

**2021 Global Peace Film Festival
In-Person Program
September 21 – September 26, 2021**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
OPENING NIGHT GALA FILM
Enzian Theater, 6pm**

MISSION: JOY – FINDING HAPPINESS IN TROUBLED TIMES

USA – 2021 – 90 mins.

Director: Louis Psihoyos

Co-Director: Peggy Callahan

Producers: Peggy Callahan, Mark Monroe

Academy Award®-winning director Louie Psihoyos teams up with co-director Peggy Callahan on *MISSION: JOY – FINDING HAPPINESS IN TROUBLED TIMES*, a documentary with unprecedented access to the unlikely friendship of two international icons who transcend religion: His Holiness the Dalai Lama & Archbishop Tutu. In their final joint mission, these self-described mischievous brothers give a master class in how to create joy in a world that was never easy for them. They offer neuroscience-backed wisdom to help each of us live with more joy, despite circumstances.

Inspired by New York Times bestseller *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World*, the film showcases the exchange between these two Nobel Peace Prize winners that led to that book. Consisting largely of never-before-seen footage shot over 5 days at the Dalai Lama's residence in Dharamsala, the film invites viewers to join these luminaries behind the scenes as they recount stories from their lives, each having lived through periods of incredible difficulty and strife. With genuine affection, mutual respect and a healthy dose of teasing, these unlikely friends impart lessons gleaned from lived experience, ancient traditions, and the latest cutting-edge science regarding how to live with joy in the face of all of life's challenges from the extraordinary to the mundane. *MISSION: JOY* is an antidote for the times.

**ALL THE FOLLOWING SCREENINGS WILL BE HELD AT
WINTER PARK LIBRARY, 460 E. NEW ENGLAND AVENUE**

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

1pm

ATOMIC COVER-UP

USA – 2020 – 52 mins.

Director: Greg Mitchell

Producers: Susan Mitchell, Greg Mitchell

"Atomic Cover-up" is the first documentary to explore the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 from the unique perspective, words, and startling images of the brave cameramen and directors who risked their lives filming in the irradiated aftermath. It reveals how this historic footage, created by a Japanese newsreel crew and then an elite U.S. Army team (who shot the only color reels), was seized, classified top secret, and then buried by American officials for decades to hide the full human costs of the bombings as a costly nuclear arms race raged.

These rich, vital materials are carefully assembled for haunting effect and maximum relevance for today as nuclear dangers reach peak intensity and official "cover-ups" expand. Charlie Seaborn contributed an original score and Alex Gibney and Alex Winter served as chief advisers.

"They told me, hell no and damn no--they didn't want those images shown to the public at a time when they were planning to build bigger bombs." --Lt. Daniel McGovern, leader of the American film team, to "Atomic Cover-up" director Greg Mitchell

2:30pm

SEEDING CHANGE: THE POWER OF CONSCIOUS COMMERCE

USA/Brazil – 2020 – 51 mins.

Director/Producer: Richard Yelland

Twenty years ago, a young group of social entrepreneurs started a company to sustainably harvest acai in the Brazilian rainforest. Along the way, they joined a movement of purpose-driven companies looking to change the world through an alternative economic model. These "triple bottom line" businesses measure success not only financially but also socially and environmentally. Their practice of "conscious commerce" addresses some of today's most challenging issues. This award-winning documentary empowers viewers to be part of the solution by "voting with their dollars" and supporting brands and products that make positive change for the planet.

4:30pm

PERSPECTIVES ON INDIA

GANDHI REDISCOVERED

India – 2021 – 27 mins.

Director: Rohit Dhuliya

'Gandhi Rediscovered' is an account of the formation of Gandhian philosophy and its relevance to contemporary times. It looks into the childhood of Gandhi and his journey to becoming a Mahatma. Gandhi was not an extraordinary child. He had the flaws of any person. But it was his great strength of character that transformed him. The film considers the impact of Gandhian philosophy on education and politics, and how it influenced political leaders including Martin

Luther King and Nelson Mandela as well as peace movements around the world. The film looks at Gandhian philosophy or methods not just as a political tool but as a way of living a holistic life.

