

HOW IT STARTED

A History of the Minority Health Film Festival

Established in 2019, in partnership with Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin health network, Milwaukee Film's Minority Health Film Festival (MHFF) hit the scene as a first-of-its-kind event for groundbreaking films and nationally recognized speakers to come together and spark important conversation while empowering action in the local Milwaukee community.

An entertainment destination created to inspire critical dialogue around the topic of social and systemic determinants of health, MHFF found a way to effectively connect film with personal health experiences.

Featuring a wide range of multicultural, multidimensional film selections, and community forums, the first MHFF attracted nearly 2,000 attendees. While the initial purpose of MHFF shed a Film is another way to access light on health disparities in minority community in a way that one-on-one communities, the beloved event has evolved to bring into focus the workshops or one-on-one clinic time entire well-being of individuals or counseling services wouldn't be from personal behaviors, to able to do. You really feel what other living conditions, societal factors, people feel when you see film." and more. The essence of the 2021 Cultures & Communities - FAUZIA QURESHI. MUSLIM COMMUNITY& HEALTH CENTER Festival continues to prioritize diverse populations, connecting the community on racial, ethnic, sexual and gender minority topics through the lens of cinematic experiences.

HOW IT'S GOING

Introducing the Cultures & Communities Festival

As the journey continued, in preparation to enter its third year, MHFF was recently renamed to Cultures & Communities Festival (C&C Fest) to better reflect the film, health, lifestyle, and holistic spirit of the event.

The rejuvenated C&C Fest is a direct extension of Milwaukee Film's already established Cultures & Communities initiative and is guided by principles of cultural equity to promote wellness while inspiring attendees to celebrate their cultural heritage and authentic selves.

From opening night with Grammy Award winning singer, Destiny's Child alumna, actress, and author Michelle Williams, to cultural conversations surrounding food, flavors, and traditions, the panel you never knew you needed about queer fandom culture, and family friendly free pop-up cinemas around

the community, there is truly something for everyone to enjoy.

Calling all the film junkies and culture lovers, it's showtime. C&C Fest (good for your mind, body, and soul) is coming soon both virtually and in-person to a movie palace near you.

Lights. Camera. C&C Fest Action. Get your pass or ticket today at mkefilm.org/ccf.

Photography:
Anthony Boyd

Cover Art Design: DeChazier Stokes-Johnson

CULTURES & COMMUNITIES

Milwaukee Film's Cultures & Communities (C&C) initiative focuses solely on prioritizing diverse cultural perspectives, lived experiences, and representations of historically marginalized communities through the use of film, conversation, events, and presentations.

C&C seeks to lift the voices of underrepresented groups, including those identified by race/ethnicity, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic or citizenship status.

Today, C&C is now poised to strengthen the impact of existing programs such as Black Lens, Cine Sin Fronteras, GenreQueer, and Women in Film. Throughout the year, C&C engages through Asian-American Heritage, Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Indigenous Heritage, Pride Month, and Women's History Month to name a few.

More information on C&C can be found at **mkefilm.org/culturesandcommunities**.

SPONSORS

PRESENTING



LEADING







Kids deserve the best.





Morgan Stanley





SUPPORTING





































HOW TO FEST For Our Hybrid Event

The 2021 Cultures & Communities Festival is here and ready to inspire. This Sept. 6-12, don't miss out on a remarkable week of screenings and events. Whether you have a pass, you're planning to select one film at a time, or you're ready to get back into the newly opened Oriental Theatre, you're a part of C&C Fest.

Events will take place throughout the Festival; full listings are at mkefilm.org/ccf/events.

BUY TICKETS AHEAD OF TIME

Online at mkefilm.org/ccf

Film Ticket Prices

\$12.. Cinema Screening, General Public

\$9 Cinema Screening, Milwaukee Film Member

\$9 Virtual Screening, General Public

\$5 Virtual Screening, Milwaukee Film Member No senior, student, or military discounts available.

Festival Passes

An All Access C&C Fest Pass provides access to every virtual and in-person Film Festival screening as capacity allows. An Online Only C&C Fest Pass

works a little differently and provides access to all virtual screenings and events only.

All Access In-Person and Online Pass

\$99.99... General Public

\$74.99... Milwaukee Film Member

Online Only Pass

\$29.99.... General Public

\$24.99 Milwaukee Film Member

FESTIVAL FAQS

When should I buy tickets?

You already know the answer to this one: as soon as possible!

When should I arrive for a screening?

If you have a ticket, we highly recommend you arrive a minimum of 30 minutes prior to showtime to guarantee a seat. All ticket and pass holders must arrive no later than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled showtime to guarantee a seat.

How can I get a Member discount?

Milwaukee Film Members pay less for tickets and passes during the Festival. Sign up at mkefilm.org/membership to enjoy discounts immediately!

Can I bring kids to the Film Festival?

Certainly. However, not all films have MPAA ratings. Some movies might contain material unsuitable for children, so please use discretion when selecting films for youths.

HOW TO WATCH VIRTUAL SCREENINGS

Who Can Watch

Please note that all films are available only to viewers within the U.S. due to regulations from film distributors, unless otherwise noted. Online only tickets and passes can be shared with members of the same household, but not beyond that.

When to Watch

Most films will be available throughout the Festival starting at noon CT on Monday, Sept. 6. If you have a ticket, you can view your film up to 48 hours from the time you start watching. Passholders can view at their leisure, depending on availability.

The Cultures & Communities Festival turns back into a pumpkin at 11:59 p.m. CT on Sunday, Sept. 12, so no matter when you start your film, it won't be available at midnight.

