

PROGRAM

FIRST-EVER VIRTUAL GIFF | MAY 1-3, 2020



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

49

GIFF honors
Gretchen Carlson as a
2020 Changemaker



40

Spotlight on Director/Producer/
Cinematographer/Editor,
Matthew Heineman



6

First-ever GIFF Virtual festival comes
to life! Your questions answered.



- 6** Virtual Festival FAQ
- 10** A Letter From Founders & Executive Director
- 12** Festival Team
- 13** Tribute to our Top Donors
- 14** Sponsors & Partners
- 16** 2020 Jury
- 20** Documentary Features
- 28** Narrative Features
- 33** Connecticut Short Film Program
- 39** Film Awards
- 40** Spotlight on Matt Heineman
- 49** GIFF Award Winners: Gretchen Carlson
and Will Reeve

VIRTUAL FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE



Website:
www.greenwichfilm.org



Main Office Telephone:
203-717-1800



Social Media:
@greenwichfilm #GIFF2020

FAQ

What is the Virtual Greenwich International Film Festival?

The Virtual GIFF is a new way for our audience to enjoy films they can't see anywhere else from the comfort and safety of their homes. The 2020 Festival will take place online from May 1 to 3, and will include 29 Narrative & Documentary Features and Short Films from 8 countries, along with exclusive video messages from our filmmakers, and other special content.

How do I attend the Virtual Fest?

It's simple – purchase a Virtual Pass or VIP Pass at www.greenwichfilm.org. Approximately one week before the Festival takes place, our team will reach out to set you up with a unique user log-in which will be activated May 1 to 3. No need to conform to a schedule - you can stream all of our Festival content day or night, at whatever time works best for you, from May 1st until 10pm on May 3rd.

Will my pass help support GIFF?

Yes, a portion of proceeds from the pass helps to make the arts more accessible in our area. It allows GIFF, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization to attract top talent to the area, support filmmakers with cash awards, host free community events, and support charity partners.

How do I view the films?

You can experience the Virtual Festival on your computer, smartphone, or tablet using the secure log-in website information we'll send you. If you want to stream the Festival films and content on your TV, no problem - you'd simply cast from your device to your Smart TV. If you have an Apple TV device, just enable AirPlay to stream on your TV.



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A Letter From GIFF Founders & Executive Director

Welcome to our first-ever virtual Greenwich International Film Festival! While we wish we could be with you in the theater, we feel blessed to be able to deliver an entertaining and inspiring selection of films and filmmaker interviews to enjoy from the comfort and safety of your home. Our theme this year is, “Knowledge is Power.” Though we could not have imagined the situation we are currently facing globally, we hope that it will lead us to a place where we all do better, because we know better. The same philosophy that drove us to start GIFF over six years ago holds true today: Film is an incredibly powerful medium that can enlighten us and create positive social change. We can all use that perspective now more than ever.

GIFF remains committed to year-round programming and was thrilled to partner with Avon Theatre, Bedford Playhouse, Blue Sky Studios, Saboteur Media, and Bleecker Street to offer five special advance screenings which supported charity partners such as Honor Bound and Breast Cancer Alliance. Advance screenings included *Danger Close*, *Spies in Disguise*, *The Assistant*, *Ordinary Love*, and *From the Vine*.

GIFF’s Call for Entry launched in early November and ran through January. After reviewing hundreds of submissions, GIFF’s programming team traveled to Sundance to curate the best selection of films for our audience. We are proud to share that our Festival line-up includes 29 films from 8 countries. The films cover a variety of important issues such as PTSD, bullying, self-empowerment, criminal injustice, music therapy, substance abuse, and healing. The filmmakers we showcase are trailblazers, not just for the broad range of issues their films take on, but also for being bold and flexible in times of change, and for participating in the first-ever virtual GIFF. GIFF is dedicated to supporting film talent and is excited to offer three awards with cash prizes this year, including the Best Social Impact Film Award (presented by the Bill & Ann Bresnan Foundation), the Best Connecticut Short Film Award (presented by the Connecticut Office of Film, Television & Digital Media), and new-this-year the JP Morgan Chase Audience Award.

Thank you to our steadfast community of supporters and to our Board members, many of whom have been with us since the beginning, encouraging us every step of the way. Thank you to Shari Angel, Samantha Ryan, and to the rest of our team, who have had to adapt and adjust in the face of the public health crisis to keep GIFF going. Thank you to our sponsors who allow us to be able to offer filmmaker awards, special screenings, and much more. Thank you to our filmmakers for entrusting us with their work. Thank you for giving us hope even in the darkest of hours.

We can’t wait to eat popcorn next to you and feel the collective response to an epic movie sequence, to hear a theater full of people laugh and cry at the same time. We are thankful for the hundreds of times this has happened throughout our years at GIFF and know it is just a matter of time before we see you at the theater again.

In the meantime, be safe and enjoy GIFF 2020.

With gratitude,

Colleen deVeer
Director of Programming, Founder

Wendy Stapleton
Chairwoman, Founder

Ginger Stickel
Executive Director, COO



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2020 Virtual Greenwich International Film Festival!

2020 FILM JURY

SOCIAL IMPACT



Ann Bresnan Young
Philanthropist



Susan Bevan
Philanthropist



Emily Garnet
Producer, Actor

Philanthropist **Ann Bresnan Young** has worked in finance, real estate, and at Christie's auction house. She has invested in both films and art. Ann and a good friend produced *Thank You Films* – a series of 30-second public service announcements aired nationwide for several years on cable networks aimed at thanking individual charities for the many good works they do and drawing a wider awareness to their causes. Currently, she is the President of the Bill and Ann Bresnan Foundation and believes strongly in the positive role films can play in changing lives.

Susan Bevan is a philanthropist and non-profit volunteer. A former corporate attorney, she has served on many boards, both locally near her home in Connecticut, as well as internationally. As a board member of the Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich, Susan served as Vice President and also co-chair of its capital campaign that rebuilt the pool and clubhouse and added a hockey rink. Susan is a member of the boards of the Equal Rights Amendment Coalition and Fund for Women's Equality working to pass an amendment to the United States Constitution that will guarantee equal rights regardless of sex. As a member of the board of Alpha Phi International Fraternity, based in Evanston, IL, she also serves as liaison to and board member on the Fraternity and Sorority Political Action Committee and the Fraternity and Sorority Action Fund in Washington, D.C. She is the recent past-national Co-Chair of the Republican Majority for Choice having served on its board for 17 years. Susan has been published in the *Huffington Post* and the *New York Times* and has appeared on *NPR's All Things Considered* and *MSNBC's Up with Steve Kornacki* discussing issues regarding reproductive choice and the Republican Party. Susan has co-produced two independent films with strong female protagonists, *Equity* and *An Acceptable Loss*. Susan believes that the visual arts are the most powerful medium to consider and evaluate the challenging issues of our time.