Followed by:

SON OF A SWEEPER

USA/India – 2020 – 28 mins.

Director: Lisa Mills

Vimal Kumar is the son of a sweeper, or “untouchable” in India’s cruel caste system. This film profiles his efforts to provide different options and more hope for other children of sweepers through education. The film follows him around India as he manages his “Movement for Scavenger Community” and observe his challenges... and his success.

6pm

A BREAK FOR IMPACT

USA/Mexico – 2020 – 57 mins.

Director: Christine Kane

Producers: Aaron Hosé, Christine Kane

In the Spring of 2020, a legal studies professor and a group of students from Florida journey to the US-Mexico border during an "alternative spring break" experience and embed themselves within organizations fighting the growing humanitarian crisis. They discover a series of harrowing facts about the treatment and fate of Central American asylum seekers.

8pm

**RECONCILING OUR FUTURE WITH OUR PAST
REPARATIONS**

USA – 2021 – 30 mins.

Director: Jon Osaki

Reparations explores the four-century struggle to seek repair and atonement for slavery in the United States. Black and Asian Americans reflect on the legacy of slavery, the inequities that persists, and the critical role that solidarity between communities has in acknowledging and addressing systemic racism in America.

Followed by:

NO TIME TO WASTE: THE URGENT MISSION OF BETTY REID HOSKIN

USA – 2020 – 52 mins.

Director: Carl Bidleman

Executive Producers: Marsha Mather-Thrift, Doug McConnell

No Time to Waste celebrates legendary 98-year-old park ranger Betty Reid Soskin's inspiring life, work and urgent mission to restore critical missing chapters of America's story. The film follows her journey as an African American woman presenting her personal story from a kitchen stool in a national park theater to media interviews and international audiences who hang on every word she utters.

The documentary captures her fascinating life -- from the experiences of a young Black woman in a WWII segregated union hall, through her multi-faceted career as a singer, activist, mother, legislative representative and park planner to her present public role.

At the Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park, Betty illuminates the invisible histories of African Americans and other people of color. Her efforts have changed the way the National Park Service conveys this history to audiences across the U.S., challenging us all to move together toward a more perfect union.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

12:30pm

CURED

USA – 2020 – 52 mins.

Directors/Producers: Bennett Singer, Patrick Sammon

Mentally ill. Deviant. Diseased. And in need of a cure.

These were among the terms psychiatrists used to describe lesbians and gay men in the 1950s, 1960s, and early 1970s. According to the medical establishment, every gay person—no matter how well-adjusted—suffered from a mental disorder. And as long as lesbians and gay men were “sick,” progress toward equality was impossible. CURED chronicles the battle waged by a small group of activists who declared war against a formidable institution—and won a crucial victory in the modern movement for LGBTQ equality.

This feature-length documentary takes viewers inside the David-versus-Goliath struggle that led the American Psychiatric Association (APA) to remove homosexuality from its manual of mental illnesses in 1973. Viewers meet the key players who achieved this victory, along with allies and opponents within the APA. The film illuminates the strategy and tactics that led to this pivotal yet largely unknown moment. Indeed, following the Stonewall uprising of 1969, the campaign that culminated in the APA's decision marks the first major step on the path to first-class citizenship for LGBTQ Americans.

While CURED is indisputably about science, medicine, and politics, at its core this is a film about activism and the process of social change. It features a diverse group of crusaders with stubborn dedication and big personalities who came together at a crossroads in LGBTQ history. Their tenacity, resourcefulness, and ingenuity brought about a change that transformed not only LGBTQ people's perceptions of themselves, but also the social fabric of America.

3:30pm

SHORTS PROGRAM II: CONFLICTS, BORDERS & COCKTAILS

MILA

USA – 2021 – 20 mins.

Director: Cinzia Angelini

Producer: Andrea Emmes

MILA is a war story that takes on a child's perspective. Inspired by World War II stories from the director's mother, the character of Mila represents the best of humanity. Although she has lost everything - her family, her house, her peace - she still clings to hope. With a little more than imagination and humanity, Mila manages to profoundly impact others, including a caring stranger who saves her.

Followed by:

FALEMINDERIT

Luxembourg – 2020 – 14 mins.