Where to Watch and How to Watch

Watching our films is easy! You can watch any film on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. Or download our app and watch on your TV through:



NO REFUNDS. NO RESALES. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. To guarantee a seat for a film, ticket and pass holders must arrive no later than 15 minutes prior to scheduled showtime. Film programs, special guests, events, venues, dates, and times are subject to change without notice. Unless noted, films are not rated; viewer discretion is advised. Patrons grant Milwaukee Film and its partners permission to use their images or likenesses in any reproduction of events. Patrons voluntarily assume all risks and dangers incidental to Festival events, whether occurring prior to, during, or after the event or any other event connected to the Festival. Patrons voluntarily agree that Milwaukee Film and its facilities, sponsors, directors, officers, employees, supervisors, volunteers, and respective agents are expressly released from any injuries or claims arising from any Festival event. By entering any Milwaukee Film-operated event or venue, all parties agree to adhere to our Code of Conduct: mkefilm.org/conduct.

Para información en español acerca del Festival y boletos puede entrar a mkefilm.org.

If you don't have any of those platforms for your TV, but you do have a laptop and an HDMI cable, that's a reliable way to get our films on your TV.

Please note that our streaming platform, CineSend, may have restrictions on screen mirroring to protect our filmmakers' intellectual property. If you're planning to watch on a projector or similar device, you may run into those restrictions.

Passes: If you have a Pass (Online Only or All-Access), you will get instructions via email on how to set up your login details. Once you've downloaded the app of your choice, you can pair the app with your pass, and log in directly through the app. If you're not using an app, go to watch.mkefilm. org and log in there.

Tickets: Tickets to single films (virtual or in-person screenings) are available through mkefilm.org/ccf.

Events: Several events will be streamed live to the Milwaukee Film YouTube and Facebook pages. See Event info for more.

youtube.com/mkefilm

f @milwaukeefilm



Visit mkefilm.org/help for much more detailed instructions - or ways you can connect with help from our wonderful staff.

IN-PERSON Feature Films and Events



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Pre-Opening Night Mixer - Higher, Further, Faster: Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Tuesday, Sept. 7, 5 p.m. CDT | Snifters Tapas & Spirits, 606 S 5th St

In order to retain talent in the Milwaukee area and ensure entrepreneurship and innovation thrive, it's going to be a group effort and that's exactly what this special networking mixer has to offer! Kick things off with a panel headed by tech, small business, and development entrepreneurs discussing the opportunities for Black and Brown people in our beautiful city. Then wrap things up by forming new and lasting connections during a happy hour/networking mixer to help foster collaboration in our community.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8



Opening Night With Michelle Williams: Getting Real About Depression

Wednesday. Sept. 8, 6:30 p.m. CDT
Wilson Theater at Vogel Hall, 121 E State St
OPENING NIGHT! Michelle Williams, Grammy
Award winner, celebrated stage actress, and member
of Destiny's Child, one of the best-selling female
groups of all time, joins us for a special evening of
conversation surrounding her new memoir Checking

In: How Getting Real About Depression Saved My Life — and Can Save Yours. Williams opens up about her journey with depression, and the importance of faith, family, friends, and prioritizing mental health in her life. Join us for a candid conversation about mental and emotional health, and the benefits of "checking in" with self, family and friends.

General Admission: General Public - \$30, Members - \$25

VIP (includes book and access to book signing reception): General Public - \$100, Members - \$90

even

Opening Night With Michelle Williams: VIP Book Signing and Reception

event

Wednesday, Sept. 8, 8 p.m. CDT doors open, 8:30 P.M. CDT reception and book signing

The Arc Theatre at Saint Kate - The Arts Hotel, 139 E Kilbourn Ave

VIP ticket holders are invited to join us at Saint Kate - The Arts Hotel following the conversation for a special book signing and reception. Meet Michelle, get your book (included with your ticket purchase) signed, and mix and mingle to help us kick off the Cultures & Communities Festival in style!



Swan Song

Wednesday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave

USA / 2021 / 105 min / English

Beloved character actor Udo Kier finally takes center stage as the unapologetic Pat Pitsenberger, a retired hairdresser called into action for one last 'do in this beautifully

bittersweet dramedy. Follow Pat from the drab confines of his nursing home through a bizarro tour of his old haunts as he works to both gather the necessary supplies to fulfill his staunchly conservative former client's dying wish and rediscover his sparkle as the Queen of Sandusky, Ohio. This unapologetic charmer tracks Pat's last hurrah with abplomb, a camp odyssey worth undertaking.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{DIR} Todd Stephens & \textbf{PROD} Eric Eisenbrey, Stephen Israel, Tim Kaltenecker, Todd Stephens \\ \textbf{SCR} Todd Stephens \\ \end{tabular}$

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Queering the Fandom: Fanfic, Cosplay, and Community

event

Thursday, Sept. 9, 4 p.m. CDT | Woodland Pattern, 720 E Locust St

The film *Queering the Script* takes us into the world of LGBTQ pop culture fandoms, from cosplay to fanfiction writing. LGBTQ fans have created their own self-representations using beloved characters from TV and comics, all while building inclusive communities. Expanding on the themes of the film, *Queering the Script* is an event that brings together practitioners of these fandoms from Milwaukee and the Midwest to discuss topics of inclusion, representation, and queer fandom community.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 CONT'D

Pop-Up Cinemas: Latino Arts, Inc.

Thursday, Sept. 9, 5 p.m. CDT

United Community Center, Latino Arts, 1028 S 9th St

Please join us for dinner and a movie, at one of the city's cultural landmarks, in celebration of classic Mexican film with a screening of with a screening of *El bolero de Raquel*. This event is free and open to the public and includes a free taco bar before the movie. (See Pg.32 for more details)



Culture Clash: Fusing Culinary Traditions That Bring Us Together

Thursday, Sept. 9, 6 p.m. CDT Dandy, 5020 W Vliet St

Join us at the rustic event venue Dandy for a mouthwatering evening of conversation and cuisine, curated by Radio Milwaukee's food podcast "This Bites" and hosted by Tarik Moody. We'll kick things off with culinary historian, barbecue judge, and James Beard

Award winner Adrian Miller (featured in the Netflix series *High on the Hog*) discussing the rich culture of Black barbecuers, pitmasters, and restauranteurs throughout our nation's history. Follow that up with our main course - a one-of-a-kind culinary event featuring two chefs from different backgrounds (Jason Alston, founder of Heaven's Table Barbecue and Alex Hanesakda, founder of SapSap in Racine) coming together to create a unique menu bridging African American and Laotian cultures into a wonderful barbecue feast they've titled "Soul P'hunk." This very special event will nourish your mind, body, and soul!

