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15th Annual Regent Park Film Festival Guide

All screenings take place at Daniels Spectrum, 585 Dundas Street E, which is an accessible venue. If you have any questions, or accessibility concerns, please contact us at info@regentparkfilmfestival.com, or 416 599 7733.

FREE ADMISSION | FREE CHILDCARE

Reserve your seat today: www.regentparkfilmfestival.com



Seats will be reserved for you at the screening up until 10 minutes prior to the start time. Rush begins at this time and seating becomes first come, first served.

Social Media





(O) @RegentParkFilm

Share your festival experience with us on social media using

#RPFF17

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solin Chun Programmer



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Welcome to the 15th Annual Regent Park Film Festival!

We are so delighted to have you with us and proud to feature the work of a group of talented filmmakers and artists.

Within this year's Festival program you will find a diversity of representations. In curating the Festival for you, we resist the danger of the "single story" representing

a specific experience, a single way of living and a single way of understanding.

At the Regent Park Film Festival, we understand the important role stories play in a person's life, and how they shape who we become. We work to honour independent voices and seek to project new representations that help start new conversations. We uphold those speaking from the margins of our mainstream.

We stand behind the idea that we all deserve safe affordable housing, healthcare, healthy food, AND access to stories that open up possibilities for better understanding about who we are and the world we live in. Most of all, we seek to ensure that these opportunities are accessible to all.

I hope you enjoy the program and the festival!

Gail Picco

Chair, Board of Directors



I started working at the festival at a special time — just as it was getting ready to move back to Regent Park.

For four years we had worked off site, as our home at the Daniels Spectrum was being built. Maintaining community connection was a priority. And our return prompted greater reflection on what community meant.

What did it mean to come home to Regent Park? What did home mean to the community members undergoing re-location, and what did it mean to those experiencing the community change around them? What role did we play in bringing different people together? When did it make sense to hold space for specific communities? How do we change with the community? And what aspects of the past do we hold on to, honour, and celebrate?

This year, we mark our 15th anniversary with programming that honours the richness, complexity and strength of the many communities that have called Regent Park home. I would particularly like to highlight the launch of Home Made Visible, a project that responds to an important gap in our archives by seeking to preserve home videos by families of colour across Canada. Like all our work—we begin in Regent Park.

Join us as we celebrate art and community, and work through the questions they raise.

An<mark>an</mark>ya Ohri

Executive Director



As we mark the 15th anniversary of the Regent Park Film Festival, we take a moment to reflect upon our neighbourhood, our purpose, and our deep connection to the Regent Park community. What does it means to be in this neighbourhood and how does that inform our identity as a festival?

The revitalization project began over a decade ago. The streets of Regent Park, as we knew it, changed dramatically. In light of this radical shift, the multiplicity

of voices and faces still remain. While celebrating this important juncture, we bring you a program that reflects on cities and neighbourhoods across the Americas. We believe that community is built through shared stories, allyship, and geographic proximity.

The current global struggle against right-wing political agendas, threatening decades of political activism towards equity and justice, has fueled neigbourhoods across the Americas. Regent Park is no exception. This year's program gives priority to stories of resistance. We present to you the rise of the Black Live Matter movements in Ferguson and Toronto; unique perspectives from emerging female filmmakers of colour; and a vision of our Regent Park by resident filmmakers. Today, we must not be idle rather join forces towards justice!



Programmer, Regent Park Film Festival



The arts and culture have a powerful capacity to bring together people and communities, to reconcile and to bridge distances.

When we put the arts at the heart of our communities, the aspirations of young people, and our daily lives, we invite new perspectives, raise issues that matter, initiate conversations and re-imagine together a shared future. That's why the Canada Council for the Arts has committed to increasing its support for the

arts by encouraging ever more diverse audiences to engage with the arts and by expanding the reach of Canadian art locally, nationally and internationally.

The Canada Council for the Arts is proud to support the Regent Park Film Festival in the vital work it is doing to shape a new future through the arts.

Som Butt

Simon Brault, O.C., O.Q.
Director and CEO, Canada Council for the Arts



Canada Council Conseil des arts for the Arts du Canada



I am delighted to welcome everyone to the 2017 Regent Park Film Festival.

Since its inception in 2003, this festival has been deeply valued by the community. It continues to showcase local and international works that resonate with members of the diverse Regent Park community. The festival also engages with residents through free year-round screenings, educational programs and workshops.

The Ontario Arts Council (OAC) is proud to support organizations such as the Regent Park Film Festival, that provide opportunities for all Ontarians to engage in – and see themselves reflected in – the arts.

On behalf of OAC's board and staff, we would like to wish the Regent Park Film Festival continued success.

Rita Davies

Chair, Ontario Arts Council





Welcome to the 15th Annual Regent Park Film Festival. Toronto Arts Council is proud to support Toronto's only free community film festival.

The City of Toronto, through Toronto Arts Council, invests public funds in the arts which allow millions of Torontonians and visitors to enjoy incredible artistic activity. We believe in the power of the arts, and thanks to organizations like Regent Park Film Festival, our city is thriving with culture.

TAC applauds Regent Park Film Festival for bringing high-quality local and international independent films to Regent Park. The films presented here highlight the diversity of stories and perspectives that exist around the world, and in Toronto's neighbourhoods. We agree with RPFF that film can be a catalyst for change; we hope that these films not only entertain, but inspire.

Congratulations to the staff and board of Regent Park Film Festival, and thank you to the volunteers who make this exciting event possible.

Wishing you continued success.

Yours Truly,

Nova Bhattacharya

President, Toronto Arts Council

TORONTO ARTS

FUNDED BY THE CITY OF TORONTO



There are few things that bring people and communities together like film. Film can make you laugh, cry and open your mind. What I love about the Regent Park Film Festival is that it consists of films by filmmakers in the community.

Over the years, the Regent Park Film Festival has grown to become a premiere event in Toronto. The Festival is an integral part of the cultural mosaic that makes up this incredible city. As an avid supporter of film, RBC is proud to be

the Premiere Sponsor of the Festival for the past 6 years. The Festival, and its success, is almost like a mirror of the incredible success that we see in Regent Park as a whole. In the same way that this community has transformed into an accessible, inclusive and even more vibrant place, the Festival is embracing films that matter to the community and celebrating their success. And with the programs offered throughout the year, the festival has legs in the community year-round.

Congratulations to this year's filmmakers, organizers and volunteers who have helped make this year's Regent Park Film Festival a success.

On behalf of branch manager Jasmina Zdradkovic and myself, we wish the Festival another incredible year!