Director: Nicolas Neuhold

Producer: Jesus Gonzalez

In 1921, a Luxembourgish cartographer visited Albania, preparing the border for the newly independent country. He went on to take part in the chaotic Paris conference of Ambassadors, where an observation he made would change the outcome of the diplomatic gathering.

Followed by:

THE CROSSING

USA/Columbia – 2020 – 40 mins.

Director/Producer: Juliana Penaranda-Loftus

When desperate refugees fleeing crisis in Venezuela are welcomed by a small Colombian border city, a political fire storm erupts. A moving portrait of conflict, suffering, generosity and the depth of the human spirit.

Followed by:

GREETINGS FROM MYANMAR

Norway/Myanmar – 2020 – 5 mins.

Directors: Sunniva Sundby, Andreas J. Riiser

Producer: BACON OSL

Umbrella drinks and genocide.

6pm

MAKING THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE: THE STORY OF PUERTO RICAN STUDIES AT BROOKLYN COLLEGE

USA – 2021 – 33 mins.

Directors: Tami Gold, Pam Sporn

Producers: Gisely Colón López, Tami Gold, Pam Sporn

MAKING THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE tells the story of the student led struggle to win Puerto Rican Studies at Brooklyn College, CUNY, in the late 1960's. The documentary is a mosaic of voices, film footage, photographs taken by student activists and music of Grammy award-winning musicians Arturo O'Farrill and Oscar Hernández. This important story highlights the powerful alliance Puerto Rican, African American and other progressive students and faculty forged that changed the face of higher education with the founding of one of the first Puerto Rican Studies departments in the nation.

Followed by:

STAND UP, STAND OUT: THE MAKING OF A COMEDY MOVEMENT

USA – 2020 – 35 mins.

Director: David Pavlosky

Producers: Dirk Alphin, Scott Mason

Stand Up, Stand Out: The Making of a Comedy Movement tells the story of a unique brand of activism belonging only to San Francisco--where three gay teachers' fight for equal rights during the burgeoning Gay Liberation Movement of the 1970s, led to the blossoming of the Valencia Rose Cabaret, Café, and Restaurant, believed to be the first and only gay-owned and operated comedy club in the USA. As AIDS ravaged San Francisco, a gay and lesbian comedy club flourished in, of all places, an old mortuary.

From 1981 to 1986, the Valencia Rose Cabaret, Café, and Restaurant blossomed as the home of queer comedy, the birthplace of many well-known careers, a de-facto community center and a gathering place for activists. At a dark historical moment, it was a locus of resistance through laughter. Stand Up, Stand Out plunges into a little-known, but widely resonant, chapter of queer cultural history: the story of the Valencia Rose (1981-1986). Through the voices and humor of the Rose's performers, the film explores gay comedy as an outgrowth of the rich traditions of activism and performance in San Francisco, an empowering response to the conservative politics of the era, and a valiant quest for joy and laughter amidst the horrific onslaught of the AIDS crisis.

Stand Up, Stand Out features Tom Ammiano, Karen Ripley, Monica Palcacios, Danny Williams, Dirk Alphin, Paul Boneberg, and the song stylings of Romanovsky & Phillips.

8pm

SNEAK PEAK OF A NEW FILM BY SAMUEL GEORGE

FOLLOWED BY:

OUT TO VOTE

USA – 2021 – 31 mins.

Director: Samuel George

Producer: Irene Braam

A story of redemption, a story of democracy.

After winning a fight to restore voting rights for formerly incarcerated people, returning citizens Bobby Perkins, Nicole Hanson-Mundell and Monica Cooper go all-in to get out the vote in Baltimore, Maryland. Their efforts in the run-up to the 2020 election, in the face of misinformation, polarization, and a global pandemic, are filmed in this Bertelsmann Foundation documentary. Theirs is a story of the powerful positive impact of democratic engagement.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

1PM

SLEEPING WARRIOR

UK/Canada/Kenya – 2021 – 93 mins.