General Admission: General Public - \$100, Members - \$85

VIP (includes signed copy of Miller's book, Black Smoke: African Americans and the United

States of Barbecue): General Public - \$125, Members - \$110



The Neutral Ground

Thursday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave

USA / 2021 / 90 min / English

In December 2015, the New Orleans City Council voted to remove four Confederate monuments from public grounds. This

seemingly straightforward decision instead ignited a political maelstrom, laying bare the divisiveness still prominent in the South regarding the Civil War. Taking on the American obsession with the Lost Cause as well as the quixotic march of incremental progress, *The Neutral Ground* uses humor to help us understand the pathology that allowed a sitting president to claim "very fine people on both sides" of a battle long-since fought.

DIR CJ Hunt | PROD Darcy McKinnon | SCR Jane Geisler, James Hamilton

even

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10



Crip Camp

Friday, Sept. 10, 12 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave USA / 2020 / 102 min / English

Get your FREE ticket online for this Oscarnominated documentary sensation! In the early 70s, when teenagers with disabilities

had bleak futures in front of them (with discrimination and institutionalization as the norm), Camp Jened provided a narrative-shattering respite. Allowing these teens to be teens (smoking and makeout sessions abound) showed these campers a pathway to life-changing accessibility. *Crip Camp* is a joyful, exuberant look at our country's largest minority group discovering a pathway to historic change.

DIR Nicole Newnham, James LeBrecht | **PROD** Nicole Newnham, Sara Bolder, James LeBrecht **SCR** James Lebrecht, Nicole Newnham



Queering The Script

Friday, Sept. 10, 4 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave USA / 2019 / 85 min / English

Get a crash course in the wild and passionate world of LGBTQ+ fandom on TV - a place where cosplay, fanfiction, and probing analysis $\,$

all intersect in a loving way. After decades spent on the margins only visible through subtext, representation of queerness on television has made major strides in recent years. With stars like Lucy Lawless and Stephanie Beatriz alongside the fandoms that consume LGBTQ+ TV content, *Queering The Script* charts the evolution of queerness on the small screen in an accessible and entertaining fashion.

DIR Gabrielle Zilkha | PROD Alex House | SCR Gabrielle Zilkha



Pop-Up Cinemas: COA Youth & Family Center - Community Fun Night

even

Friday, Sept. 10, 4 p.m. CDT COA Goldin Center, 2320 W Burleigh St

Join us for a free, family-friendly screening of the Spike Lee classic *Crooklyn* (rated PG-13) -

fun activities, giveaways, snacks, and dinner will all be provided free of charge! (See Pg. 32 for more details)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 CONT'D

Around the Table: Stories of Food and Culture

Friday, Sept. 10, Doors open at 6 p.m. CDT, event begins at 7 p.m. CDT No Studios Gallery, 1037 W McKinley Ave.

Building on Thursday's Culture Clash event, Ex Fabula curates a culinary-themed StorySlam, melding together narratives about the gastronomical experiences that shape our lives. Join a group of hand-selected tellers as they take you on a journey recalling personal stories that took place around the dinner table.



All These Sons

Friday, Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave

USA / 2021 / 88 min / English

Follow the heartbreak and breakthroughs experienced by two Chicago men who dedicate their lives to the education,

empowerment, and healing of young Black men in danger of committing or falling victim to gun violence. Their community-based approach tests their faith as they aim to bring healing to those who desperately need it. Co-directed by Bing Liu (*Minding The Gap*, MFF18), *All These Sons* is an empathetic must-see with echoes of *The Interrupters* (MFF11), exploring the triumph and tragedy inherent in such an endeavor.

DIR Bing Liu, Joshua Altman | PROD Zak Piper, Kelsey Carr, Bing Liu, Joshua Altman



All the Streets Are Silent

Friday, Sept. 10, 9 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave

USA / 2021 / 89 min / English

In the late 80s and early 90s, downtown New York proved to be a nexus for two vibrant subcultures: skateboarding and hip-hop, the

combination of which had an outsized effect on our culture. *All The Streets Are Silent* explores the roots of this stylistic convergence, an immersive love letter with an original score from legendary hip-hop producer Large Professor (Nas, A Tribe Called Quest) and a killer lineup of talking heads (Rosario Dawson, Fab Five Freddy) - the cumulative effect is *Paris Is Burning* meets *Kids*.

DIR Jeremy Elkin | PROD Dana Brown, Jeremy Elkin | SCR Jeremy Elkin, Dana Brown

All the Streets Are Silent After Party

Friday, Sept. 10, 10:30 p.m. CDT | Landmark Lanes, 2220 N Farwell Ave

Once the film stops, the party begins. Extend the nostalgia with a 90s themed hiphop afterparty featuring DJ Why B, great drink specials, and lots of pizza.

event

CELEBRATING THE ART OF INCLUSION.



Associated Bank is proud to support Milwaukee Film's Cultures & Communities initiative and champion diversity and inclusion across the Midwest.

We believe that every voice needs to be heard and every perspective deserves to be shared. Through art, education, and conversation, we can make our communities stronger than ever.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Black Space Therapy

Saturday, Sept. 11

10 a.m. CDT Clinician Panel discussion Nō Studios Gallery, 1037 W McKinley Ave

1 p.m. CDT Group session for Womxn Nō Studios, 2nd Floor, 1037 W McKinley Ave

Founded by Dr. Lia Knox, Darius Smith, and Corey Fells, Black Space offers free 90 minute group therapy sessions that work to heal individuals and build a sense of community. In collaboration with C&C Fest, group sessions will be available for Black and Brown womxn, mxn and LGBTQIA+ communities, as well as a special session on cultural competency and overcoming bias for providers and clinicians. Advance registration required - sign up at mkefilm.org/blackspace.