Kris Depencier Regional President, RBC Greater Toronto



RBC Royal Bank®



Welcome to the 15th Annual Regent Park Film Festival!

As we mark Canada 150, people across the country are gathering to celebrate our vibrant arts and culture. The Government of Canada is proud to support the Regent Park Film Festival, which brings diverse communities together to enjoy independent works by local and international creators. The Festival provides a forum for film lovers to enjoy movies and documentaries

that showcase stories from around the world, and put forward new perspectives and ideas.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage, I would like to thank the organizers and volunteers for making this year's event possible. Enjoy the films!

The Honourable Mélanie Joly

Minister of Canadian Heritagerts initiative hosted by the Regent Park Film Festival



SPOTLIGHT ON YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMS



Under the Stars: Movies in the Park

In 2017 Under the Stars: Movies in the Park completed its 5th year as one of the most anticipated summer programs in the community. This outdoor screening series is one of a kind in the city, with a focus on showing widely loved films that represent and resonate with audiences of colour.



Live it to Learn it

Live it to Learn it is a paid internship program geared towards facilitating greater diversity in the Film & TV Industry in Toronto by creating opportunities for culturally diverse youth. Run in partnership with year the program engaged three interns, bringing them to supply houses, training sessions and to the set of some of the city's best known shows::

Kim's Convenience, Murdoch
Mysteries and Frankie Drake.

Congratulations to this year's Live it to Learn it participants: Baker Albach, Daisy Komujuni and Kidus Yoseph

Writing the Web Series Intensive

Writing the Web Series Intensive is a seven-month workshop series that works with five participants to develop their web-series projects. The participants receive training and mentorship in writing, and exposure to some of the best film festivals and conferences in the city, including T.O. WebFest, Reelworld Film Festival and the Toronto International Film Festival.

Learn more about the work that the workshop participants have been doing during our Live Script Lab, on Saturday, November 18. See page 32.



Regent Park Project

A Kick Start Arts initiative hosted by the Regent Park Film Festival

The Regent Park Project empowers youth from Regent Park and beyond with opportunities to develop their acting, writing and filmmaking skills through hands-on workshops in creating their own webseries. This project is an example of intercultural dialogue in action! The Project has completed Season I of their webseries and are currently working on season two.

Get a sneak peak of the Regent Park Project's first season on Saturday, November 18 during the My Piece of the City Program. See page 27.

Digital Activism Workshop

Run in partnership with York University and Artscape Gibraltar Point, we run an annual, one-day, workshop on the intersections of art and digital activism. This year 20 participants learned various filming techniques and took turns being in front of and behind the camera to create works inspired by their own experiences, with many of them holding a camera for the first time

Home Made Visible

The Canadian archives are lacking in home movie footage from Indigenous and visible minority Canadians. As old film reels and video tapes threaten to fall apart with time, Home Made Visible works to preserve this history and explore how archives have the power to shape who we become and how we relate to one another. Do you have old home movies you would like to preserve? To find out more and participate visit homemadevisible.ca.



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 15-18 2017

FRII

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

9:00 am					
9:30 AM			9:00 - 11:00 AM		
10:00 AM	9:30 - 11:00 AM School Program Gr 9-12		School Program Gr 4-6		
10:30 ам	Gr 9-12				
11:00 AM			11:00 AM - 12:00 PM		
11:30 ам	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM		How to Keep Making Films DOC INSTITUTE		
12:00 PM	Discovering the Story in You		200 110111012		
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2:00 рм	1:30 - 3:00 PM		1:30 - 3:00 PM		
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6:30 pm		VIRTUAL SPACE	6:00 - 8:00 PM	VIRTUAL SPACE	6:00 - 8:00 PM
7:00 рм		ÄCE	Whose Streets? with BLMTO: Black Pride	ACE.	Unarmed Verses
7:30 PM			Talkback	· · · · ·	Talkback
8:00 PM	7:30 - 10:00 PM				
8:30 PM	OPENING NIGHT				
9:00 PM	Emerging Directors' Spotlight				8:30 - 10:00 ₽M EmancipAction:
	Talkback & Pitch Contest		8:30 - 11:00 PM Werewolf		Music & Politics
9:30 PM			with I want to kill myself		Talkback
10:00 рм			Talkback		
10:30 рм					
11:00 рм					
11:30 рм					

	GENERAL PROGRAM	1	WORKSHOP / PANEL	EVENT					
	SCHOOL PROGRAM		SHORTS	VIRTUAL SPAC	CE				
DAY	DAY, NOVEMBER 17 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18								
			9:00 AM - 11:30 AM BREAKFAST AND A MOVIE: Window Horses						
	11:00 am - 12:00 pm What Funders Want DOC INSTITUTE								
				12:00 - 1:30 PM Digital Activism Panel	11:00 - 6:00 рм				
	2:30 - 5:30 рм		2:00 - 3:30 PM My Piece of the City with Regent Park Project Talkback	2:00 - 3:30 PM Live Script Lab Live read + Talkback	VIRTUAL SPACE				
	VR Workshop trinity squarevideo	4:00 - 8:00 pm		4:00 - 5:30 PM Home Made Visible: Regent Park	"				
		VIRTUAL SPACE	5:30 - 7:00 PM Interruptions Talkback						
		Ж							
	8:00 - 9:30 PM Prioritizing Play		8:00 - 10:30 PM CLOSING NIGHT FILM: Signature Move						
	10:00 - 11:59 рм М іхег								



Possible Worlds, Unseen Worlds | Virtual Space

November 15 - 18 | Wed - Fri: 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Sat: 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM

A collection of VR and video projects, this exhibition plays with the idea of possible or unseen worlds as a critique of our contemporary consumerist society. What are the unseen spaces that systematically and politically disadvantage those most vulnerable? How do Indigenous and Afro-diasporic artists envision the future of their communities?

Co-presented with Gamma Space and Trinity Square Video

Intern Purgatory

Tough Guy Mountain

360° VR | experimental | Comedy Canada | 2015 | 7 min | English

It is the first day of your unpaid internship. Your live/work cubicle floats blissfully through the endless clean white space known as intern purgatory. Good luck navigating the corporate HQ of Tough Guy Mountain.

Tough Guy Mountain is a new media business art collective that uses bureaucratic processes as art medium, offering PWYC workshops in art and tech such as VR, AR and game development.

Solace State

Tanya Kan

PC Game | Canada | 2017 | 18-25 min | English

Set in a near-future surveillance state, building social consensus and political identities can mean the difference between a peaceful resistance or the forced acceptance of an unjust fate. A story where a player can build bridges and friendships, or play the game of politics much more aggressively.