Directors: Janet Wells, Mwaura Timothy

Producers: Nina Ruiz, Janet Wells

‘Sleeping Warrior’ is about the first female African Lacrosse team. The film follows these young women from their homes in Kenya to the World Championships in Canada and shows how an unimaginable opportunity transforms their humble lives. From getting their first passports, to discovering how their friends and families react, we learn how the power of sport changes these young women. There is heartbreak, joy and always strength of spirit.

During the course of filming, one player discovered that her deceased mother might be alive after all, so we follow her dramatic journey to find her real family. The title comes from a mountain the girls train under in Kenya called ‘Sleeping Warrior’ and these young women are so strong, yet have been oppressed their whole lives, they are truly warriors.

3:30pm

COMMUNITY AND SELF

OUT OF THE DARK: AKEEM

USA – 2021 – 4 mins.

Directors: Sarah Klein, Tom Mason

Producer: Heather Martino

How do you fight an enemy you cannot see? This is the story of Akeem Rollins, known for his viral slam poetry piece “Suicide Note,” and how he faced the greatest challenge of his life and found strength he never knew he had.

The three-part docuseries *Out of the Dark*, showcases the personal journeys of some of the most influential mental health activists. Each short film takes an in-depth look at the struggles these young leaders overcame, the impact of their work, and their continuing journeys.

Followed by:

ALL IN

USA – 2020 – 26 mins.

Director: Jordan Mahy

Producers: Mark Slagle, Tyler Jones, Alex Kirby

Public schools in Birmingham, Alabama are facing historic, systemic challenges as a local grassroots moment attempts to foster equitable change by doing something radical: listening.

Followed by:

FINDING HOWARD

USA – 2021 – 51 mins

Directors: David Levine, James Fossett

Producer: David Levine

Finding Howard tells the true story of how a song changed the life of educator and musician David Levine and the thousands of students with whom he has worked in schools and communities across the United States. The song, written by Nashville songwriter Lee Domann, tells the story of Lee’s classmate, Howard Ray, who was a social outcast and ridiculed by his peers. In his song, Lee looks back with regret at an incident in which he didn’t attempt to help Howard as he was being physically harassed by others. The film tracks Lee’s life through the emotional memories of his childhood to the writing of the song, and his reunion with Howard thirty years later. Finding Howard is a call to action for the creation of caring and compassionate learning communities where children feel safe, understood and heard.

6pm

REFLECTION: A WALK WITH WATER

USA – 2021 – 80 mins.

Director: Emmett Brennan

Producers: Emmett Brennan, Nicholas Brennan

The conditions that make life possible are rapidly changing. Reckoning with this reality on the cusp of another dry season that may very well ravage his community, 30-year old filmmaker Emmett Brennan embarks on a remarkable journey to find stories of hope and healing. Emmett sets out to walk 200 miles next to the iconic but aging Los Angeles aqueduct, where he

encounters ecological iconoclasts, indigenous voices, and permaculture designers who are challenging the status quo on how we use Earth's most precious resource. The film delves into a profound and far-reaching look at our relationship with water and offers a vision for what could happen if we designed our lives around it in a radically different way. The film takes a refreshing approach to confronting our current environmental and systematic troubles, showing how Los Angeles and other parts of California are bellwethers for change. With voices and stories that speak to today's younger generations, Reflection is both a personal meditation on water as well as a practical road map for positive change.

8pm

RESETTLEMENTS

SAEED

USA – 2019 – 15 mins.

Director: Joan Stein

Producers: Laith Nakli, Alex Peace

Award-winning film about a Syrian family who has recently resettled on Long Island and is dealing with the aftermath of war and personal tragedy.

Followed by:

SOUL SETTLEMENT

Germany – 2021 – 97 mins.

Director/Producer: Hille Norden

When Saher fled Syria overnight in 2015, he was sure he would be able to bring his wife Lubna and his two sons to Germany very quickly. But then family reunification was suspended and a long period of waiting began. The lawyer from Salamiyya quickly integrates, finds work, learns German and makes friends. Among them Insa, the mother of director Hille Norden. After four years, when hope is almost lost, finally the good news: Saher's family will be arriving soon! The joy is great, but so are the worries: what will happen when Saher, who has known and loved the Germans for four years, meets his family, who have had to live without him for so long and have experienced four more years of war. SOUL SETTLEMENT accompanies Saher, Lubna, Melad (13) and Zeen (10) and Insa over the course of their first year together. The film shows the consequences of involuntary separation and uprooting and lovingly discusses the possibilities and limits of integration in the context of an intimate family portrait.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

12:30

OTHERS BEFORE SELF

USA/India – 2021 – 54 mins.