Re-orienting the Oriental Theatre

Saturday, Sept. 11, 10 a.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave

In 2018 Milwaukee Film took over operations of the historic Oriental Theatre, a nearly century-old lavish theater palace whose design and name are prime examples of the concept of Orientalism. As part of the Festival's focus on representation, identity, and inclusion, we invite you to join us for a frank panel discussion (featuring Adam Carr and Nancy Wang Yuen) speaking to the historical use of "Oriental" in American culture and cinema, kicking off a multi-year interrogation of our cinema's name and decor.

Black Birth: A Maternal Health Conversation and Resource Fair

Saturday, Sept. 11, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. CDT Black Historical Society, 2620 W Center St

The short film Black Birth serves as the backdrop to a community dialogue about the joys, fears, complexities, and disparities of Black motherhood in America. Following the film screening will be a panel discussion including an OB-GYN physician, community doula, African American breastfeeding expert, and other maternal-fetal care specialists, as well as a resource fair featuring leading healthcare providers.





Minari

Saturday, Sept. 11, 12:15 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave USA / 2021 / 115 min / English, Korean with English subtitles

A Korean-American family moves to Arkansas in search of their own piece of the

American Dream in this Oscar-winning portrait of tenderness and resiliency. Lee Isaac Chung's autobiographical story of the immigrant experience unfortunately came out in the midst of our theater's long closure - see a beautiful movie filled with indelible performances (including the great Steven Yeun) the way it's meant to be seen - on the big screen!

DIR Lee Isaac Chung | PROD Dede Gardner, Jeremy Kleiner, Christina Oh | SCR Lee Isaac Chung

Art of Coping Youth Showcase

Saturday, Sept. 11, 1 p.m. CDT Nō Studios Gallery, 1037 W McKinley Ave

TRUE Skool's Art of Coping sessions support the development of positive self-healing practices through skill-based experiences. In collaboration with Milwaukee Film, the leading youth organization presents a gallery-style showcase of participant artwork, photography, and short films. This event also includes a youth-focused panel discussion underscoring the experiences of 14 local teens who participated in the Art of Coping sessions.

This all-ages event is free and open to the public.



All Light, Everywhere

Saturday, Sept. 11, 3:45 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave USA / 2020 / 105 min / English

Theo Anthony's follow-up to the acclaimed (and MFF17 Competition Award-winning)

Rat Film tackles no less daunting a topic than

the surveillance state, offering a stunning panoptic view of the ways seeing and being seen have braided together technology. policing, and even the camera itself in shaping our lives. An unforgettable interrogation of the very idea of an objective point of view, *All Light, Everywhere* tackles heady concepts in an accessible (and visually ravishing) way, providing a stirring entry point into a necessary conversation.

DIR Theo Anthony | PROD Jonna McKone, Sebastian Pardo, Riel Roch-Decter

even

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 CONT'D

Amplify & Activate Milwaukee's Tech Ecosystem

Saturday, Sept. 11, 5 p.m. CDT Nō Studios Gallery, 1037 W McKinley Ave

Ensuring Milwaukee can achieve its potential as a tech hub of national renown will take all of us. In partnership with the Milky Way Tech Hub, join stakeholders as they discuss new and inclusive tech hub models. The conversation will unfold in an appropriately creative fashion with food and facilitation from Milwaukee's Diverse Dining; you'll gain collaborative alliances and systemic insights as the evening progresses. Join us so you can tell others you were there when the first steps to MKE's bright tech hub future were taken!



9to5: The Story of A Movement

Saturday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave USA/2020/86 min/English

9 to 5 is more than just a way to make a livin': it's the story of a movement that began with Boston secretaries in the early 70s.

While their goals sound all-too-familiar (equitable pay, an end to sexual harassment, opportunites for advancement), their approach was anything but - utilizing the power of the press to shame their supervisors into effecting social change. This is the story of an unknown moment in history, a battle that inspired a hit song and changed the American workplace forever.

DIR Julia Reichert, Steve Bognar | PROD Steve Bognar, Julia Reichert



Summertime

Saturday, Sept. 11, 9 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave USA / 2020 / 95 min / English, Korean, Spanish with English subtitles

Director Carlos López Estrada (*Blindspotting*) returns with "the most astonishing film of

the year" (Amy Nicholson, KPCC Film Week), a fanciful and exuberant ode to Los Angeles. The stories of 25 Angelenos from all walks of life intersect in a *Slacker*-esque narrative with dialogue primarily consisting of spoken word poetry written by reallife high school performers. And while these characters could not be more different, their interconnectedness shows that it's a small world after all, even in a city of four million people.

DIR Carlos López Estrada | **PROD** Kimberly Stuckwisch, Jeffrey Soros, Alisa Tager, Simon Horsman, Diane Luby Lane | **SCR** 27 Get Lit Poets, Dave Harris

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Black Space Therapy

Sunday, Sept. 12

10 a.m. CDT Group session for LGBTQIA+

1 p.m. CDT Group session for mxn

Nō Studios, 2nd Floor, 1037 W McKinley Ave

Founded by Dr. Lia Knox, Darius Smith, and Corey Fells, Black Space offers free 90 minute group therapy sessions that work to heal individuals and build a sense of community. In collaboration with C&C Fest, group sessions will be available for Black and Brown womxn, mxn and LGBTQIA+ communities, as well as a special session on cultural competency and overcoming bias for providers and clinicians. Advance registration required – sign up at mkefilm.org/blackspace.