Tanya Kan is passionate about new media design, game development and is the founder and director of Vivid Foundry.





Blueberry Pie Under Martian Sky

Scott Benesiinaabandan

360° VR, Experimental, Animation | Canada 2016 | 6 min | English, Anishinaabe

Bringing to life a prophetic Anishinaabe legend about a young boy who travels through a wormhole back to his people's place of origin. The project addresses concerns about the revitalization, growth and evolution of the Anishinaabe language.

Scott Benesiinaabandan is an Anishinaabe intermedia artist that works primarily in photography, video, audio and printmaking.



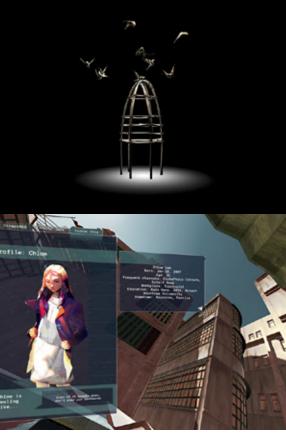
Very Frustrating Mexican Removal

Fusun Uzun

360° VR | Canada | 2017 | 7 min | English

This is an immersive documentary about the Canadian immigration detention system, telling the story of a Mexican woman who got deported.

Fusun Uzun is a media artist who focuses on creating new forms of storytelling using emerging platforms and hybrid solutions that offer new possibilities.





The Other Dakar

Selly Raby Kane

360° VR, Experimental | Senegal | 2017 8 min | No Dialogue

A little girl receives a message and discovers the invisible face of Dakar. An homage to Senegalese mythology. See the vivid dreamlike meeting of past and future, in this Afrofuturist project.

Selly Raby Kane belongs to a new generation of urban, curious and open-to-the-world artists and designers who are bringing a new energy to Senegalese culture.

Poner en Alto el Nombre de Costa Rica

(Raising Costa Rica's Name up High) Marton Robinson

Installation | Costa Rica | 2014 | 30 sec No Dialogue

In Costa Rica, sports represent national pride against foreign adversaries. In this context, Afro-descendants, known as Ticos, are deemed worthy of national representation in mass media. At the same time, systemic and historical racism towards the black population is a major social problem in the country.

Marton Robinson is a second generation descendent of Jamaicans emigrants to Costa Rica where race struggles dealing with Afro-Latino heritage spurred his work.

America for Americans

Blair Seab McClendon

Installation | USA | 2016 | 33 min | English

You have heard this before, you have seen this before, you already know. There are found images you may have seen or assiduously avoided. It is a collage of quotes drawing upon various histories of suffering and resistance of Black life.

Blair Seab McClendon work spans documentary, fiction and experimental filmmaking. His most recent project, America for Americans, is a found footage essay film on black joy and besiegement..

Dodo Nightclub

Kim Ninkuru

Installation | Canada | 2017 | 4 min No Dialogue

A digital response to the lack of safe spaces for African queer and trans people to party and have fun without harassment, assault and bad music. This work is for every African trans girl who just wants to wine in peace.

Kim Ninkuru is a Toronto-based multimedia artist from Bujumbura, in Burundi. She uses performance art, digital art, spoken word and movement to create pieces that give her the chance to explore her own body and mind.

Bursting at the Seams

Rebecca Garrett, OCAP, Sanctuary and a coalition of artists.

Installation | Canada | 2016 | 20 min | English

Bursting at the Seams is a video project that uses images and sound within a split screen that takes us inside the shelter system and onto the city's streets to bear witness to Toronto's current housing crisis.

Rebecca Garrett is a Toronto-based artist whose award-winning experimental videos, installations, and community video projects have been exhibited at numerous venues in Canada and abroad.

The Ontario Coalition Against Poverty (OCAP) is an anti-poverty group in Ontario.

The **Sanctuary** drop-in engages people in developing healthy relationships and positive life changes.

The test:#collective works with coalitions of activists to create video disruptions in public and privatized spaces in the city.





Emerging Directors' Spotlight and Pitch

Wednesday, November 15 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM

 $Content Advisory: This program contains mature subject matter. Viewer discretion is advised. \ Non-graphic discussion of sexual assault.$

Our Opening Night features the best of Canada's emerging talent, highlighting short films from female directors under 26 years of age. The evening is hosted by director and actor Nicole Stamp who will lead a conversation with filmmakers, Anita Lee (Producer), Alison Duke (Producer) and Tiffany Hsiung (Director). These Industry professionals will act as the jury for the pitch contest that will follow. Support local talent and see who takes home the RBC \$1000 cash prize for their next project.

Program Rating: PG 13

Co-presented with Breakthroughs Film Festival and Cléo Journal

Rien sur les mocassins (Nothing About Moccasins)

Eden Mallina Awashish

Experimental | Canada | 2015 | 4 min French with English subtitles

Using wit and humour to resist communication of Indigenous oral culture, Awashish takes her lived experience and family wisdom to charm and challenge us with a story that can't be told.

Eden Mallina Awashishis a director from Quebec. She is interested in putting a spotlight on the Atikamekw nation and its issues.

Herat in my Head in my Heart Weeda Azim

Experimental | Canada | 2017 | 2 min Dari with English subtitles

A long-distance telephone call from Canada to Afghanistan remedies misplaced cultural nostalgia and soothes the pain of war.

Weeda Azim is a writer-director aspiring to bring diversity and culture to the screen through her personal perspective as a firstgeneration Afghan-Canadian.

Maybe if it were a nice room Alicia Harris

Experimental | Canada | 2016 | 2 min | English

An incident between two people is examined through the exploration of rooms.

Alicia Harris is an award-winning filmmaker, dedicated to creating stories that feature women and marginalized groups.

The Good Fight

Chrisann Hessing

Documentary | Canada | 2016 | 5 min | English

Meet Ryhana Dawood, as she challenges common perceptions of Muslim women through combative sports.

Chrisann Hessing is a documentary filmmaker. She has combined her love of travel and storytelling to produce award-winning short films.

Preslee

Sabrina Budiman

Fiction | Canada | 2017 | 11 min | English

Jo seeks consolation at a costume party after coming out as bi-sexual to her family during Elvis karaoke.

Sabrina Budiman is a Toronto-based filmmaker. She strives to tell stories that are unique, important and relatable.

Petrichor

Carol Nguyen

Experimental | Canada | 2015 | 2 min | English

A guide to love and loss.