Emily Garnet is an executive producer of *Freak Power*, written and directed by Bobby Kennedy III. She also plays the role of Sandy Thompson wife of Hunter S Thompson. The film was scheduled to premier at 2020 SXSW Film Festival. Her first film which she was also acted as an executive producer was *The Iron Orchard*, where she also played the role of Esther. The award winning film made it's world premier at the 2018 Austin Film Festival. Emily was also involved as an executive producer in the feature film *Sister Aimee*, which premiered last winter at the Sundance Film Festival and won the Best Feature Film award at the 2019 Greenwich International Film Festival. She also played the part of Dot in the film. She attended FIT and works as an Interior Designer.

BEST CT SHORTS



Gorman Bechard
Filmmaker, Writer



Valerie Jensen
Founder, The Prospector Theater



Ed Ruggiero
Tax Credit Administrator, Connecticut Office
of Film, Television, & Digital Media

Gorman Bechard has directed 18 feature films including rock documentaries on *The Replacements*, *Grant Hart*, *Archers of Loaf*, *Lydia Loveless*, *Sarah Shook & the Disarmers*, and soon *Wilco's Jay Bennett*, plus the animal-rights films *A Dog Named Gucci* and *Seniors A Dogumentary*, the horror-comedy *Psychos in Love*, and most recently *Pizza, A Love Story*, a film on the 3 most famous pizza restaurants in the world. He has also written 5 novels including the religious satire, *The Second Greatest Story Ever Told*. He is the Executive Director/Programmer of NHdocs: the New Haven Documentary Film Festival. He lives in New Haven, CT with his wife Kristine and their two dogs, Springsteen and Dylan.

Valerie Jensen is an award-winning filmmaker, author and advocate for adults with disabilities. Valerie is the visionary and founder of The Prospector Theater – a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to creating meaningful employment to adults with disabilities through the operation of a premium, first-run movie theater in Ridgefield, CT. In 2012, Val and her team began redesigning the historic Ridgefield Playhouse, transforming it into the Prospector Theater. The beautiful four-screen Prospector Theater is designed from the ground up with Prospector's mission of meaningful employment in mind, from the artwork to the accessibility features. Since opening its doors in November of 2014, over 600,000 ticket buyers have witnessed the power of meaningful employment first-hand. More than 252 Prospects have worked at the Theater, clocking over 600,000 hours of meaningful employment. Val has spread the mission of the Prospector across the country, speaking at the Connecticut State Capitol and the White House.

Ed Ruggiero administers the Digital Media and Motion Picture Tax Credit Programs for the Office of Film, Television, and Digital Media. Previously, he worked as a Commercial Producer for Cablevision in Norwalk, CT. He has also worked as an editor on the feature films *Yonkers Joe*, starring Chazz Palminteri, *Murder on Mott Street*, directed by and starring Burt Young, and the 1997 Sundance selection *Mr. Vincent*. His short film *Changing Room* was awarded Best Dramatic Short at the 9th Annual New Haven Film Festival (2004).

art by James Prosek

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The history of genocide, mass atrocities, crimes against humanity and their continuing consequences stand at the core of the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University. The first institute of its kind, the Strassler Center has gained international standing as the foremost Ph.D. program training students in Holocaust History, the Armenian Genocide, and other genocides perpetrated around the globe. We are committed to expanding human rights education to facilitate connections between scholarship and activism. A new professorship dedicated to Holocaust pedagogy and the study of antisemitism will grow our teaching and research agenda.

Graduates of the Ph.D. program hold leadership positions at the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation, Columbia University, the Conference for Material Claims against Germany, the Holocaust Educational Foundation, Northwestern University, Chapman University, Stockton University, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial and Museum, the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem, the Weiner Library in London, and at the United States Military Academy at West Point. We are grateful to the Simon and Eve Colin Foundation for its outstanding support.

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DOCUMENTARY FILMS



A PELOTON OF ONE

USA / 99 MINS

A Peloton of One follows a Survivor of Childhood Sexual Abuse, Dave Ohlmuller, as he conducts a solo bicycle ride from Chicago to New York to raise awareness of this scourge. Along this 700-mile journey, Dave meets other Survivors abused by coaches, teachers, family members, and like Dave himself, Catholic priests. Through these interactions and common stories, Dave tries to find a way to connect and heal, mile by mile, as he heads east towards his hometown. Dave also meets high-profile advocates like Senator Joe Vitale of New Jersey, Kathryn Robb of New York, and Marci Hamilton of Pennsylvania, who each scored major victories in 2019 by reforming their states' long-standing Statute of Limitations laws that favored the abusers. Dave Ohlmuller begins this trek as a lone Survivor. Today, he realizes he is part of a movement bigger than just the sum of its victims. Co-Produced by Greenwich filmmaker and fellow Survivor, Joe Capozzi, this film aims to inspire others to tell their stories and to educate the masses on the personal and legal obstacles victims often face alone during their long road to recovery.



Director(s): Steven E. Mallorca, John Bernardo
Producer(s): Joe Capozzi, John Bernardo
Editor(s): Steven E. Mallorca
Dir. of Photography: Steven E. Mallorca
Key Subject(s): Dave Ohlmuller, Joe Capozzi



BASTARDS' ROAD

USA / 98 MINS

Like many Combat Veterans, transitioning back to civilian life was very difficult for Jon Hancock. After years of struggling, Jon decided to take an epic journey across the country - on foot. Walking nearly 6,000 miles alone, Jon confronts the demons that had overtaken his life. Visiting his fellow 2/4 Marines - a unit known as the The Magnificent Bastards - and families of their fallen along the way, Jon finds a mission greater than his own redemption. With remarkable honesty, insight and humor, Jon's journey gives a uniquely positive approach to the post-war topic. It's about changing the ways one relates to traumatic memories. It's about beginning the healing process.



Director(s): Brian Morrison
Producer(s): Brian Morrison
Screenwriter(s): Mark Stafford
Editor(s): Brian Morrison
Dir. of Photography: Brian Morrison
Key Subject(s): Jon Hancock, Brian Britton, Dustin Kieschnick, Seth Bai Roseanna Powers, Dianne Layfield, Chris Macintosh, Taylor Wiley



BULLIED

USA / 67 MINS

Bullied tracks the causes and consequences of bullying, along with programs and solutions that have had an impact on mitigating bullying in schools. Through interviews with family members, victims of bullying, and an array of the most notable experts on bullying in America today, *Bullied* takes the audience on an unflinching journey into the lives of those who suffer bullying, while focusing on how bullying can be reduced around the world.