Son of Monarchs

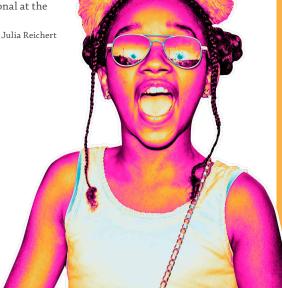
Sunday, Sept. 12, 12:15 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave USA / 2021 / 97 min / English, Spanish with English subtitles

Having grown up in Michoacán, Mexico enchanted by the monarch butterfly, Mendel

is now a biologist living in New York, studying the insects. Returning to Mexico after the death of his grandmother he confronts his past and reflects on his new

identity. Like the butterfly, he undergoes his own metamorphosis. Son of Monarchs blends science, nature, and folk religion into a narrative that manages to be both grand and personal at the same time.

DIR Alexis Gambis | **PROD** Steve Bognar, Julia Reichert **SCR** Alexis Gambis



SEPTEMBER 12TH CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 CONT'D



The Big Scary "S" Word

Sunday, Sept. 12, 4 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave USA / 2020 / 82 min / English

Explore the origins and rich American history of socialism (with Wisconsin playing a pivotal role) in this engaging and

informative documentary. Oft misunderstood, socialism has returned the forefront of American life on the backs of firebrands such as Bernie Sanders and AOC. Explore the past, present, and future of socialism. Is it dictatorship or democracy? Norway or Venezuela? Reform or revolution? With wealth inequality rising exponentially and climate catastrophes raging across the country, is socialism the cure for what ails us?

DIR Yael Bridge | PROD Morgan Spector, Eden Wurmfeld



Closing Night Awards Show Celebration

Sunday, Sept. 12, Doors at 6 p.m. CDT, show starts at 7 p.m.

The Cooperage, 822 S Water St

We've been apart for far too long, and it's time to let loose. Join us at The Cooperage for the culmination of this week's festivities as we bring together an eclectic local lineup backed by Brew City Soul Orchestra - to help you dance the night away. Along the way, we'll be giving out awards - Audience Awards to films with exemplary craft, Community Awards to those who help make Milwaukee brilliant, and introducing the new class participating in our Focus Finder Accelerator program! Help us close out the Festival by celebrating the culture among your community.

Closing Night Awards Show Afterparty

Sunday, Sept. 12, 8:30 p.m. CDT | Boone and Crockett, 818 S Water St

Once the show ends, the party begins! For those of you who can't get enough of a good thing, DJ Bizzon starts spinning sweat-inducing favorites immediately following our awards celebration. You know how he does it.





The Fight

Sunday Sept. 12, 7:30 p.m. CDT Oriental Theatre, 2230 N Farwell Ave USA / 2020 / 98 min / English

Goliath, meet David: take a front-row seat for some of the defining civil rights battles of our time, as the legal gladiators of the

ACLU fiercely fight for freedom in the face of daunting odds against the Trump administration. Whether these unsung heroes are working tirelessly to reunite a mother separated from her child, defend a woman's right to choose, or ensure our basic right to vote for generations to come, these deeply human battles are given an appropriately inspirational and nerve-wracking treatment.

DIR Elyse Steinberg, Josh Kriegman, Eli Despres | PROD Elyse Steinberg, Josh Kriegman, Eli Despres, Maya Seidler, Peggy Drexler, Kerry Washington





TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Let's Talk about Sex (Education)

Tuesday, Sept. 7, 7 p.m. CDT | All virtual events stream live through the Milwaukee Film YouTube and Facebook pages, and the Black Lens Facebook page.

With sex still proving to be a taboo topic of conversation, the shame and guilt involved with exploring one's sexuality leaves communities (specifically our youth) susceptible to inaccurate and harmful information. Help us stem this tide with a free-flowing and candid conversation about sex education and the impact it can have on personal development. (Pairs nicely with Festival title *A Sexplanation*!)



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Stolen Youth: Milwaukee's Crisis of Auto Thefts and Reckless Driving

Thursday, Sept. 9, 2p.m. CDT | Register at fuelmilwaukee.org

Auto theft is a major problem in Milwaukee, resulting all too often in car chases and crashes. To examine this critical issue, Milwaukee Film has partnered with FUEL Milwaukee for a conversation about the city's crisis of stolen cars and reckless joyriding. This event is intended to encourage continued public dialogue about this ongoing dilemma affecting our community.

Hosted by Corry Joe Biddle, Executive Director, FUEL Milwaukee, Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce | Register at fuelmilwaukee.org

A Sense of Belonging: Exploring Sociocultural Identity and Well-Being

CAK

Thursday, September 9, 4 p.m. CDT \mid All virtual events stream live through the Milwaukee Film YouTube and Facebook pages, and the Black Lens Facebook page.

In partnership with the Roberto Hernandez Center at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee Film curates a dialogue about intersecting social identities within underrepresented communities. This virtual panel discussion will explore topics such as the significance of belonging (social group membership), the fluidity of multilayered individuality, and the impact of cultural identity on intergroup relations.







9to5: The Story of A Movement

USA / 2020 / 86 min / English

9 to 5 is more than just a way to make a livin': it's the story of a movement that began with Boston secretaries in the early 70s. While their goals sound all-too-familiar (equitable pay, an end to sexual harassment,

opportunites for advancement), their approach was anything but - utilizing the power of the press to shame their supervisors into effecting social change. This is the story of an unknown moment in history, a battle that inspired a hit song and changed the American workplace forever.

DIR Julia Reichert, Steve Bognar | PROD Steve Bognar, Julia Reichert



A Place to Breathe

USA / 2020 / 87 min / English

Providing a humanizing look at the immigrant experience, A Place to Breathe explores the commonalities between refugees and immigrants from all walks of life through the prism of healthcare and wellness. Healing

themselves by healing others, these healthcare practitioners are transcending the obstacles in their life through helping others. Combining a fly-on-the-wall approach with gorgeously rendered animation, we see firsthand the resiliency in the face of trauma that allows immigrant communities to survive and thrive.

