

OCTOBER 3 2018 - 2:55PM

Claymore teenager wins short film award for video about living with autism



Claymore teenager Spartacus Savona celebrates his Focus on Ability Short Film Festival award win with mum Sandra Brien and his sister Melita.

Airds High School has received \$15,000 worth of SMEG appliances thanks to the comedic storytelling skills of recent graduate Spartacus Savona.

Mr Savona, 18, won the judge's choice award in the short film section at the Focus on Ability Short Film Festival at Sydney's The Concourse last month.

The Claymore teenager starred in a five-minute film called *Am I Special or "Special"* where he discussed living with autism.

He was diagnosed with autism when he was five years old.

Mr Savona said he was stoked to win the award.

He said his fellow classmates helped him shoot the short film earlier this year.

"My film aimed to tell a story and make people laugh," Mr Savona said.

"I like to entertain people because I'm really interested in being a stand-up comedian and just being me.

"If you can make people laugh, it makes everything better."

Mr Savona's win led to Airds High School receiving a \$15,000 SMEG package.

He also won himself a new computer worth \$3000.

Mr Savona said the majority of funding would go towards upgrading the school's support unit kitchen.

"I couldn't believe I won because I thought the other award candidates had some great stories," he said.