Director: Seth McClellan

Learn how child refugees keep their culture after China took their country.

The kids at Tibetan Children's Village tell the story of the occupation of Tibet and show how their school teaches the wisdom of their culture and helps them work towards returning to their homeland.

An intimate and visually stunning portrait of the lives, history and beliefs of the young refugees at Tibetan Children's Village in the Indian Himalayas.

3pm

KID CANDIDATE

USA – 2021 – 67 mins.

Director: Jasmine Stodel

Producer: Gunpowder & Sky, XTR

Kid Candidate tells the story of Hayden Pedigo, a 24-year old experimental musician and his unlikely run for city council in Amarillo, TX, after his Harmony Korine-inspired spoof campaign video went viral. The film captures a unique political story in real time – one that is even more relevant in election years where young Americans are embracing the importance of local government. Through the lens of one particularly unique candidate, the film exposes the systemic problems that face communities across the country and provides a funny, disarming example of how any of us, even the most unlikely characters, can make positive changes for the world around them.

5:30pm

SHORTS PROGRAM I: FOCUS ON FLORIDA

THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF DEMOCRACY

USA – 2021 – 7 mins.

Director: Kristen Locker

The Neighborhood of Democracy focuses on a politically-divided family's journey to accepting their differences within the household and the world around them.

Followed by:

AN ABC REFLECTION

USA – 2021 – 9 mins.

Director/Producer: Michelle Hung

A young American Born Chinese explores her cultural heritage and reflects on her identity.

Followed by:

THE VILLAGE (FREE)DGE

USA – 2021 – 11 mins.

Director: Alicia Geraldine Edwards

Producers: Dennis Scholl, Danielle Bender, Nadege Green

As Covid-19 leaves Miami's Liberty City neighborhood under siege, Sherina Jones tirelessly combats food insecurity. With community ground support, she fights daily to keep the Village (Free)dge filled.

Followed by:

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE: RUNNING MAN THEATRE COMPANY

USA – 2021 – 9 mins.

Director: Allison Stewart

Producer: Steven Schoen

Running Man Theatre is an Orlando-based company run out of OCA, which caters to actors of all abilities. This is its origin story.

Followed by:

SAVING SPLIT OAK

USA – 2021 – 12 mins.

Director: Renee Sang

Saving Split Oak is a film that follows the local issue surrounding Split Oak Forest, a preservation land being threatened by attempts to build an expressway its beautiful landscape. Through grassroots activism and organizing, community members come together for the shared purpose of saving Split Oak Forest and preventing a horrible precedent from being set for protected land everywhere.

Followed by:

GRAPE LEAVES

USA – 2017 – 8 mins.

Director: Dina Najjar

Producers: Salem Murphy, Dina Najjar

Salma, a well-respected, Arab American professor, is stunned into silence after her world is shaken in the wake of an unthinkable tragedy. She is forced to rethink the relationships with those closest to her. How she reshapes her life will alter all she understood and trusted. With the love of her family, Salma regains the hope and strength she needs to ignite future change.

Followed by:

KING PHILIP'S BELT: A STORY OF WAMPUM

USA – 2020 – 19 mins.

Director: Fermin Rojas

Producers: Paula Peters, Steven Peters, Fermin Rojas, James Kubesch, Bruce Donnelly

For the first time in nearly 300 years, the Native-American Wampanoag tribes are weaving a new ceremonial wampum belt. They believe this belt will "call out" to the legendary belt once worn by Sachem King Philip (Metacom), lost to history after his death at the hands of the colonists.

The film documents the creation of a ceremonial wampum belt by members of the Mashpee and Aquinnah Wampanoag tribes. Local artisans were engaged to craft thousands of beads and spent almost a year weaving the belt. The creation of the new belt was part of a broader campaign to more accurately educate audiences about the complex relationship between English colonists - The Pilgrims - and their Native American counterparts. The timing of the belt's construction and production of the film was to coincide with the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim's arrival in the New World.