Director(s): Thomas Keith
Producer(s): Thomas Keith
Editor(s): Thomas Keith
Dir. of Photography: James Bustamante, Ray Wolf
Key Subject(s): Jennifer Pozner, Kirk Smalley, Carol Todd, Ron Avi Astor



DRIVEN TO ABSTRACTION

USA / 84 MINS

Driven to Abstraction unravels a mutating tale of self-delusion, greed, and fraud - the \$80 million forgery scandal that rocked the art world and brought down Knoedler, New York City's most venerable gallery. Was the gallery's esteemed director the victim of a con artist who showed up with an endless treasure trove of previously unseen abstract expressionist masterpieces? Or did she eventually suspect they were fakes, yet continue to sell them for millions of dollars for fifteen years? Whatever the truth, two women from very different worlds crossed paths in what would become the greatest hoax ever of Modern American Art.



Director(s): Daria Price
Producer(s): Daria Price
Editor(s): Daria Price
Directors of Photography: Peter Sova, Daria Price
Key Subject(s): Patricia Cohen, Michael Shnayerson, Eileen Kinsella, Laura Gilbert, Luke Nikas, Martha Parrish, James Kelly



THE EUPHORIA OF BEING

In honor of The Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies Program at Clark University, and generously underwritten by The Simon and Eve Colin Foundation.

HUNGARY / 83 MINS
Hungarian with English subtitles

Éva Fahidi was 20 years old when she returned to Hungary from Auschwitz Birkenau. She was all alone, 49 members of her family were murdered, including her mother, her father and her little sister. 70 years later, aged 90, Éva is asked to participate in a dance-theatre performance about her life. Director Réka Szabo imagines a duet between Éva and the internationally acclaimed dancer, Emese, juxtaposing these two women on stage, young and old, to see how their bodies and their stories can intertwine. Éva agrees immediately. Three women- three months-a story of crossing boundaries. Whilst key moments of Éva's life are distilled into theater scenes, a powerful relationship forms between the three women.



Director(s): Réka Szabó
Producer(s): Sára László, Marcell Gerő, Réka Szabó
Editor(s): Sylvie Gadmer, Péter Sass
Dir. of Photography: Claudia Kovács
Key Subject(s): Éva Fahidi, Emese Cuhorka, Réka Szabó



FOR WALTER AND JOSIAH

USA / 66 MINS

Montana has the highest suicide rate in the U.S., and on Native American reservations that rate is 22% higher still. The Flathead Indian Reservation was shaken to the core by 22 Native suicides in a single year - including two beloved members of the local high school basketball team. *'For Walter And Josiah'* follows the team's surviving members during their most recent basketball season, as they attempt to honor their fallen brothers while coping with staggering grief and the daunting challenges of everyday life on the reservation. The documentary examines the historical trauma and other factors contributing to the Indigenous suicide epidemic, while exploring the impact of cultural resurgence as an alternative to escaping the reservation. *'For Walter and Josiah'* is a story of heartbreak, pain, redemption, and hope in a community pushed to extremes - looking for the inspiration to push back.



Director(s): Jamie Elias
Producer(s): Trent Cooper, Benjamin Blank, Jamie Elias, Addison Neville, Kurt Anderson
Editor(s): Stephanie Yang, Jamie Elias
Dir. of Photography: Addison Neville

DOCUMENTARY FILMS



☺
THE HOY BOYS

USA / 72 MINS

Working class twin brothers Tom and Frank Hoy hustled up copyboy jobs in 1953 and eventually become White House News Photographers for two major DC papers. Frank shot pictures for *The Washington Post*, and Tom did the same for *The Evening Star*. They were affectionately known as “The Hoy Boys.” They were never famous, but their story is the story of American journalism when it mattered most, and *The Hoy Boys*’ provides a lens through which we view the chaos of the current media landscape. Tom and Frank Hoy stumbled into a golden era for photojournalism and *‘The Hoy Boys’* introduces audiences to the once great newspaper *The Evening Star* (1862 - 1981). It was the leading paper in DC in the 1950s and one of the top newspapers in the country. *The Evening Star* is brought to life by alumni Carl Bernstein, John Hoge, Rupert Welch, Jack Sherwood, Arnold Taylor and others. Tom and Frank’s iconic photographs graced the pages of competing Washington DC newspapers in the 1950s and 60s, and as we rediscover their images, we gain a fresh perspective on the past and new insights into our collective future.

Director(s): Dave Simonds
Producer(s): Betsy Shiverick, Paul Shiverick, Andrew Herwitz
Editor(s): Bernadine Colish, Dave Simonds
Dir. of Photography: Dave Simonds
Key Subject(s): Carl Bernstein, Warren Hoge, Doug Anderson, Horace Ballard, Frank Van Riper



MEDICATING NORMAL

USA / 76 MINS

One in five Americans is taking a psychiatric medication, including antidepressants, ADHD drugs, and/or anti-anxiety medications. While these drugs can provide effective short-term relief for emotional distress, pharmaceutical companies have hidden dangerous side effects and long-term harm from both doctors and patients. Combining cinema verité and investigative journalism, *Medicating Normal* follows the stories of five diverse Americans who were harmed by prescribed medications they took to feel better. The film exposes a larger story of medicine infiltrated by pharmaceutical companies seeking to expand markets.



Director(s): Lynn Cunningham, Wendy Ractliffe
Producer(s): Lynn Cunningham, Wendy Ractliffe, Muffie Meyer
Editor(s): David Dawkins
Dir. of Photography: Joan Churchill
Key Subject(s): Brianna Cope, David Cope, Shalamar Fairweather, Angie Peacock, Rebecka Green, Tabita Green, Todd Green



★ ☺
MUSIC GOT ME HERE

USA / 89 MINS
English with occasional subtitles for clarity

In a snowboarding accident, Forrest, age 18, suffers a traumatic brain injury that leaves him trapped inside himself, unable to speak or walk for nearly two years. Desperate to connect with her son, Forrest’s mother contacts Tom Sweitzer, a music therapist with a troubled childhood whose own life was “saved” by music. For months, Forrest doesn’t acknowledge Tom. Gradually, Forrest starts responding to the music, starting with a little movement of his finger or smile. Tom uses a music therapy method to teach Forrest to breathe, then hum, and find his “pitch.” After many months, the hums turn into Forrest’s first words, “Good Morning.” Soon, he’s singing entire songs and speaking in sentences. Forrest’s finally getting his voice and life back when he’s faced with one medical setback after another. A serious infection requires surgeons to remove the prosthetic implant that is protecting his brain, where a large part of his skull was removed after his accident. Without any protection for his brain from atmospheric pressure, Forrest’s ability to survive is uncertain. A groundbreaking surgery is Forrest’s last hope. This is a story about the power of music to heal and transform lives, often in miraculous ways.



