels like on the other end of the camera.'

C At such a young age, we wondered how he managed to fit everything in; after all, he is still at school! 'I basically have zero free time!' he explained. He attends acting classes and film classes and does the school news channel on YouTube. Despite all that, he says he's still able to do his homework, although it's sometimes difficult.

D Evan wants to be one of the youngest directors of a feature film. When asked how he intends to make this a reality, he said, 'I intend to achieve my goal by submitting my films to film festivals around the country, getting feedback, and then fine-tuning my editing and directing skills.' However, he admits that he has competition from other young filmmakers like Ed Burns and Richard Linklater.

Well, I've seen him on the red carpet in Plano, and I hope that I'll see him on the red carpet in Hollywood soon. Good luck, Evan!

1 In what ways was the premiere of Evan's film The Boundary similar to a Hollywood premiere?

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2. How did Evan start making films?

3 What was Evan's first experience as an actor?

4. How did he feel about his experience as an actor?

5. What training is he receiving at the moment?

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