Carol Nguyen is an award winning filmmaker. Her films explore the subjects of cultural identity, family and death, which define her understanding of the world.

Poop Emoji

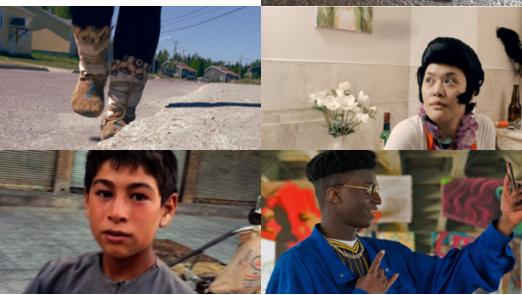
Nancy Asiamah-Yeboah

Fiction | Canada | 2017 | 15 min | English

Reluctantly dragged to a house party, Toronto's hottest social media celebrity tries to impress his friends with stories about his many girlfriends. In the process, he gets some humanity knocked into him.

Known to her colleagues as "Chief," Nancy Asiamah-Yeboah is a Canadian filmmaker. POOP EMOJI marks her directorial debut.







Whose Streets?

Thursday, November 16 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Join us for a talkback after the film moderated by Toronto journalist Desmond Cole. Featuring speakers Ravyn Wngz, Gloria Swain and Uranranebi Agbeyegbe

Program Rating: 14+ Co-presented with Cinema Politica

BLMTO: Black Pride

Michael Toledano

Documentary | Canada | 2016 | 4 min | English

Powerful documentation of the sit-in conducted by Black Lives Matter Toronto during the 2016 Toronto Pride Parade.

Michael Toledano is a multimedia journalist and documentary filmmaker based in Toronto. In 2016 and 2017 he produced a series of short documentaries on Black Lives Matter Toronto.

Whose Streets?

Sabaah Folayan, Damon Davis

Documentary | USA | 2017 | 90 min | English

A powerful and timely documentary on the events leading up to the Ferguson protests in 2014. The film focuses on the lives of the activists and Ferguson residents who played a vital role in the start of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Sabaah Folayan is an activist and storyteller born and raised in South Central LA.

Damon Davis is an Emmy Award winning interdisciplinary artist, musician and creative thinker based in St. Louis, MO.





Werewolf

Thursday, November 16 8:30 PM - 11:00 PM

Talkback moderated by Now Magazine film critic NormWilner with Werewolf director Ashley McKenzie.

Content Advisory: This program contains mature subject matter. Suicidal imagery and behaviour.

Program Rating: 14+

Co-presented with Rendezvous with Madness Film Festival

I want to kill myself

Vivek Shraya

Documentary, Experimental | Canada | 2017 9 min | English

Contemplating suicide: a biography

Vivek Shraya is a Toronto-based artist whose body of work includes several albums, films and books.



Werewolf

Ashley McKenzie

Drama | Canada | 2016 | 90 min | English

A young couple navigates survival and growth amidst the draws of love and addiction. Garnering accolades and high reviews from TIFF to the Atlantic Film Festival, this documentary style fictional film features strong performances that make for a meditation on self and recovery.

Ashley McKenzie is an emerging writerdirector from Cape Breton Island, Canada. Werewolf is her first feature film.



Unarmed Verses

Friday, November 17 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Talkback with Unarmed Verses director Charles Officer and producer Lea Marin

Program Rating: G

Co-presented with: CaribbeanTales International Film Festival

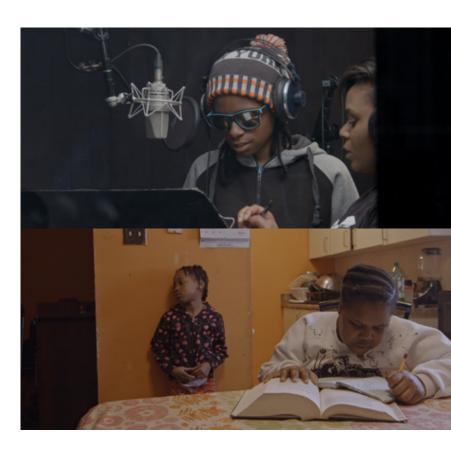
Unarmed Verses

Charles Officer

Documentary | Canada | 2017 | 89 min | English

Francine Valentine, an astute and luminous 12-year old, is a resident of Villaways, a community in Toronto that faces imposed relocation. Her poignant observations about life, the soul and the power of art give voice to those rarely heard in society. A cinematic rendering of our universal need for self-expression, belonging and home.

Charles Officer's award-winning work spans indie drama, episodic TV and documentaries. Officer's works often center on the lives of Black Canadians.





EmancipAction: Music and Politics

Friday, November 17 | 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM

A music video showcase that features the work of Indigenous, Queer, Muslim and Black artists that demonstrate the exciting new aesthetic of emancipation in contemporary music. After film there will be a performance by LAL.

Stay for our Mixer! Grab a drink, connect and build community. See page 30 for more information.

Program Rating: PG

Co-presented with Open Roof Festival, POV 3rd Street, Regent Park Focus Youth Media Arts Centre

Consecuencias - Lay Low ft. Sinceja
Original - Kara Jade
Economic Circus - Unknown Mizery
Wrap my Hijab - Mona Haydar
City of Dreams - Babylon Warchild ft.
Citizen Kane

Britl Binary - Pale Eyes
I Know Your Face - LAL









Prioritizing Play: Tracing the Kidocratic Tendency

Programmed by Chandra Siddan

Friday, November 17 | 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM

For our 15th anniversary, join us for a conversation with our Festival founder, Chandra Siddan, as she takes us through this new concept and a series of films that embody Kidocractic agency.

Chandra Siddan is a filmmaker, writer and cinephile based in Toronto since 2000. She initiated the Regent Park Film Festival and ran it 2003-2006.

Divorce Your Parents Regent Park Focus TV

Drama | Canda | 2012 | 5 min | English

A parodic TV show invites children to divorce their parents with the added lure of new indulgent wannabe parents waiting in the wings.

Regent Park Focus Youth Media Arts
Centre is an innovative, community-based,
new media, radio and television arts broadcast
centre that uses community arts and
participatory media practices to address local
needs and development priorities.

Joie de vivre (Joy of Living) Jérémy Vassiliou

Documentary | Canada | 2011 | 5 min French with English subtitles

Jérémy Vassilou delivers a message of hope by talking about the things that give him the will to live.

Jérémy Vassiliou directed his first film project with his friends in the winter of 2011 titled "joie de vivre." He loves science experiments, taking care of turtles and his albino hedgehog Sylver.