Through interviews with weavers, bead-makers, historians and tribal leaders we get a fresh perspective of the political, spiritual, economic and cultural importance of wampum - in all its forms - both historically and for present or future generations.

This project was developed and produced in collaboration with the Wampanoag firm Smoke Signals. The firm is owned and operated by Steven Peters and his mother Paula Peters who are members of the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe on Cape Cod.

7:45pm

THE CONDUCTOR

USA – 2021 – 90 mins.

Director: Bernadette Wegenstein

Producer: Annette Porter

Marin Alsop is a woman of firsts. She was the first (and only) conductor to receive a MacArthur Award. Marin became the first female to be appointed as music director of a major symphony, the first female music director of the São Paulo Symphony Orchestra and the first woman to conduct the BBC's 'Last Night of the Proms'. In 2020, Marin became the first woman ever appointed as Chief Conductor of the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra (RSO) and speculation in music circles suggests that she's on track to become the first woman to conduct the prestigious Vienna New Year's Concert.

Born into a musical family in New York, Marin set her sights on becoming a conductor at just nine years old while accompanying her father to one of Leonard Bernstein's Young People's concerts. Her journey to professional success was neither easy nor straightforward, however at a time when, according to NYT reporter Michael Cooper, "it was easier for a female to become a leader of a G5 nation or a Five Star General than to become a conductor of a major symphony." Despite being told "being told "girls can't do that" and being repeatedly rejected by the establishment of classical music," Marin Alsop persisted and never let go of her dream of becoming a conductor. And now, as she says, "Look at me, I'm doing it!"

Set to a breathtaking soundtrack of her performances, *The Conductor* tells Marin's story through a combination of intimate interviews and shared professional and private moments, encounters with musicians and cognoscenti in the music world, unseen archival footage with her mentor Leonard Bernstein, and Vérité scenes of Marin conducting some of the world's great orchestras and teaching the next wave of conductors who, like her, were being excluded from the classical music canon.

SUNDAY, SEPTMEBER 26

1:30pm

SHE HAD A DREAM: EULA JOHNSON'S FIGHT TO DESEGREGATE BROWARD COUNTY

USA – 2021 – 14 mins.

Director: Janay Joseph

Producers: Tara Chadwick, Janay Joseph

"She Had a Dream" is based on the personal account by Eula Johnson - in her own words - of what it was like organizing the 1961 Fort Lauderdale Beach Wade-Ins 60 years ago this summer. Created as a digital resource to accompany History Fort Lauderdale's educational presentation "Civil Rights in Fort Lauderdale," this film juxtaposes historical events with a powerful message that democracy requires active practice of civil duty.

Followed by:

COUNTER HISTORIES: ROCK HILL

USA – 2021 – 60 mins.

Director: Fr3der1ck Taylor

Producer: Ellen Barnard

This multi award-winning documentary tells the story of one of the most significant, but not well-known, moments of the civil rights movement. The Friendship 9 staged a sit-in in Rock Hill, SC. They introduced and tested the "Jail No Bail" strategy that invigorates the movement and was the pre-cursor to the Freedom Rides. The film includes interviews and documents from five of the original participants of the sit-in.

4pm

CAN YOU HEAR US NOW?

USA – 2020 – 97 mins.

Director: Jim Cricchi

Producers: Susan Peters, Jim Cricchi

Small-town activism. Nail-biting elections. A last-minute power grab. In Wisconsin, where extreme partisanship has become the norm, voters are finding their lives increasingly irrelevant to state lawmakers.

Through the stories of four tireless women fighting to have their voices heard, CAN YOU HEAR US NOW? unravels the ways that years of minority rule by one-party have reshaped democracy in Wisconsin—a state at the heart of American politics.

6:30pm

LOVE REACHES EVERYWHERE

USA – 2020 – 35 mins.

Director: Sean Bloomfield

Producer: Cimela Kidonakis

Actor Gerard Butler embarks on a life-changing journey to see how his mother's favorite non-profit organization transforms the lives of children in some of the world's poorest countries.