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Los Angeles Film Festival 2010: Annette Bening, Julianne Moore – THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT

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[Annette Bening, Julianne Moore, *The Kids Are All Right*](#)

Downtown Los Angeles every day: traffic jams, pollution, more traffic jams.

Downtown Los Angeles today: traffic jams, pollution, more traffic jams, a National Basketball Association Championship game, the opening night of the [Los Angeles Film Festival](#), (many?) more traffic jams. (I wish the LA Film Festival had remained on the Westside.)

LAFF kicks off at 7:30 p.m. tonight at the Regal Cinemas, with a screening of [Lisa Cholodenko](#)'s acclaimed family comedy-drama *The Kids Are All Right*. By "family," I mean the movie itself is about a family — not that it's aimed at five-year-olds and their \$obliging\$ parents/guardians or what have you.

Written by Cholodenko and [Stuart Blumberg](#), *The Kids Are All Right* stars **Annette Bening** and **Julianne Moore** as a couple whose two children (*Alice in Wonderland*'s [Mia Wasikowska](#) and [Josh Hutcherson](#)) — conceived by artificial insemination — have tracked down and brought home their biological father ([Mark Ruffalo](#)).

The Kids Are All Right, which opened at the Sundance Film Festival, has been getting a lot of good buzz,

especially for Bening and Moore, both of whom have (inevitably) already been mentioned as possible awards season contenders.

More information [here](#).

The synopsis below is from the LAFF's website:

In Lisa Cholodenko's intoxicating and deeply touching comedy, Annette Bening's Nic—a Type A doctor with a tongue that can get tart on her third glass of wine—and Julianne Moore's Jules—the warmer, flakier partner—are going through a rough patch in their relationship. Matters are further complicated when their teenaged kids, Joni and Laser (wonderfully played by Mia Wasikowska and Josh Hutcherson), track down their biological father. Played by a very seductive Mark Ruffalo, he's a cool, laid-back, motorcycle-riding restaurant owner who's happy to insinuate himself into the family circle, whether the kids' "momzies" like it or not. One does (a lot) and one doesn't.

Cholodenko, who wrote the wise, sparkling screenplay with Stuart Blumberg, fuses classic Hollywood craftsmanship with a generous and sophisticated indie spirit in this irresistible exploration of the true meaning of family. Bening and Moore, two of our finest actors, are at the top of their game here: their chemistry is delicious. Unpredictable, un-polemical, and un-politically correct, *The Kids Are All Right* is a crowd-pleaser in the most honorable sense of the term.

David Ansen

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