Documentary Film Festival
June 5 & 6, 2020
Tentative Program
Note: The screening time of each film will be included in the conference schedule

Organized by:
Carole Roy
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Burkinabe Rising: The Art of Resistance in Burkina Faso (YouTube)

Director: Iara Lee
2018 – 72 minutes

Burkina Faso is home to a vibrant community of artists and engaged citizens who provide an example of the type of political change that can be achieved when people come together. Through music, film, ecology, visual art and architecture, the people featured in this film display a range of creative resistance in the pursuit of peace and justice that permeates every aspect of daily life.
**Evergreen Island**

Directors: Amanda King & Fabio Cavadini  
2000 – 45 minutes

An Evergreen Island depicts life on the Pacific island of Bougainville under a military blockade. Filmmakers Amanda King and Fabio Cavadini document the resilience of a people surviving for years with virtually no trade or contact with the outside world. They reinvent their own society in terms of health, education, and technology.

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**Facing Fear**

Director: Jason Cohe  
2013 – 23 minutes

As a 13-year old, Matthew Boger was thrown out of his home for being gay. While living on the streets, he was savagely beaten in a back alley by a group of neo-Nazi skinheads, one of whom was Tim Zaal. Twenty-five years later, Boger and Zaal meet by chance and embark on a journey of forgiveness and reconciliation. Self-doubt, anger and fear are just a few of the emotions they struggle through as they come to terms with their unimaginable situation, ultimately leading to friendship and collaboration.
**My Child**

Director: Can Candan  
2013 – 82 minutes

What happens when your child comes out to you? In this feature documentary, parents of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-gender individuals in Turkey intimately share their experiences with the viewer, as they redefine what it means to be parents, family, and activists in this conservative, homophobic, and trans-phobic society.

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**Nefertiti’s Daughters**

Directors: Mark Nickolas & Racha Najdi  
2015 – 40 minutes

Street art has played a vital role throughout history during times of political transformation and social instability. Through the simple act of drawing on walls, artists communicate their society’s hopes, dreams and demands. This film primarily focuses on three prominent women artists—Bahia Shehab, Mira Shihadeh, and Salma Samy—whose ages span three decades, and whose work illuminates their perspective of the world, while giving us a window into how each sees the struggles of their country and, often, their gender.
**Strong Coffee: The Story of Café Femenino**

Director: Sharron Bates  
Writers: Sharron Bates & Carmen Klotz  
2007 – 48 minutes

The Cafe Femenino project is changing long-established attitudes and weakening the grip of machismo in remote farming communities. In response, a cultural shift is taking place. There is more equality between women and men, abuse and violence towards women are decreasing, and the quality of life in these regions is improving. Meet some of the women farmers who grow this high quality, certified organic, fair trade coffee in Northern Peru as they travel to remote villages. *Strong Coffee* shows how Café Femenino helps women in a billion-dollar coffee industry.

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**nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up**

Director: Tasha Hubbard  
2019 – 100 minutes

On August 9, 2016, a young Cree man named Colten Boushie died from a gunshot to the back of his head after entering Gerald Stanley's rural property with his friends. The jury's subsequent acquittal of Stanley captured international attention, raising questions about racism embedded within Canada's legal system and propelling Colten's family to national and international stages in their pursuit of justice. Sensitively directed by Tasha Hubbard, *nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up* weaves a profound narrative encompassing the filmmaker's own adoption, the stark history of colonialism on the Prairies, and a transformative vision of a future where Indigenous children can live safely on their homelands.
When Voices Meet: The Story of the Peace Train (YouTube)

Directors: Nancy Sutton Smith & Abby Ginzberg
2015 – 90 minutes

When Nelson Mandela was finally released from prison, courageous South African musicians broke through apartheid’s barriers to form a 500-voice, multiracial children’s choir. Threatened with bombs and thwarted at every turn, they prevailed and took the railroad across the country aboard The Peace Train. Singing their way into the hearts, minds and souls of a divided nation amidst a civil war, they promoted a peaceful transition to democracy and went on to become Mandela’s face of the new rainbow nation.

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Zero Percent

Director: Tim Skousen
2011 – 90 minutes

The Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison is showcased inside Sing Sing Maximum Security Prison. The film’s title, Zero Percent, refers to the fact that not one of Hudson Link’s graduates has been re-incarcerated for a new crime once released even though the national recidivism rate is over 60%. The driving forces behind Hudson Link’s creation and success are the men who were once incarcerated themselves.
Note: A few films like those below may be added to the Festival program, but they are not yet confirmed.

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**Baltic Fire**

Director: Zoe Dirse  
1993 – 53 minutes

Filmmaker Zoe Dirse of Lithuanian and Latvian heritage was in the streets in Lithuania and Latvia in the early 1990s when both countries were seeking independence and resisting the Soviet tanks. Culture and heritage played an important role in their success.

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**Schooling the World** *(YouTube)*

Director: Carol Black  
2011 – 65 minutes

If you wanted to change an ancient culture in a generation, how would you do it? You would change the way it educates its children. The U.S. Government knew this in the 19th century when it forced Native American children into government boarding schools. Today, volunteers build schools in traditional societies around the world, convinced that school is the only way to a 'better' life for indigenous children. But is this true? What really happens when we replace a traditional culture's way of learning and understanding the world with our own? *Schooling the World* takes a challenging, sometimes funny, ultimately deeply disturbing look at the effects of modern education on the world's last sustainable indigenous cultures.