Life After High School PACT Youth Films

Mockumentary | Canada | 2011 | 8 min English

Graduating teens confront the multiheaded hydra of adult world expectations.

PACT Youth Films works with young filmmakers to teach them the basics of film production. The free program offers instruction with professional industry members which includes; writing, casting, producing, shooting and editing. All skills are learned in a hands-on and safe and caring environment. Volunteer hours can be used towards the TDSB graduation diploma.

The Break

Collaboratively filmed with Dominic Desjardins

Drama | Canada | 2012 | 9 min | English

A rapper struggles between his responsibility to his art and to the people in his life.

Fifteen to twenty at-risk youth from Toronto's west-end learn techniques for filmmaking and acting through hands-on workshops with actors and directors. *The Break* is a short film created through this program alongside producer Rayne Zukerman and director **Dominic Desjardins** of Zazie Films Inc and screenwriter Emily Pohl-Weary

Future Nation

Kent Monkman

Drama | Canada | 2005 | 16 min | English

When a gay native teenager is outed to his older sister and homophobic brother back on the reservation – it is the end of the world. Literally.

Kent Monkman is a Canadian artist of Cree ancestry who works with a variety of media, including painting, film/video, performance and installation.

Suhail's Jihad

Greg Greene and Joey Gill

Documentary | Canada | 2004 | 15 min

A Queer Muslim conference promotes a harmonious interplay of sexuality and faith.

Greg Greene is an award-winning Toronto-based documentary filmmaker with a background in social and political documentaries.

A Call to Action

Carl Theriault

Documentary | Canada | 2004 | 12 min | English

Ontario Coalition Against Poverty moves from words to direct action protesting the displacement of the poor from downtown Toronto.







Breakfast and a Movie: Window Horses

Saturday, November 18 | 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Join us for breakfast and a movie! Enjoy a free breakfast courtesy of Bombay Street Foods and then feast your eyes on a whimsical animation great for all ages!

Program Rating: G
Co-presented with TIFF Next Wave

Window Horses

Ann Marie Fleming

Animation | Canada | 2016 | 85 min | English

A young Canadian poet with Chinese and Persian parents travels to Iran to perform at a poetry festival. In the process, she discovers her own path to love, family and forgiveness.

Ann Marie Fleming is an award-winning Canadian filmmaker, writer and artist. Born in Japan to Chinese and Australian parents. Fleming creates work that addresses themes of family, identity, history and memory.

My Piece of the City

Saturday, November 18 | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Talkback with directors Moze Mossanen and Sheena Robertson along with subjects from My Piece of the City and The Regent Park Project

Program Rating: G

Co-presented with Scarborough Arts and Scarborough Worldwide Film Festival

The Regent Park Project Sheena D. Robertson

Drama | Canada | 2017 | 13 min | English

The first three chapters of *The Regent Park Project* are poignant explorations into the experiences of racism, policing, friendship and love in the daily lives of many youth. *The Regent Park Project* is created collaboratively by youth and filmed alongside professional artists. It is an initiative of Kick Start Arts, hosted by the Regent Park Film Festival.

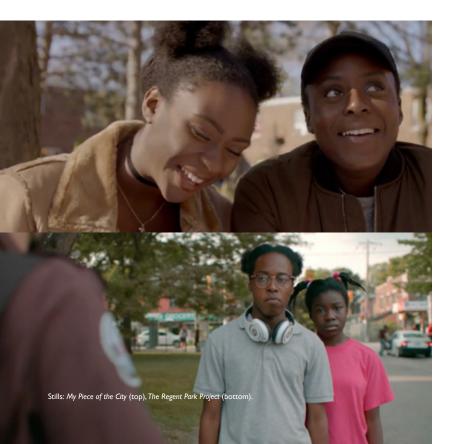
Sheena D. Robertson is a director, producer, photographer and artist-educator. She is the Artistic Director of Kick Start Arts.

My Piece of the City Moze Mossanen

Documentary | Canada | 2017 | 60 min | English

There is impressive talent in Regent Park. Meet some incredibly talented young people as they reflect on the revitalization and navigate the challenges of performing in the musical showcase called 'The Journey'. This is the world premiere of My Piece of the City.

Moze Mossanen is an independent filmmaker who has created a body of popular and critically acclaimed work that have included a unique blend of drama, music and performance.





Interruptions

Saturday, November 18 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

What is our relationship to our neighbourhood, community and land? This program of shorts explores hidden personal histories from New Orleans to strong voices in Regent Park that reach deep inside, shaking up the way we are taught to accept the world around us.

Talkback with Last Ride Through Regent director Dwayne Sybbliss

Program Rating: PG 13

Co-presented with ImagineNative Film + Media Arts

The Shorts Program is sponsored by the 2017 Regent Park Film Festival Board of Directors.

Hipster Headdress

Amanda Strong

Experimental | Canada | 2017

I min | No dialogue

JUST DON'T DO IT. An unapologetic confrontation of cultural appropriation and everything that's wrong with hipsters in headdresses.

Amanda Strong is an award-winning filmmaker, media artist and stop-motion director currently based out of the unceded Coast Salish territory also known as Vancouver.

Sweet Night

lessie Short

Drama | Canada 2016 | 7 min | English

Andy, a young Métis woman, encounters sweet grass for the first time.

Jessie Short is a curator, writer, and multidisciplinary artist and emerging filmmaker whose work involves memory, multi-faceted existence, Métis history and visual culture.

Iney Pingen (What's My Name?) Araya-Carrión

Experimental | Chile | 2016 | 2 min | English

A reflection on the appearance and disappearance of Indigenous people along the Mapocho River in Chile.

Araya-Carrión is a Chilean collective that works within an interdisciplinary framework of art as a political and action-based practice that can shape and comment on current political realities.

A Hidden History: The Story of the New Orleans Tribune

Maya Annik Bedward & Sean Liliani

Documentary | Canada/USA | 2016

II min | English

Dr. Louis Charles Roudanez is a Black man who won unprecedented rights for formerly enslaved Black Americans, a hundred years before the 1960s-civil rights movement. His story is uncovered by his grandson, who struggles to understand a childhood where white supremacy was a family value.

Maya Annik Bedward is a Jamaican-Québecoise filmmaker based in Toronto. In 2005, she founded Third Culture Media.

BLMTO: Black Pride

Michael Toledano

Documentary | Canada | 2016 | 4 min | English See page 20 for synopsis.