DIR Michelle Steinberg | PROD Robyn Bykofsky, Michelle Steinberg





A Sexplanation

USA / 2021 / 76 min / English

Failed by an American sex education system that stigmatized and condemned instead of informing and supporting, Alex Liu grew up with fear and loathing instead of healthy curiosity. Now 36 years old and out of the

closet, Alex seeks to right the wrongs of this miseducation, uncovering the naked truth about sex through conversations with neuroscientists, psychologists, researchers, and even a Jesuit priest! A Sexplanation is a playful, heartfelt look at transforming the trauma of the past into a healthy, happy future.

DIR Alex Liu | PROD Steven Flynn | SCR Alex Liu, Leonardo Neri



VIRTUAL: FEATURE FILMS



And Then They Came for Us

USA / 2017 / 40 min / English

Nearly eighty years ago, Executive Order 9066 paved the way for the forced incarceration of over 120,000 Japanese Amerricans. A riveting historical documentary (with first-hand accounts of

George Takei and many others) that draws a direct line from the stain of Japanese internment to Trump's attempted Muslim travel ban, And Then They Came for Us is sobering and heartening in equal measure, as we see the activists working hard to ensure history doesn't repeat itself.

DIR Abby Ginzberg, Ken Schneider | **PROD** Abby Ginzberg | **SCR** Abby Ginzberg



Building a Bridge

USA / 2021 / 96 min / English

Using Father James Martin's bestselling book of the same name as a jumping off point, Building a Bridge explores the relationship between the Catholic Church and LGBTQ+ human beings. Despite virulent

opposition from both within and outside of the Church, Father Martin aims to reach out to this marginalized community with an attitude of love and grace versus the previous modus operandi of exclusion. With no less a goal than changing the face of Catholic dogma, witness the limits of allyship in the face of bureaucratic gridlock.

WISCONSIN ONLY

DIR Evan Mascagni, Shannon Post | PROD Nick Capezzera, Evan Mascagni, Shannon Post



Chasing Childhood

USA / 2020 / 80 min / English

A look at childhood and parenting in the 21st century with a welcome focus on the children, Chasing Childhood explores the sacrifices in autonomy and independence and their deleterious effect on our nation's youth.

The rigorous pursuit of perfectionism has led to over-scheduled and anxious youth, with our technology-based impulses influencing us all in unforeseen and unseeable ways. Challenging modern suppositions, this doc explores the intersections of safety, autonomy, and responsibility, raising difficult questions without easy answers.

DIR Margaret Munzer Loeb, Eden Wurmfeld | PROD Lisa Eisenpresser, Eden Wurmfeld



Devil's Pie: D'Angelo

USA, Netherlands, United Kingdom / 2019 / 90 min / English

D'Angelo was on top of the world - a multiplatinum selling recording artist, coming off the heels of a sold out world tour that cemented his position as a sex symbol and

generational talent. But at the height of his success, D'Angelo suddenly disappeared, only to reemerge over a decade later with an album ("Black Messiah") that provided the soundtrack to these missing years. A probing portrait of an essential artist, Devil's Pie showcases the pitfalls of fame and the absolute necessity of mental health.

AVAILABLE THROUGH FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.

DIR Carine Bijlsma | **PROD** Thomas Benski, Carine Bijlsma, Nina Yang Bongiovi, Mira Mendel, René Mendel, Julia Nottingham, Forest Whitaker | SCR Carine Bijlsma



Ferguson Rises

USA / 2021 / 88 min / English

Before the names George Floyd and Breonna Taylor became ubiquitous and the Black Lives Matter movement forced a national reckoning, there was Michael Brown Jr. and the city of Ferguson, Missouri. The killing

of this unarmed 18-year-old boy led to nationwide anger, frustration, and protest. Now six years later, Ferguson can tell a new story - one of community, hope, and inspiration. Ferguson Rises is a humane and moving portrait of a city scarred by its past moving defiantly into the future.

DIR Mobolaji Olambiwonnu | PROD David Oyelowo, Olatunji T.J. Odebunmi, Jessica Oyelowo, Tanayi Seabrook, Mobolaji Olambiwonnu, Nick Moon, Tamika Lamison



Finding Yingying

USA, China / 2020 / 98 min / English, Chinese with English subtitles

Chinese botany grad student Zhang Yingying arrived at the University of Illinois in April 2017. By June, she had disappeared. One part true crime and one part elegy, Yingying's

former classmate Jiayan "Jenny" Shi reconstructs Yingying's homesick, tentative days in Illinois in this feature debut. Using her diary as a guide, Shi hopes not only to find some semblance of justice for a truly horrific crime, but also to capture the spirit lost.

DIR Jiayan "Jenny" Shi | PROD Jenny Shi, Brent E. Huffman, Diane Moy Quon

VIRTUAL: FEATURE FILMS



Fruits of Labor

USA / 2021 / 78 min / English

Fifteen-year-old Ashley lives a double life: by day, she attends high school, hoping to become the first in her family to graduate. But her early mornings/late nights are spent in the strawberry fields and processing plant, as her

dreams of a future in the US collide with the reality of increased ICE raids threatening to tear her family apart. Fruits Of Labor is a lyrical coming-of-age documentary about a young Latina caught in the middle of our nation's fraught relationship with workers' rights and immigration.

DIR Emily Cohen Ibañez | PROD Emily Cohen Ibañez | SCR Emily Cohen Ibañez, Ashley Solis



Materna

USA, Kyrgyzstan / 2020 / 105 min / English, Russian with English subtitles

Four women, separated by class, politics, race, and religion find their lives intersecting during a fateful ride on the New York subway. A cast of indie darlings (including Rory Culkin and Kate Lyn Sheil) help flesh out this

stylistically brilliant and psychologically penetrating portrait of women on the verge of personal transformation. Universal in scope and urgent in its timing, Materna weaves a breathtaking tapestry of both womanhood and motherhood in the 21st century.

