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Date: 04/3/2018

Bainbridge Island Film Festival:

Longtime island festival celebrates its 20th year with revamped image and offerings

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND – Submissions are now being accepted for the 20th annual Bainbridge Island Film Festival (BIFF). The festival, formerly known as Celluloid Bainbridge Film Festival, has been organized by Arts & Humanities Bainbridge since 1999. For its twentieth edition, the festival presents a number of exciting transformations, including the debut of a new name, the inclusion of more days of film screenings, a slate of new events and workshops, and the introduction of new submission guidelines which will open up festival to films from around the country and the world.

Bainbridge Island Film Festival, to be held Nov. 9-11 at the Historic Lynwood Theatre on Bainbridge Island, will showcase its broadest ever mix of selections in a variety of categories. Films will be selected through juried review by local film professionals, students, and enthusiasts.

For its first seventeen years, BIFF showed only films made on Bainbridge Island or by island filmmakers. Beginning in 2016, the festival expanded its reach to the rest of the Pacific Northwest, welcoming submissions from all of Washington State, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska, and British Columbia in hopes of finding the very best of our unique region. This year sees BIFF embrace an even broader vision: the festival now welcomes all submissions regardless of origin.

“Opening up the festival’s entry requirements to include a larger field of contributors will increase BIFF’s regional profile and will increase the interest and entertainment value for festivalgoers,” says longtime BIFF festival organizer Pernell Tyus. “We’re looking forward to screening a diverse array of high quality films.”

However, BIFF will still hold on to the vision of highlighting local films and filmmakers that has guided the festival since its inception. Time will be specifically allotted for films with an island connection and local films will be judged in a separate category. Local filmmakers and film students are strongly encouraged to submit their works.

All submissions are accepted online at filmfreeway.com/festival/bifilmfest. Early-bird submissions with discounted submission fees are accepted until May 15; our regular submission period runs May 16-June 30; and late entries will be accepted with increased submission fees until July 15.

A complete festival schedule, including opening night gala events, will be announced once selections have been made and the film lineup finalized in late August 2018. Additional details and updates will be published throughout the submission period. More information is available at ahbainbridge.org.

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