Last Ride Through Regent Dwayne Sybbliss

Documentary | Canada | 2017 | 34 min | English

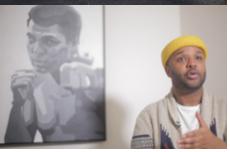
Last Ride Through Regent tackles the current gentrification happening to the community of Regent Park and the effects it has on Black bodies and spaces.

Dwayne Sybbliss is a self-taught photographer and filmmaker. His work excavates issues around community, masculinity and Black bodies. Last Ride Through Regent is his first short film.











Closing Night Film: Signature Move

Saturday, November 18 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

The 15th annual Festival wraps up with a screening of Signature Move and an awards ceremony.

Program Rating: PG
Co-presented with
aluCine Film + Media Arts Festival

Signature Move

Jennifer Reeder

Comedy | USA | 2017 | 80 min | English

A new romance with Alma, a confident Mexican-American woman, forces Zaynab, a Pakistani, Muslim lawyer, to confront her relationship with her recently widowed mother. In this coming-of-age story, Zaynab copes by taking up Lucha-style wrestling. This is a comedic and heartfelt look at modern families and the complexities of love in its many forms.

Jennifer Reeder constructs personal films about relationships, trauma and coping. Her award-winning narratives are innovative and borrow from a range of forms including after-school specials, amateur music videos and magical realism.



How to Keep Making Films

Thursday, November 16 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

In the gig economy, making a career as a filmmaker is no easy feat. Learn how early-career, working directors/producers are getting their films made and funded. Join us for a panel discussion on the realities of the industry today. We'll discuss the role of executive producers, how to build up a film network and how these filmmakers first got their start. Spaces are limited!

Co-presented with the DOC Institute.

What Funders Want

Friday, November 17 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Find out if your film has funding potential. In this panel discussion, industry decision-makers will discuss what they look for in film projects. Topics will include: types of projects, how to pitch them and how they support emerging filmmakers. Spaces are limited!

Co-presented with the DOC Institute.

Mixer

Friday, November 17 | 10:00 PM - 11:59 PM

Our first ever Mixer! Join us to wrap up day three of the festival. Meet future collaborators, colleagues and friends. Grab a drink, connect and build community. Nick Murray from LAL will be DJing throughout the night!

Beer and wine will be available for purchase.

Co-presented with Film Fatales, Kick Start
Arts!, Open Roof Festival, POV 3rd Street and
UforChange.



Introduction to Virtual Reality

Friday, November 17 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM

In this workshop, facilitated by Jonathan Carroll, participants will learn a variety of possibilities for creating Virtual Reality projects, with a brief overview of using game engines to create interactive VR environments and 3D animation software to create 360° Videos that can be viewed through a smartphone. The instructor will lead a demonstration of how to animate a 360° video. Be introduced to the history and basics of VR technology.

Co-presented with **Trinity Square Video** and **Gamma Space**

Jonathan Carroll is a digital media and performance artist who majored in Integrated Media at OCAD University. He is a founding member of the performance art collective "Tough Guy Mountain," and has been implementing Virtual Reality technology into his practice, across a number of platforms.

Trinity Square Video strives to create supportive environments, encouraging artistic and curatorial experimentation that challenge medium specificity through education, production and presentation supports.



Digital Activism Panel

Saturday, November 18 | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Digital activism can take shape in many forms. This panel is a dialogue about the multiple ways that aesthetics, audiovisual, digital technologies and social media inform and engage with ideas of reconciliation, resistance and colonization in Canada today.

We take this journey into Digital Activism and resistance through the lens of collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists. How do we work together to engage our common struggles and navigate the differences – both in the art we produce and the process of production?

About the artists:

Kiley May is a Hotinonshón:ni Mohawk and Cayuga storyteller, actor and artist from Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.

John Greyson is an award winning Toronto film/video artist. He also teaches film at York University.

Together, they are collaborating on Pink:Diss
— a short satirical lesson in grammar,
decolonization and indoor sky-diving, starring
Kilie May.Writer/Director: John Greyson.

Sarah DeCarlo is a mixed blood (Ojibwa/ Italian) multi-media artist and facilitator born and raised in Nogojiwanong. Kehinde Bah is the co-founder of the Remix Project and currently works as a Coordinator of youth justice services in Regent Park and the surrounding neighbourhoods.

Together, Sarah and Kehinde have collaborated in forming and implementing media training workshops for Indigenous youth.

Collaborators Melisse Watson and Amber Williams-King will also join the panel.

Our moderator, Archer Pechawis is an award winning performance artist, new media artist, filmmaker, writer, curator and educator. Of Cree and European ancestry, he is a member of Mistawasis First Nation, Saskatchewan.

Co-presented with York University





Home Made Visible: Regent Park

Saturday, November 18 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Regent Park is often remembered as a troubled community, poorly designed and rife with poverty and crime. But it has also been a home, a playground, a welcoming, caring and safe community for many who have lived here.

Rania El Mugammar hosts the program where past and present residents of Regent Park are invited to this story sharing circle that celebrates the memory of pre-revitalization Regent Park.

We invite people to bring old photographs and share their memories of joy, strength and community. These are the memories that keep us strong as we move towards the future.

People wanting to share their stories will have an opportunity to register at the beginning of the event.

All are welcome to attend - whether they are telling a story or simply there to listen.

Live Script Lab: Writing the Web Series

Saturday, November 18 | 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

In collaboration with ACTRA Toronto, we present a live table read of pilot episodes from our Writing the Web Series Intensive. Five talented writers have been taking part in our seven-month intensive. See their scripts come to life.

Hosted by Writing the Web Series Intensive facilitator, Motion and featuring works from workshop participants: Alicia Bunyan-Sampson, Elizabeth Mudenyo, Katia Café-Fébrissy, Lu Asfaha and Sajae Elder.

This workshop is made possible by the support of the Toronto Arts Council.

Discovering the Story in You

Wednesday, November 15 | 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

A workshop for students in grades 9-12. The creator of the Regent Park Project, Sheena Robertson, and the amazing group of youth that work with her in this innovative process, share their work and take students through an essential and primary component of telling impactful stories that matter.

Participants will see selected works part of the Regent Park Project and be facilitated through a story circle process that helps them identify the heart of a story that matters to them.

Co-presented with Kick Start Arts!











NEW VISIONS INCUBATOR

ARTISTIC DOC-FOCUSED MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

- * creative mentorship
- * story development
- * practical resources
- * networking opportunities

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AGES 20-29

Develop the practical knowledge, creative materials, & pitch documents to get camera-ready.