WISCONSIN ONLY

DIR David Gutnik | PROD Liz Cardenas, Emily McEvoy | SCR Assol Abdullina, Jade Eshete, David Gutnik



Mission: Joy-Finding Happiness in **Troubled Times (Troubled Times)**

USA / 2021 / 90 min / English, Tibetan with English subtitles

So, the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu walk into... a dialogue surrounding their lives, teachings, learnings, and joys!

Showcasing the monumental meeting between these two contemporary spiritual titans that inspired the New York Times bestseller The Book of Joy watch as these men impart the hard-won life lessons from lifetimes spent in the service of mindfulness and joy, interacting with affection, respect, and a not inconsiderable amount of humor, providing succor in a time desperately in need of it. WISCONSIN ONLY

DIR Louis Psihoyos, Peggy Callahan | PROD Peggy Callahan, Mark Monroe



No Straight Lines: The Rise of Queer Comics

USA / 2021 / 79 min / English

Queer comic books were once relegated to underground publications or sold only in gay bookstores, but now they've emerged from these beginnings to reach larger

audiences around the world! Follow the history of this artform alongside five comic book artists—including Fun Home creator Alison Bechdel—who have achieved fame in their field, coloring in the lines with a healthy splash of humor while leading us through the triumphs and challenges these massive talents encountered along the way.

WISCONSIN ONLY

DIR Vivian Kleiman | PROD Justin Hall, Vivian Kleiman



Reflection: A Walk with Water

USA / 2021 / 80 min / English

As we continue to grapple with the ramifcations of our rapidly changing climate, filmmaker Emmett Brennan sets forth on an epic pilgrimage, walking hundreds of miles along the Los Angeles Aqueduct in an effort

to remind us that water is the wellspring from which all life emerges. Suggesting substantial change that can realign our environment, *Reflection* asks us to rethink our relationship with water - before it's too late.

DIR Emmett Brennan | PROD Emmett Brennan, Nicholas Brennan | SCR Emmett Brennan



Scenes From The Glittering World

USA / 2021 / 76 min / English, Navajo with English subtitles

Three Indigenous youth on the fringes of Navajo Nation deal with the myriad issues confronting them - isolation (filmed at the most remote high school in the continental United States) and uncertainty butting heads

with their ambitious goals. An elegiac portrait of a community in existential crisis, Scenes From The Glittering World is a gorgeously rendered documentary portrait of youth on the margins, as tradition wilts in the face of apathy and a rapidly changing culture.

DIR Jared Jakins | PROD Hunter Phillips, Roni Jo Draper, Carly Jakins, Kelyn Takeaki Ikegami SCR Jared Jakins, Christian Jensen

VIRTUAL: FEATURE FILMS



Stateless (Apátrida)

USA, Canada, Dominican Republic, Haiti / 2020 / 97 min / Spanish with English subtitles

History repeats itself: in 2013, the Dominican Republic's Supreme Court strips citizenship from anyone with Haitian parents retroactive to 1929, echoing the genocide of 1937 where

colorism allowed for tens of thousands of dark-skinned Haitians to be murdered by the Dominican army. Stateless takes us directly into the heart of this darkness, using hidden camera techniques to provide a white-knuckle, first-hand account of those resisting extremist ideologies intolerant of Afro-Caribbean identities.

DIR Michèle Stephenson | PROD Michèle Stephenson, Jennifer Holness, Lea Marin SCR Michèle Stephenson



Strike a Pose

Netherlands, Belgium / 2016 / 83 min / English, Spanish with English subtitles

In 1990, at the height of the AIDS epidemic, Madonna set out on her (highly controversial) Blond Ambition World Tour. The seven young male dancers who joined her on stage (as well as in the iconic *Truth Or Dare* documentary)

struck a pose, serving as ambassadors for the gay community. A quarter of a century later, these men reunite to look back on a watershed moment in LGBTQ visibility that also allowed them to become who they truly are.

DIR Ester Gould, Reijer Zwaan | PROD Rosan Boersma, Sander Verdonk, Denis Wigman, Reijer Zwaan



The Big Scary "S" Word

USA / 2020 / 82 min / English

Explore the origins and rich American history of socialism (with Wisconsin playing a pivotal role) in this engaging and informative documentary. Oft misunderstood, socialism has returned the forefront of American life

on the backs of firebrands such as Bernie Sanders and AOC. Explore the past, present, and future of socialism. Is it dictatorship or democracy? Norway or Venezuela? Reform or revolution? With wealth inequality rising exponentially and climate catastrophes raging across the country, is socialism the cure for what ails us?

DIR Yael Bridge | PROD Morgan Spector, Eden Wurmfeld



The Death of My Two Fathers

USA / 2021 / 86 min / English

For twenty years, filmmaker Sol Guy couldn't bring himself to watch the VHS recordings his father made of himself toward the end of his battle with kidney cancer. Through confronting these videos,

Guy explores his own family history in the form of a message to his children, ultimately unpacking new understandings of Blackness, biracial families, and fatherhood. Though deeply personal, *The Death of My Two Fathers* will resonate on an emotional level with all audiences.