Director(s): Susan Koch
Producer(s): J. Wendy Thompson-Marquez, Gary Mather & Christina Co Mather, Lysa Burke Hutton, Teresa Wheeler, Zak Kilberg, Irwin Winkler
Screenwriter(s): Susan Koch
Editor(s): Georgia Koch
Dir. of Photography: Neil Barrett
Key Subject(s): Forrest Allen, Tom Sweitzer, Rae Stone, Kent Allen, Austin Allen, Tolliver

DOCUMENTARY FILMS



VIRAL: ANTISEMITISM IN FOUR MUTATIONS

USA / 83 MINS
English, French, and Hungarian with English subtitles

Antisemitism in the US and Europe is spreading. It mutates and evolves and is seemingly unstoppable. It appears as vandalism, social media abuse, assault and murder. Director Andrew Goldberg examines its rise, traveling through four countries to follow antisemites and their victims, along with experts, politicians and locals.



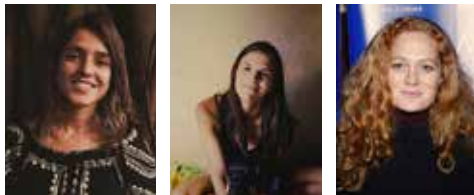
Director(s): Andrew Goldberg
Producer(s): Diana Robinson, Andrew Goldberg
Screenwriter(s): Andrew Goldberg
Editor(s): Diana Robinson
Dir. of Photography: Robert Hanna
Key Subject(s): Bill Clinton, Tony Blair, Farid Zakaria, George Will, Deborah Lipstadt, Julianna Margulies



WOMEN OF EARTH

USA, BRAZIL / 71 MINS
Portuguese with English subtitles

Mayara grew up in Sao Paulo, the largest city in Brazil and Latin America. She was a teenager surrounded by millions of people, technology, and everything the modern world can offer but she still felt empty. In search of someone who could answer her questions, she went back to the roots of Brazil, to indigenous quilombolas and rural communities. On this journey, she met women who showed her how the wisdom of the past can heal the future. They are traditional midwives, healers, and community leaders. They are keepers of an ancient knowledge that we can’t afford to lose. She calls them Women of Earth.



Director(s): Mayara Boaretto, Isadora Carneiro, Katia Lund
Producer(s): Kirk Bowman, Jon Wilcox
Editor(s): Eduardo Gripa
Dir. of Photography: Isadora Carneiro
Key Subject(s): Mayara Boaretto, Zefa da Guia, Mama Zézé, Dona d’Ajuda

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ANOTHER YEAR TOGETHER

USA / DRAMA, COMEDY / 97 MINS

Another Year Together chronicles three different romantic relationships in the same family during the Holidays in New York City. Jonathan and Sophie, 30s, on the fence about getting married. Jonathan's sister, Julie, 40's, newly single and starting anew with her brother's best friend David. Jonathan's parents, Barbara and Eddie, 70's, married for almost 50 years and on the precipice of divorce. Between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve, each couple goes through their own evolution as they become face to face with the realities of what it means to be in love.



Director(s): Daniel Hendricks Simon
Producer(s): Robert S. Gregory, Daniel Hendricks Simon
Screenwriter(s): Patrick Davin, Daniel Hendricks Simon
Editor(s): Daniel Hendricks Simon
Dir. of Photography: Pedro J. Padilla
Key Cast: Alexandra Turshen, Daniel Hendricks Simon, Marilyn Sokol, Roger Hendricks Simon, Gregory Lay, Kiva Dawson, Richard Masur, Robert S. Gregory, Julia Tokarz



THE BELLMEN

USA / COMEDY / 95 MINS
English, Spanish. Occasional subtitles

When the charming bell captain at a popular Arizona resort decides that becoming a manager is the only way to win the girl of his dreams, he must navigate a crazy group of guests, allies, and rivals to earn the promotion and affection he covets.



Director(s): Cameron Fife
Producer(s): Jason Adler
Screenwriter(s): Cameron Fife
Editor(s): Sandy Solowitz
Dir. of Photography: Noel Maitland
Key Cast: Adam Ray, Josh Zuckerman, Richard Kind, Willie Garson



★ THE BLACK EMPEROR OF BROADWAY

USA / DRAMA / 95 MINS

Charles S. Gilpin was the most famous Black man in America. In 1920, his portrayal of Brutus Jones in Eugene O'Neill's play, *The Emperor Jones*, was hailed as "revelatory." He became the first African-American dramatic star in a lead role on Broadway, and was named one of its finest actors. Gilpin immediately became the darling of the theater world, receiving accolades and recognition no other Black actor had ever gotten—even being invited to the White House. But by 1930, while O'Neill went on to become a legend, Gilpin was lost to history.



Director/Screenwriter: Arthur Egeli
Producer(s): Arthur Egeli, Heather Egeli, and Judith Richland
Screenwriter(s): Ian Bowater
Editor(s): Philip Norden
Dir. of Photography: Jonathan Mariande
Key Cast: Shaun Parkes, John Hensley, Nija Okoro, Liza Weil, Nick Moran, Nick Dorr, Eve Annenberg, Alexandra Foucard, Heather Egeli, John Clayton, Lonnie Farmer, Tim Misuradze, Sarah MacDonnell, Daniel Washington



FAMILY MATTERS (HEMELRIJKEN)

NETHERLANDS / DRAMA / 92 MINS
Dutch with English subtitles

When Kelly (Jennifer Welts) comes out of jail, she returns to her birthplace Hemelrijken. Although her sister Samantha (Esmée van Kampen) can barely make ends meet herself, she is ready to help. She takes Kelly home and arranges a job for her at a package delivery company. As an old acquaintance (Maarten Heijmans) reclaims a large sum of money from Kelly, the financial problems pile up and Kelly sees no other solution than to go and deal for him. When Samantha hears that, she doesn't want to know anything about her. Until things really go wrong... But family doesn't abandon each other, right?