An initiative of DOC Institute, supported by the ON150 Partnership Program, Regent Park Film Festival, Belleville Downtown DocFest, Music and Motion in Film and the Government of Ontario.



The Regent Park Film Festival's School Program provides media-literacy programming to students in grades 1-12 across the GTA. Our programming creates a dialogue surrounding social issues affecting Toronto's diverse student population.

Grades I-3

Sometimes it's hard to be on your own and see the world in your own special way, but in the long run, it can make us stronger and smarter. The films in this program explore how you can be an active global citizen, through empathy, care and patience. They remind us to take a second and understand that not everyone sees the world in the same way — and that's a good thing. Students will learn about creative process, empathy, patience, bullying, family conflict and ecological cultivation.

Ami

Gonzalo San Vicente

Animation | Germany | 2016 | 8 min No dialogue

Little Ami finds out her mother must leave on a business trip. Mom tells her a white lie to appease her while she is away. Find out what happens when the innocent lie turns true in a way neither of them expected.

Gonzalo San Vicente is an independent film producer and director from Uruguay.

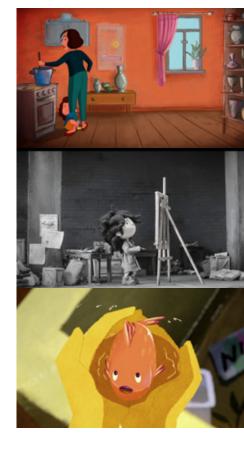
Uka

Valle Comba Canales

Animation | Spain | 2016 | 3 min No dialogue

Uka is a little girl who lives in a grey abandoned factory. While she's painting of of her canvas, she finds a way of changing how she sees the world.

Uka is **Valle Comba Canales**' first short film as director.





El Agujero (A Hole)

Maribel Suarez

Animation | Mexico | 2017 | 4 min | English

A little girl befriends a hole in her garden, discovering that patience and a helping hand can make a big difference when you want something to grow.

Maribel Suárez is a mexican illustrator of children's books and an award winning filmmaker.

Chemin d'eau pour un poisson (Water Path for a Fish)

Mercedes Marro

Animation | France, Colombia | 2016 | 8 min No dialogue

A starry night in a humble neighbourhood somewhere in Latin America. Oscar is sleeping when a sudden gust of wind wakes him up. From his window he sees a goldfish in a dirty puddle, gasping for air.

Mercedes Marro has more than 25 years of experience in the animation industry.



Amelia's Closet

Halima Lucas

Drama | USA | 2016 | 17 min | English

For young Amelia, empowering herself will mean coming clean with what she's hiding in her closet.

Halima Lucas is a writer and director from California. Amelia's Closet (16), was a finalist at the 43rd Student Academy Awards.





Grades 4-6

It's hard to make sense of the world sometimes. There are many things that are out of our control, which can be pretty frustrating. But we ask, what can you do to make the world a better place? In this collection of short films, the main characters challenge the status quo through ingenuity, patience and empathy. With films examining bullying and mental health, as well as creativity and ecology, these eight films challenge you to see the world as a bright and exciting place where anything is possible if you put your mind to it.

Ami

Gonzalo San Vicente

Animation | Germany | 2016 | 8 min No dialogue

See page 34 for synopsis.

Uka

Valle Comba Canales

Animation | Spain | 2016 | 3 min No dialogue

See page 34 for synopsis.

The Three Sisters Community Garden

Zach Greenleaf

Experimental | Canada | 2016 | 5 min | English

A young Mi'gmaq from Gesgapegiag, tries to reintroduce the "three sisters" (the traditional white corn, squash and beans used in Native gardens) in his community with the help of other youth.

The Three Sisters Community Garden is **Zach Greenleaf**'s second film.

Awaskinawson (Children of Earth)

Antony Dubé

Animation | Canada | 2015 | 3 min French with English subtitles

Awaskinawason is made up of the Atikamekw words awacic (child), aski (earth) and takonawason (having the responsibility for). An animated short calling on us to respect the great circle of life.

Antony Dubé is an Atikamekw from Manawan, this is his first film.

El Agujero (A Hole)

Maribel Suarez

Animation | Mexico | 2017 | 4 min | English

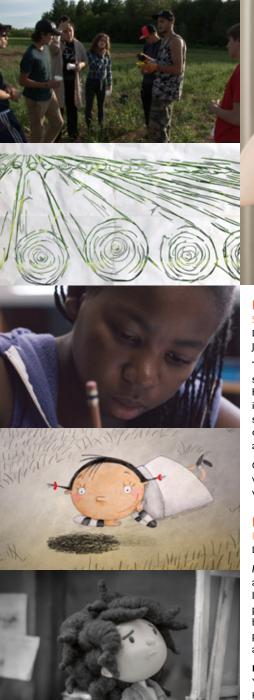
See page 35 for synopsis.

Amelia's Closet

Halima Lucas

Drama | USA | 2016 | 17 min | English

See page 35 for synopsis.





Rice Balls Shingo Usami

Drama | Australia, Japan | 2016 | 10 min Japanese and English

The way to a man's heart is through his stomach, but one father learns the way to his son's heart is just the same. A widower is left to care for his young son, who he struggles to connect with due to cultural differences. Rice Balls seem to be the answer and the much needed bridge between them.

Originally from Japan, **Shingo Usami** has worked extensively in theatre, film, TV and voiceover in Australia.

Princess Jack Lesley Johnson

Documentary | Canada | 2016 | 7 min | English

Princess Jack is a short documentary about a boy with high-functioning autism, whose life is filled with make-believe. An intimate portrait of an intelligent child surrounded by family and teachers, Princess Jack presents a vibrant world where fairy tales are real — and anyone can be a princess.

Leslie Johnson is a Toronto and Yellowknife based filmmaker and producer. Her work focuses on identity and personal transformation.



Grades 7-8

The theme at the heart of this year's grade 7-8 program is self-care. The seven films that make up the program tell socially conscientious fables whose subjects and characters embrace their differences with enthusiasm. Empathy, self-love and confidence are virtues that can be taught through film and conversation.

The Good Fight

Chrisann Hessing

Documentary | Canada | 2016 | 5 min | English

See page 18 for synopsis.

Awaskinawson (Children of Earth)

Antony Dubé

Animation | Canada | 2015 | 3 min French with English subtitles

See page 36 for synopsis.

It's Not Me, it's You

Zavia Forrest

Experimental | Canada | 2016 | 3 min | English

This film explores the thoughts of a young Black girl as she negotiates her complex identity against society's understanding and representation of Blackness. Using common stereotypes associated with Black identity, her aim is to illustrate the uniqueness of us all.

