



For Immediate Release

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Social Justice Film Festival brings The #Resistance to the screen

WHAT: Social Justice Film Festival

WHEN: November 16-21, 2017

WHERE: Northwest African American Museum, Rainier Arts Center, University of Washington, University Christian Church

COST: Tickets are \$7-15 at socialjusticefilmfestival.org. Festival pass is \$75.

(Seattle) — The **Social Justice Film Festival** returns Nov. 16-21 with new films about climate change, immigration, Black Lives Matter, indigenous voices, gun control, prisoner justice, globalism and more.

“Resistance is all around us, and filmmakers from around the world are opening new windows on what justice means and how we can win it,” says Anne Paxton, festival director. “These films connect us to each other, re-inspire our hopes and dreams, and reinforce our commitment to fight.”

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Immigration Night**

Short films profile the struggle of refugees, life in a new country, their quest for asylum, and their intersection with human trafficking. Feature film *Trails of Hope and Terror* paints the story of historic U.S.-Mexican conflicts and economic forces that persist in the current crisis over the border, immigrant workers, and families. Sponsored by Northwest Immigrant Rights Project. (Nov. 16, 8 pm, University Christian Church). Watch [trailer](#).

- **The #Resistance and Climate Change**

Watch short films by Our Children’s Trust about 21 extraordinary youth plaintiffs who are suing the federal government in a landmark climate lawsuit, followed by the feature film *This Changes Everything*. A post-film discussion features Senior Attorney Andrea Rodgers of Our Children’s Trust and Seattle teenager Aji Piper, a member of Earth Guardians’ Rising Youth for a Sustainable Earth and one of the plaintiffs. These young people claim the government is violating their constitutional rights to life, liberty and property by causing climate change. (November 17, 6:15 pm, University Christian Church.) [Watch trailer](#).

- **Whose Streets? Our Streets**

This night of cinema, culture, and community explores the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, its intersection with other social movements, and the unique challenges facing

Seattle's African-American community. The program includes:

8 pm – *Hell You Talmbout*, a performance-art short film followed by a live performance of Northwest Tap Connection. The short film *The Gathering* tells the story of exonerees who spent years, even decades, on death row for murders they didn't commit.

8:45 pm – Panel discussion with cultural critic and BLM organizer Darnell L. Moore, who helped lead the BLM Ride to Ferguson and developed the infrastructure of the BLM Network. Other panelists are: Reverend Harriet Walden, founder of Seattle's Mothers for Police Accountability; former death-row prisoners who have been exonerated; and moderator Tony Benton, radio manager and host on KVRU | Rainier Valley Radio.

9:30–11:15 pm– Feature film *Whose Streets?* provides an unflinching look at the Ferguson, Mo., uprising after the death of Michael Brown. [Watch trailer.](#)

Sponsored by the Northwest African American Museum. Ticket includes free admission to the museum. (Nov. 18, 8 pm, Northwest African American Museum).

- **Native American Voices**

In *Honor Riders*, Navajo and Hopi tribal members organize a symbolic motorcycle ride across the reservations to honor the memories and sacrifices of Native American veterans and fallen warriors. Winner of the festival's 2017 Tulalip Tribes Prize for top Native American short or feature film. (Nov. 21, 8 pm, UW Ethnic Cultural Theatre). [Watch trailer.](#)

- **American Circumcision**

In *American Circumcision*, filmmakers shine unfamiliar light on the American practice of circumcision and the growing Intactivist movement. (November 19, 6 pm, Rainier Arts Center). [Watch trailer.](#)

- **Youth Visions**

In *Sunrise Storyteller* a teenaged filmmaker, with funds raised online, travels to interview activists and organizers in Tanzania, South Africa, Thailand, Mozambique, and Canada to promote social justice and global citizenship. (Nov. 21, 6 pm, UW Ethnic Cultural Theatre) Gold Jury Prize winner in the festival's 2017 Youth Visions category. [Watch trailer.](#)

Come for creative storytelling, filmmaker Q&As, and inspiration at the Social Justice Film Festival. Sponsors include Columbia Legal Services; CineCity Pictures and Occupy.com; Tulalip Tribes; McDonald Hoague & Bayless; ProForum; Books to Prisoners; 4Culture; KBCS; and The Stranger.

ABOUT US:

In its sixth year, the Social Justice Film Festival showcases bold and creative films that challenge injustice around the globe. Visit socialjusticefilmfestival.org.

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Editor's Note: Screeners, interviews and press kits are available. Contact Rhenda Meiser at rhenda@rhendameiser.com or 206-465-9532.