Director(s): Stanley Kolk
Producer(s): Floor Onrust
Screenwriter(s): Chris Westendorp
Editor(s): Moek de Groot
Dir. of Photography: Luuk Zonnenberg
Key Cast: Esmée van Kampen, Jennifer Welts, Maarten Heijmans, Tim Olivier Somer, Ayrtton Kirchner, Fred Goessens



HIGH TIDE

ARGENTINA / DRAMA / 106 MINS
Spanish with English subtitles

Laura has lost control. After she sleeps with Weisman, the lead contractor building a barbecue shed in the backyard of her beach house, the other two workers on the job cross a boundary, making Laura feel that her space has been encroached upon. As Weisman disappears, sheltered and privileged Laura must manage the laborers herself. Her admonishments fall flat, forcing her to retreat behind the pristine glass windows—keeping watch and being watched simultaneously. Tensions churn, the workers become more unruly, and Laura ignores calls from her husband while downing bottles of red wine, waiting for Weisman to reappear.



Director(s): Verónica Chen
Producer(s): Esteban Mentasti, Hori Mentasti
Screenwriter(s): Verónica Chen
Editor(s): Leandro Aste
Dir. of Photography: Fernando Lockett
Key Cast: Gloria Carrá, Jorge Sesán, Cristian Salguero, Mariana Chaud, Hector Bordoni



★ 😊 TEAM MARCO

USA / FAMILY, COMEDY, DRAMA / 92 MINS
English, Italian. Occasional subtitles

Screen time alert! Marco, 11, is obsessed with his electronics and hardly leaves the house. But when his grandmother dies and his grandfather moves in, Marco's life is turned upside-down and he's forced...to go play outside. "Nonno" (Grandpa) introduces him to bocce – the world's oldest game – and to the neighborhood crew of old Italian men who play daily at the local court. With sport, laughter and love, "Marcolino," as his grandfather calls him, finds connection to other people "in real life" and rounds up a team of neighborhood kids to take on his grandfather and his pals.



Director(s): Julio Vincent Gambuto
Producer(s): Sam Sandweiss
Screenwriter(s): Julio Vincent Gambuto, B.R. Uzun
Editor(s): Nick Garnham Wright
Dir. of Photography: Powell Robinson
Key Cast: Owen Vaccaro, Anthony Patellis, Anastasia Ganius-Gellin



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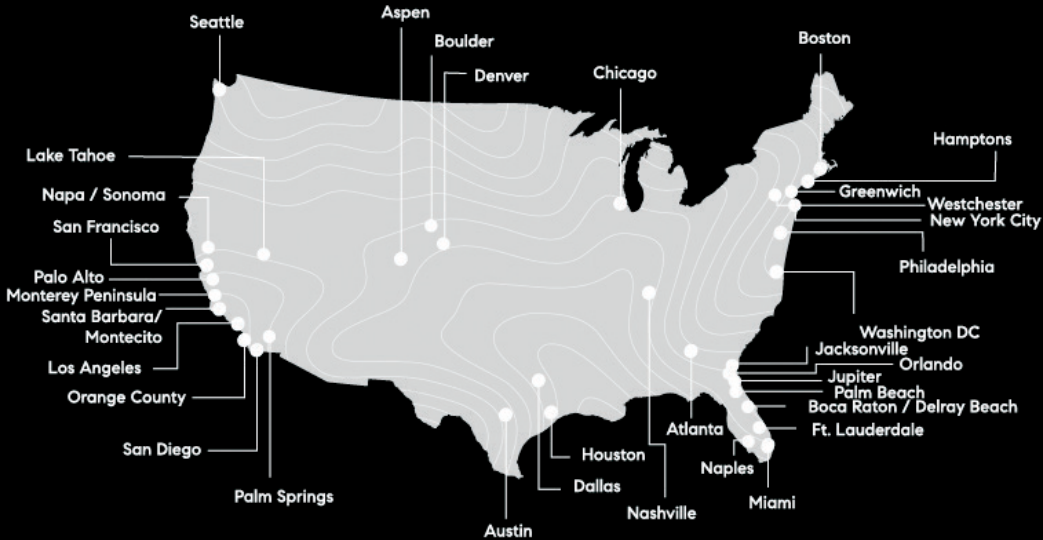
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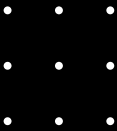


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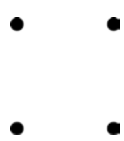


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NARRATIVE FILMS



TIME IS PRECIOUS

SPAIN / DRAMA / 93 MINS
Spanish with English subtitles

Miguel, an actor suffering a decline in his profession, faces his last voyage caused by an incurable illness. His son Carlos is in a dilemma about whether he should help a father who abandoned him years ago. Sandra, Miguel's partner and Carlos's aunt, tries to rebuild the father-son relationship and also recuperate her own, almost lost, romantic relationship. Agapito, an invisible friend, appears and accompanies Miguel through tender and dramatic scenes till the end of his days. Miguel's tragicomic life in Madrid, filled with his weaknesses, fears and ghosts, takes an important turn when he arrives on the island of Ibiza. It is there that that he rediscovers his childhood memories, old friends, a rekindled love and his very being. Throughout this dynamic voyage we find ourselves caught up in the human struggle between debility and nobility and sympathize with these characters who have found out that "time is precious."

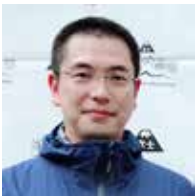


Director(s): Miguel Molina
Producer(s): Platea Films
Screenwriter(s): Miguel Molina, Jose Luis de Damas
Editor(s): Pototo Diez
Dir. of Photography: Pototo Diez
Key Cast: Miguel Molina, Saturnino García, Carlos Pulido, Sandra Blakstad

WOMAN OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

JAPAN / ROMANCE, HORROR, COMEDY / 89 MINS
Japanese with English subtitles

A gynophobic photographer discovers for the first time in his life the joys of loving a woman, this one confused about her self-identity and self-esteem, by helping her in her perceptions of herself with his photographic retouching skills.