Zavia Forrest is a 15-year-old Black girl living in Pickering. She uses film and photography to make a positive impact on her community.

Fixing Luka

Jessica Ashman

Stop-motion | Scotland | 2011 | 11 min No dialogue

Lucy thinks her brother, Luka, is broken. His obsessive, meticulous, infuriating arrangements of sugar cubes and thimbles prove it. Lucy thinks he should be fixed, but not in the way she imagines...

Jessica Ashman is a London based, award winning artist, animator, director and arts educator. Fixing Luka' (2011) picked up a BAFTA in Scotland.

Rice Balls

Shingo Usam

Drama | Australia, Japan | 2016 | 10 min Japanese and English

See page 37 for synopsis.





La Invitación (Sleepover)

Susana Casares

Drama | Spain | 2016 | 14 min Spanish with English subtitles

Pushed by the fear of losing her friends, Silvia (10) has invited them to a sleepover... but things can be complicated when your home is not exactly what your friends may call a home.

Susana Casares is a Spanish filmmaker based in LA. She writes, directs and produces fiction and documentary projects.

Genderize

Chase Joynt

Documentary | Canada | 2016 | 13 min | English

In 2012, transgender filmmaker Chase Joynt sat down with Benton (12), Madeleine (10) and Dexter (6) to talk about gender, puberty, school and parents. Four years later, he revisited the kids to see what's changed — but not before the kids flipped the camera on the adults to ask some questions of their own.

Chase Joynt is an international award-winning filmmaker and writer.







Grades 9-12

Although wildly different in tone and subject matter, the films in the Grades 9-12 program are connected by a willingness to pose questions and inspire conversation without spoon feeding answers. These films also deal with some of the most current topics with ingenuity and grace. From conflicts in the middle east, black-female identity, sexuality and social media, the program is meant to challenge students' critical analysis of the issues at the centre in each story.



At Dawn

Omri Burstyn

Drama | Israel | 19 min | 2015 Hebrew with English subtitles

Ali, a sensitive teenage boy, is the sole Palestinian-Israeli in a radical activist youth group. He is in love with Yael and plans on revealing his feelings towards her at the upcoming group meeting. When a series of political outbursts in the west bank occur, the group is lead towards a violent act. Ali, struggling to impress Yael, finds himself in a dangerous position.

Omri Burstyn was born in Israel. He is politically involved in human rights and peace movements which continue to inspire his work.

Rien sur les mocassins (Nothing About Moccasins)

Eden Mallina Awashish

Experimental | Canada | 4 min | 2015 French with English subtitles

See page 18 for synopsis.

Poop Emoji

Nancy Asiamah-Yeboah

Drama | Canada | 15 min | 2017 | English

See page 19 for synopsis.

hyphen-nation

Samah Ali

Documentary | Canada | 14 min | 2016 | English

A conversation with five women, hyphen-nation looks at what it means to be a Black woman in Canada after growing up in a culturally-steeped home, both domestically and internationally and how it influences one's identity.

Samah Ali's work specializes on topics of diaspora, black womanhood and identity conceptualization.

The Three Sisters Community Garden

Zach Greenleaf

Experimental | Canada | 2016 | 5 min | English

See page 36 for synopsis.

Sweet Night

Drama | Canada | 2016 | 7 min | English

See page 29 for synopsis.

Genderize

Chase loynt

Documentary | Canada | 2016 | 13 min | English

See page 39 for synopsis.





Festival Awards

RBC Emerging Director Award

is presented to a filmmaker who delivered a pitch at our Emerging Directors' Spotlight on Opening Night. Cash award of \$1000

The DOC institute Award

is presented to the strongest Canadian short documentary in the 15th Annual Regent Park Film Festival. Offering the winner one year of access to our Masters Series, which are lecture-style conversations around creative process and craft.

Rogers Audience Choice Award

is presented to the film that receives the greatest number of audience votes during the 15th Annual Regent Park Film Festival.

DGC Ontario New Visions Award

recogn<mark>izes a young emer</mark>ging director who demonstrates great potential as a filmmaker. They receive \$500 towards supporting their post-secondary education.

This year, we are proud to present this award to Weeda Azim. Weeda is a writer-director aspiring to bring diversity and culture to the screen through her personal perspective as a first-generation Afghan-Canadian. Her film Herat in My Head in my Heart is playing as part of our Opening Night. Weeda attends Ryerson University.

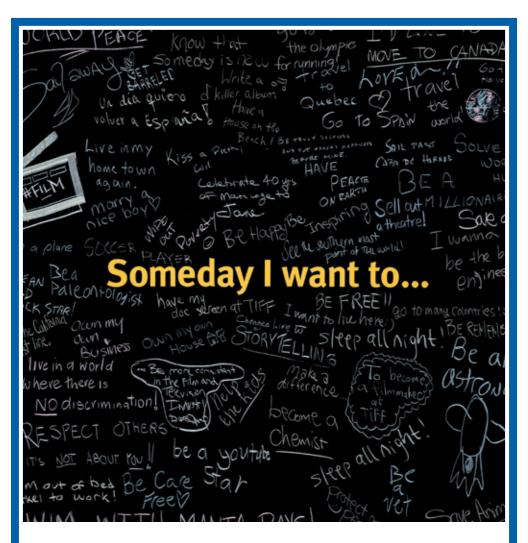


The Daniels Corporation applauds the work of the Regent Park Film Festival. This incredible organization brings together the Regent Park community through love of film, and empowers emerging artists. We are proud to be part of such a diverse and artistic community.

For information on Daniels' new home communities across the GTA, please visit www.danielshomes.ca

Daniels love where you live f





Think about it. Dream it. Say it out loud. Write it down. Then share it. Celebrate it. Live for it. Spend every single day working towards it. And always remember we're here to help. Let's Make Someday Happen.™

Proud sponsor of Somedays





Regent Park Film Festival is Toronto's only free community film festival.

In addition to the Annual Film Festival and Under the Stars:

Movies in the Park, we host year-round film screenings,
school programs and workshops at no cost.

The Regent Park Film Festival is absolutely free to attend, and we're working hard to keep it that way.

Help us in making this possible by joining our membership drive at the Lights, Camera or Action Level.



Lights Membership \$25+



Camera Membership \$100+



Action Membership \$250+

As a charitable organization, the Festival issues tax receipts for all donations.

The Regent Park Film Festival charitable # 8459 14613 RR0001