



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **“Stories to change the world” at the Social Justice Film Festival**

**WHAT:** Social Justice Film Festival

**WHEN:** October 18-30, 2014

**WHERE:** Northwest Film Forum, University of Washington (UW), and other venues

**COST:** Tickets are \$5-10 and are available at [strangertickets.com](http://strangertickets.com). Several screenings are suggested donation. Early-bird festival pass is \$40 until October 15; \$50 after.

(Seattle) — The **Social Justice Film Festival** returns Oct. 18-30 with 52 bold documentary and narrative films exploring immigration policy, prisoner justice, and human rights around the world.

“Seattle exemplifies the spirit of committed activism and is the perfect city for the Social Justice Film Festival,” says festival director Anne Paxton. “We’re excited to show this collection of path-breaking and provocative films.”

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Immigration spotlight with Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas**  
Vargas will discuss his journey from the Philippines to America as a child to becoming one of America's most prominent activists and writers, and his hope that outing himself as an undocumented immigrant can help emancipate millions stuck in the disaster of American immigration policy. The evening will include features and shorts: Vargas's autobiographical film *Documented*, plus *The Vigil*, *Los Olvidados*, and *Floating Borders*. (Oct. 24, 5 pm, University Christian Church). Watch [trailer](#).
- **Preempting Dissent and Civil Liberties discussion with Will Potter**  
*Preempting Dissent* explores overzealous protest policing, specifically the “Miami model” policing method implemented following 9/11. The film shows how this method threatens to extinguish rights guaranteed under the First Amendment. Stay after the film to discuss civil liberties with journalist Will Potter, author of *Green is the New Red*. Cosponsored by the National Lawyers Guild, Occupy.com and CineCity Pictures, and

Columbia Legal Services. (Oct. 20, 7:30 pm, UW Ethnic Cultural Center Theatre). Watch [trailer](#).

- ***Invitation to Dance and Kickoff Party***

Celebrate our festival launch with *Invitation to Dance*, a film that reminds us why life is beautiful. It tells the story of a young woman and dancer, passionate about social justice, who suddenly finds herself paralyzed from the waist down. Simi Linton's motto: Equality, justice, and a place on the dance floor. Sponsored by Disability Rights Washington. (Oct. 19, 6 pm, Northwest Film Forum). Watch [trailer](#).

- **Seven Seattle and Washington state films:** *Return of the River* follows a group of Washingtonians who persuaded a community to bring the Elwha Dam down and restore an ecosystem. *Oil and Water* looks into the lives of two boys wanting to change toxic environmental conditions. Hugo—now a Seattle resident—struggles to survive in his Amazonian tribe, and David seeks to revolutionize the oil industry. *One Generation's Time* profiles two Seattle Filipino-American activists, murdered for their involvement in labor reform and workers' rights. *Honor Totem* explores the legacy of Native-American master carver, John T. Williams, killed by Seattle police in 2010. Other shorts include: *We do the Work*, *Maikaru*, *Dose for Dominic*, and *LFOs & the Modern Day Debtors' Prison*.

The Social Justice Film Festival is produced with support from 4Culture, Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, Washington State Arts Commission/National Endowment for the Arts, CineCity Pictures and Occupy.com, ProForum, Northwest Film Forum, Columbia Legal Services, The Stranger, ACLU of Washington, National Lawyers Guild, Books to Prisoners, KBCS-FM and Disability Rights Washington.

#### **ABOUT US:**

The Social Justice Film Festival showcases films that dramatically and innovatively challenge injustice around the globe. Visit [socialjusticefilmfestival.org](http://socialjusticefilmfestival.org).

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

A press screening will be held October 13, 1-3 p.m. at the Northwest Film Forum, 1515 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Seattle. RSVP to [rhenda@rhendameiser.com](mailto:rhenda@rhendameiser.com). The preview will screen *Invitation to Dance* (86 min), *L'Effecte Aleatori (The Random Effect)* (29 min) and *The Box* (5 min).