Director(s): Takeshi Kushida
Producer(s): Shin Nishimura, Yousuke Sato
Screenwriter(s): Takeshi Kushida
Editor(s): Atsushi Gaudi Yamamoto
Dir. of Photography: Yu Ohishi
Key Cast: Hideki Nagai, Itsuki Otaki, Toshiaki Inomata, Toki Koinuma



BEST SOCIAL IMPACT FILM

- 2019 – "Afterward "
- 2018 – "Crime + Punishment"
- 2017 – "City of Ghosts"
- 2016 – "Hooligan Sparrow"
- 2015 – "3 ½ Minutes, Ten Bullets"

BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

- 2019 – "Cold Case Hammar skjöld"
- 2018 – "The Dawn Wall"
- 2017 – "Bending the Arc"
- 2016 – "Hooligan Sparrow"
- 2015 – "The Russian Woodpecker"

BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE

- 2019 – "Sister Aimee"
- 2018 – "Find This Dumb Little B*tch and Throw Her Into A River"
- 2017 – "The Strange Ones"
- 2016 – "Little Men"
- 2015 – "Zurich"

BEST CT SHORT

- 2019 – "120 Years"
- 2018 – "The Hammamis"
- 2017 – "Blind Sushi"

BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

- 2019 – "Mack Wrestles"
- 2018 – "Kayayo"
- 2017 – "The Rabbit Hunt"
- 2016 – "Another Kind of Girl"
- 2015 – "Santa Cruz del Islote"

BEST NARRATIVE SHORT

- 2019 – "The Animal"
- 2018 – "The Peculiar Abilities of Mr. Mahler"
- 2017 – "UnderPressure"
- 2016 – "Before the Bomb"
- 2015 – "Grounded"

BEST CT SHORTS



CARO IN 10 MINUTES

USA / DRAMA, FANTASY / 13 MINS

Caro is sick. Well, she thinks she might be, but everyone around her, including her doctor, believes that her pain is all in her head. Left unsatisfied by her traditional outlets of support, Caro meets a mysterious woman who not only listens to her, but sees her as well. Shot on Super 16mm film, *Caro in 10 Minutes* evokes the restless, meandering energy of the New Wave, but it is very much a snapshot of a woman today: anxious and alienated by conventional structures of support, and yet undeterred in her search for the meaning behind her pain.



Director(s): Caroline Johnson
Producer(s): Caroline Johnson
Screenwriter(s): Caroline Johnson
Editor(s): Mohab Abou-Elalla
Dir. of Photography: Spencer Slishman
Key Cast: Caroline Johnson, Nikita Chaudhry, David Alan Madrick, Alexandra Hensley, Candace Elder

BEST CONNECTICUT SHORTS



CONVICTION

USA / DOCUMENTARY / 21 MINS

At 16 years old Jeffrey Deskovic was convicted of the rape and murder of Angela Correa, a 15-year-old high school classmate. His fight for freedom sheds light on the shortcomings of the American justice system and is a testament to the human spirit.



Director(s): Jia Wertz
Producer(s): New York Film Academy
Editor(s): Jia Wertz
Dir. of Photography: Trishna Mahtani
Key Subject(s): Jeffrey Deskovic, Dan Horace E. Anderson Jr.



ELVIS

USA / DRAMA, COMEDY / 16 MINS

While grieving for the loss of his basset hound named Elvis, Doug gets robbed and looks to his neighbor for help in finding the last memory of his late best friend. Through perseverance and courage, Doug must rise to action.



Director(s): Matt Valade, Connor Rog
Producer(s): Cathryn Schara
Screenwriter(s): Matt Valade
Editor(s): Connor Rog
Dir. of Photography: Andrea Van Niekerk
Key Cast: Doug Goldring, Jenn Sapozhnikov, Anthony Misiano, Kam Perez



GRETA

USA / COMEDY / 27 MINS

Armed with self-loathing, hopelessness and existential dread, 22-year-old Greta tries to find one thing about adulthood that doesn't suck. Despite the support of her family, the vague impression of a job, and a place of her own, Greta still struggles to get out of bed. Every day. Good thing she lives in New York City, where everything seems twice as hard. Greta's world looks pretty bleak...until she meets a woman named April.



Director(s): Sparkman Clark
Producer(s): Sparkman Clark, Edgar Velez, Amy Wadford, Julian West
Screenwriter(s): Sparkman Clark
Editor(s): Sparkman Clark
Dir. of Photography: Edgar Velez
Key Cast: Sparkman Clark, Callan Suozzi-Rearic, Julian West



MOMMY'S NIGHTMARE

USA / DOCUMENTARY / 10 MINS

While my mother filmed my Kindergarten Halloween parade, a monster waited for her back at home.



Director(s): Jonathan Napolitano
Producer(s): Brian Bolster, Kayleigh Napolitano
Editor(s): Jonathan Napolitano
Dir. of Photography: Jonathan Napolitano
Key Subject(s): Donna Napolitano, Jonathan Napolitano, Krystal Napolitano



MORNING MOURNING

USA / DARK COMEDY / 15 MINS

Morning Mourning follows two outrageously odd sisters, Pearl and Zelda, as they mourn their mother's death at Greenwood Cemetery. Rating the lives of her deceased lady neighbors on the level of sexism they experienced in their day, the girls distract themselves from the grief of their mother's passing through morbid humor and satirical commentary.



Director(s): Dana Greenfield
Producer(s): Gabby Bryan, David Bryan, Lauren Flack, David Elijah
Screenwriter(s): Gabby Bryan
Editor(s): Chris Plunkett
Dir. of Photography: Sam Wolff
Key Cast: Gabby Bryan, Magdalena Borlando, Maude Mitchell, Robert Kelly, Saiyam Kumar



THE OLD MAN

USA / DRAMA, COMEDY / 16 MINS

Alan, a 70-something widower, lives a dull and quiet life in his house, which he rarely leaves. When his daughter pitches him the idea of moving into an assisted living community, he begins to recognize that he is no longer the young man that he thought he was. Just as this happens, a 20-something named Naomi moves in next door, forcing Alan's reflection on his age to become even more apparent.

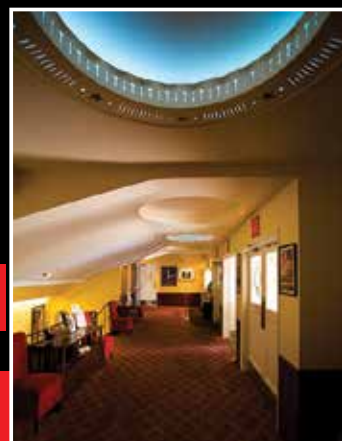


Director(s): Devin Peluso
Producer(s): Joseph Kaiser, Devin Peluso
Screenwriter(s): Devin Peluso
Editor(s): Shannon Rose Kelly, Isaac Kuruvilla Balachandran
Dir. of Photography: Jacob Love
Key Cast: Steve Coulter, Kate Pittard, Patrick Monaghan, Claudia Troy



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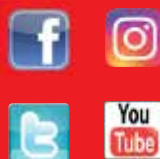
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BEST CONNECTICUT SHORTS



THE OTHER SIDE

USA, ETHIOPIA / DRAMA / 17 MINS

Days before his 18th birthday, Abel (Ethan Herisse, "When They See Us") finds himself about to age out of his orphanage and leave his younger brother, Kiya, behind. But when a prospective adopting couple threatens to break their relationship apart, the brothers wrestle with the reality of never being adopted. Inspired by a true story.



Director(s): Josh Leong
Producer(s): Sofia Bara, Bemnet Yemesgen, Augustine Hong, Jonathan Ferguson, Khalil-El Ghoul, Sounil & Gracie Yu, Daniel & Carolina Bara, Jin & May Leong
Screenwriter(s): Josh Leong
Editor(s): Josh Leong
Dir. of Photography: Tom Ingwersen
Key Cast: Ethan Herisse, Wayna, Adonai Kelelom



THIS BODY HAS NO TEXT

USA / EXPERIMENTAL, DOCUMENTARY / 4 MINS

A study of retroactive catharsis through nature, spoken word, and skin.



Director, Producer, Screenwriter, Editor and Director of Photography: Sophie Bardos
Key Cast: Sophie Bardos



WAX PAUL NOW

USA / COMEDY, MOCKUMENTARY / 16 MINS

After a visit to Madame Tussauds Times Square, three New Yorkers answer the museum's call for ideas on which celebrity to en-waxify next. The girls propose Paul Giamatti and start an online movement to get the actor a statue of his own. The "Wax Paul Now" movement goes viral, featured by Vulture, Forbes, The New York Times, and The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. The girls plot to create their own statue and to sneak it inside the museum. But after they are forcibly removed, the girls decide to work outside Madame Tussauds once and for all. They rent out the souvenir shop directly across the street and open a pop-up wax museum for one night, celebrating an unveiling truly worthy of Paul Giamatti.



Director(s): Val Bodurtha, Sophie Mann, Rebecca Shaw
Producer(s): Val Bodurtha, Sophie Mann, Rebecca Shaw
Screenwriter(s): Val Bodurtha, Sophie Mann, Rebecca Shaw
Editor(s): Debbie McMurtrey
Dir. of Photography: Wolfgang Held
Key Cast: Val Bodurtha, Sophie Mann, Rebecca Shaw, Paul Giamatti, Trevor van Uden, Richard Brevard



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SPOTLIGHT ON MATT HEINEMAN

Enjoy this exclusive interview event during the Virtual Festival with filmmaker **Matthew Heineman** and moderator, **Sandy Kenyon** from WABC-TV.



Matthew Heineman is an Academy Award-nominated and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker. The Sundance Film Festival called Heineman “one of the most talented and exciting documentary filmmakers working today”, while Anne Thompson of *Indiewire* wrote that Heineman is a “respected and gifted filmmaker who combines gonzo fearlessness with empathetic sensitivity.” He recently received a nomination for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First Time Feature Film Director from the Directors Guild of America for his narrative debut *A PRIVATE WAR*—making Heineman and Martin Scorsese the only filmmakers ever nominated for both narrative and documentary DGA Awards.

A PRIVATE WAR stars Jamie Dornan, Tom Hollander, Stanley Tucci, and Oscar-nominee Rosamund Pike as legendary war reporter Marie Colvin. The film premiered at the 2018 Toronto International Film Festival before being released nationwide by Aviron Pictures. It was a *New York Times* Critics’ Pick and *Variety* hailed the film as “Heineman’s astonishing narrative debut,” and “an incredibly sophisticated, psychologically immersive film.” *A PRIVATE WAR* also earned two Golden Globe nominations for Best Actress and Best Original Song.

Heineman directed and executive produced a five-part television docu-series entitled *THE TRADE* that premiered at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival and was recently honored by the International Documentary Association as the Best Episodic Series of 2018. The critically acclaimed Showtime series chronicles the opioid crisis through the eyes of those most affected—growers, cartel members, users and law enforcement. It was described by *The Hollywood Reporter* as “a thriller...like *TRAFFIC* only current and real”, while the *New York Times* said, “Heineman has shown an uncanny ability to gain access to hard-to-reach people and places.”

His last documentary film *CITY OF GHOSTS*, which follows a group of citizen-journalists exposing the horrors of ISIS, premiered at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival and was distributed worldwide by Amazon Studios before having its broadcast premiere on A&E. Heineman won his second Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Documentary Award from the DGA for the film—one of only three directors to win the prestigious honor twice. *CITY OF GHOSTS* also won the Courage Under Fire Award from the International Documentary Association “in recognition of conspicuous bravery in the pursuit of truth” and was listed on over 20 critics and year-end lists for Best Documentary of 2017. The film was also nominated for a BAFTA Award, PGA Award, IDA Award for Best Documentary Feature, and Primetime Emmy for Exceptional Merit in Documentary Filmmaking.

CARTEL LAND, which explores vigilantes taking on the Mexican drug cartels, was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature and won three Primetime Emmy Awards, including Exceptional Merit in Documentary Filmmaking and Best Cinematography. The film premiered in the U.S. Documentary Competition at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival, where Heineman won the Best Director Award and Special Jury Prize for Cinematography. *CARTEL LAND* was also awarded the Courage Under Fire Award, the DGA Award for Outstanding Achievement in Documentary, and the George Polk Award in Journalism. The film was released theatrically nationwide by The Orchard and had its broadcast premiere on A&E.

He previously co-directed and produced the feature-length, Emmy-nominated documentary *ESCAPE FIRE: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare*; collaborated for two years on the Emmy-nominated HBO series, *THE ALZHEIMER’S PROJECT*; and also directed and produced *OUR TIME* – his first documentary about what it’s like to be young in America.

Heineman, a 2005 graduate of Dartmouth College, is based in New York City.



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GIFF Award Winners

Each year, Greenwich International Film Festival is proud to honor those who use their voices for positive social change. We encourage you to get to know a few of our 2020 Honorees from the Greenwich Community! They will be honored in the fall of 2020 at the Changemaker Gala, presented by Betteridge

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WILL REEVE

Will Reeve will receive the #MakeAnImpact Award for his work supporting the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation.

Will Reeve is an actor and journalist, as well as a philanthropist who is committed to furthering his parents work to cure paralysis. Reeve is currently a correspondent at ABC News where he appears on all platforms and shows, including *Good Morning America*, *World News Tonight with David Muir*, and *Nightline*. Prior to joining ABC, Will was a correspondent at ESPN and hosted the *MSG Hockey Show*. Reeve is also an actor who is known for *In the Gloaming* (1997), *The Brooke Ellison Story* (2004) and *Everyone's Hero* (2006).

Reeve has served on the Board of Directors for the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation since 2013. The Foundation is dedicated to curing spinal cord injury by advancing innovative research and improving quality of life for individuals and families impacted by paralysis. Christopher Reeve put a human face on spinal cord injury and had an unrelenting drive to pursue the best research in the world. It was his vision, his passion, and his brilliance that attracted young scientists to take on the cause and advance the field of spinal cord research. And while Dana was universally known as the model for caregiving, her real legacy is the creation of the Paralysis Resource Center that has reached so many of those living with paralysis and their families with life-changing resources. The organization's mission can be summed up into four words, "Today's Care. Tomorrow's Cure." which reflects the dual purpose set forth by Christopher and Dana to provide a continuum of hope for individuals living with paralysis worldwide.

A long time Greenwich resident and member of the Brunswick School Class of 2010, Reeve graduated from Middlebury College where he received a Bachelor of Arts. He currently resides in New York City.

GRETCHEN CARLSON

Gretchen Carlson will receive the Changemaker Award for serving as an advocate for female empowerment and for her tireless work to eradicate harassment in the workplace.

As a journalist, author, and empowerment advocate, Gretchen Carlson has paved the way for the #MeToo movement, with her historic 2016 sexual harassment complaint against the chairman of Fox News, Roger Ailes. Named one of *Time Magazine's* "100 Most Influential People in the World," Carlson is one of America's most successful news anchors, as well as a globally recognized advocate for female empowerment, with her TED Talk on the subject garnering almost 2 million views. She is also the celebrated author of the *New York Times* bestseller "Be Fierce."

In December 2019, Carlson founded the organization "Lift Our Voices" with former Fox News colleagues Julie Roginsky and Diana Falzone. Its mission is to end the practice of Non-Disclosure Agreements, confidentiality provisions and forced arbitration clauses that have prevented employees from publicly discussing and disclosing toxic workplace conditions, including sexual harassment and assault. Carlson previously hosted "The Real Story" on Fox News and co-hosted the number-one rated cable morning news show, "Fox and Friends," for more than seven years. Carlson's most recent return to television, as host and executive producer of A+E and Lifetime Network documentaries "Breaking The Silence," "Beyond The Headlines: NXIVM Cult" and "Beyond The Headlines: The College Admissions Scandal." Her return is a beacon of hope for other brave women demoted, fired or blacklisted from their chosen careers after reporting sexual harassment. Carlson will next produce an interview series with Blumhouse Television. The forthcoming series will see the return of Carlson to the interviewer's chair, and feature special guests to discuss topical, provocative subject matter, including #MeToo and the movement's evolution.

In 2016, Carlson became the face of workplace harassment survivors, gracing the covers of Time and Good Housekeeping magazines. Carlson's book "Be Fierce" debuted in October 2017 and immediately a *New York Times* bestseller. Her memoir "Getting Real," published in



2015 was also a best-seller. Profits from "Be Fierce" go to Carlson's Gift of Courage Fund, which supports organizations empowering women and young girls. This year the fund is providing free workshops to low-income women facing gender-based discrimination and violence through the Gretchen Carlson Leadership Initiative and supporting the March of Dimes' Gretchen Carlson Advocacy Fellows.

Since her harassment complaint became public, Carlson has worked fearlessly to change laws that protect predators. In December 2017, she joined a bi-partisan coalition of legislators to introduce the "Ending Forced Arbitration of Sexual Harassment Act," which voids forced arbitration agreements that prevent sexual harassment survivors from getting their day in court. The bill was reintroduced in the House in February 2019 and Carlson testified before the House Judiciary Committee in May.

Carlson's advocacy has been honored by numerous organizations, including the New York Women in Communications' Matrix Award; the Radio Television Digital News Association's First Amendment Leadership Award; the National Organization for Women's 2018 Women of Power and Influence Award; and the YWCA Greater Los Angeles' 2018 Phenomenal Champion of Change.

An honors graduate of Stanford University, Carlson was valedictorian of her high school class and studied at Oxford University in England. A violin prodigy, she performed as a soloist with the Minnesota Orchestra at age 13, and in 1989 became the first classical violinist to win the Miss America crown.

Carlson serves as a national Trustee for the March of Dimes and as a Trustee of the Greenwich Academy an all-girls preparatory day school. Carlson is married to sports agent Casey Close. The couple lives in Greenwich with their two teenage children.

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MEET JEN DANZI



A native to Greenwich, Jen has entrenched herself in the local community. She was the founder of *Greenwich Restaurant Week*, worked for *Greenwich Magazine*, is the on the board of advisors for *Pathways*, board of directors for the *Transportation Association of Greenwich* and the *Greenwich Chamber of Commerce* and she is actively involved with many non-profits. Jen also keeps over 10,000 people up to date with her local daily email blast.

Licensed as a real estate agent since 1998, Jen currently is with the *Tamar Lurie Group* at *Coldwell Banker Global Luxury*. She is licensed in CT, NY & MA and was recognized by Coldwell Banker, as a **Top Agent** of 2019.

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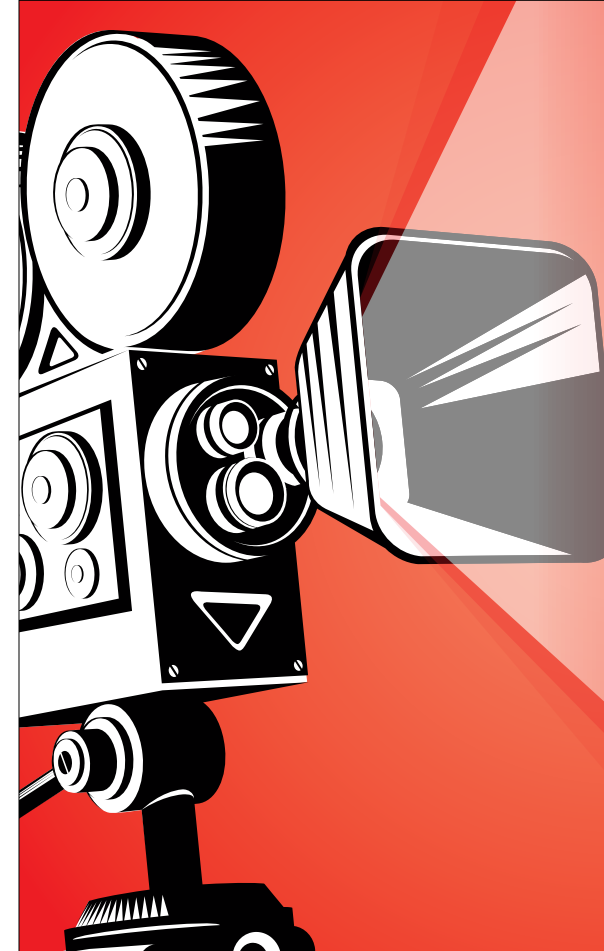


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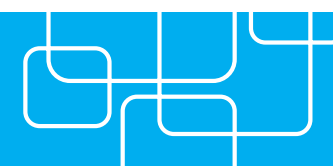
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