DIR Sol Guy | PROD Sol Guy, Stine Moison, Shoshana Guy | SCR Matthew Cooke, Sol Guy



Try Harder

USA / 2021 / 85 min / English

While being Asian American is the norm at San Francisco's Lowell High School, the perceptions and pressures of the "model minority" myth intensify for a group of students undergoing the high-stakes

process of applying for their dream college. Debbie Lum's timely film reveals an American school system fraught with drained students in an ever-surmounting cycle of competition for capital-A "Achievement." Fresh, direct, and eye-opening, *Try Harder* is a must-watch for teens, families, and educators alike. **WISCONSIN ONLY**

DIR Debbie Lum | **PROD** Nico Opper, Debbie Lum, Lou Nakasako



Twenty Pearls: The Story of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority

USA / 2021 / 91 min / English

Delve into the over 100 years of history behind the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority in this wide-ranging and definitive portrait. Beginning at Howard University in 1908

(a mere forty years following emancipation), we follow this sorority through various watershed moments in American History, showcasing its positive impact. As Vice President Kamala Harris (and Alpha Kappa Alpha alumna) noted, "Telling our own story is essential to preserving our history and uplifting the culture."

DIR Deborah Riley Draper | PROD Lacy Barnes, Deborah Riley Draper

VIRTUAL: FEATURE FILMS



Unlearning Sex

USA / 2021 / 81 min / English

Every year in America, there are over 320,000 victims of rape and sexual assault. Follow Zanah Thirus' personal journey through sexual trauma therapy over the course of six months, a process both deeply intimate and

universal in its ability to inspire. Neuroscientists, sex educators, and therapists all help to create a candid conversation around this trauma, debunking misconceptions, exploring the meaning of consent both before and during sex, and exposing the dearth of information and support provided in our school systems.

DIR Zanah Thirus | **PROD** Marquelle Young, Zanah Thirus | **SCR** Zanah Thirus



Wild Indian

USA / 2021 / 87 min / English

An act of unspeakable violence reverberates through the lifetimes of two Anishinaabe men in this stark portrait that heralds the arrival a great new talent in director Lyle Mitchell Corbine Jr. Set (and partially filmed)

in Wisconsin, we follow the divergent paths of these Indigenous men, as the weight of their shared secret irrevocably shapes their past and charts a collision course in their immediate future, a gripping vision "that will prove haunting long after the film is over" (Hollywood Reporter).

 $\label{eq:def:DIR} \textbf{DIR} \ \text{Lyle Mitchell Corbine Jr.} \ | \ \textbf{PROD} \ \text{Thomas Mahoney, Eric Tavitan, Lyle Mitchell Corbine Jr.} \\ \textbf{SCR} \ \text{Lyle Mitchell Corbine Jr.}$





Shorts: Healthy Kids!



This collection of gorgeously-rendered live action and animated shorts feature young protagonists—an 8 year-old Mexican kickboxer, a diverse

Virtual features
(and shorts)
will be available
starting Sept. 6
at noon CDT

group of chess enthusiasts, a star pupil, a child telling their mom "I'm not a girl" for the first time, and more—who find and forge authentic expressions of health. **AGES 8+**

Shorts: Hindsight Project



Explore the varied stories of BIPOC communities through the American South in the age of COVID-19 – ranging from video diary dispatches from New Orleans, LA, to the pandemic pivot undergone by an interracial choir in Durham, NC. These shorts explore the ingenuity of community that flourished through this truly unprecedented time.

Shorts: MKE Culture & Community



Four locally-made shorts, all exploring Black activism in the face of community violence, police brutality, and voter suppression - this program provides equal measures of hope and anguish in exploring the issues front of mind in our collective backyard. Perfect viewing for those who love home-brewed filmmaking or both thinking and acting locally.

POP-UP CINEMAS

These community-centric, free events will be hosted in collaboration with local organizations featuring movie screenings, food, community resources, fun activities, raffles, giveaways, and much more!



PRESENTS

Latino Arts, Inc. Movie Night

Thursday, Sept. 9, at 5 p.m.

Miguel M. Delgado's El bolero de Raquel

(NR, 1h 41m, Spanish with English subtitles)

> Latino Arts, Inc. 1028 S 9th St Milwaukee, WI 53204

5 p.m. Doors open and food is served

> 6 p.m. Film starts



PRESENTS

COA Youth & Family Center Community Fun Night

Friday, Sept. 10, at 4 p.m.

Spike Lee's classic Crooklyn

(PG-13, 2h 24m)

COA Goldin Center 2320 W Burleigh St Milwaukee, WI 53206

4 p.m

Pre-screening panel discussion moderated by Antoine Carter, Director of Neighborhood Partnerships, Imagine MKE

> 5 p.m. Film starts



Miguel M. Delgado's

El bolero de Raquel

(NR, 1h 41m, Spanish with English subtitles)

Thursday, Sept. 9 5 p.m.

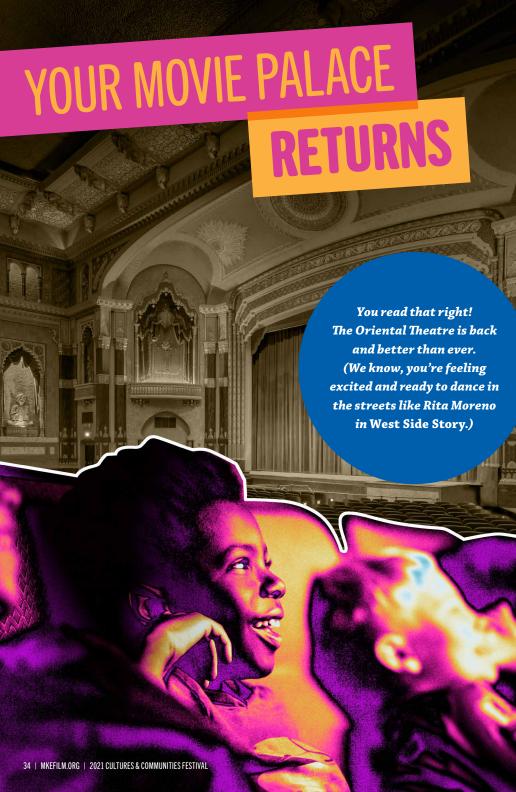
Spike Lee's

Crooklyn

(PG-13, 2h 24m)

Friday, Sept. 10 4 p.m.





Since getting the keys in 2018, Milwaukee Film has made it a top priority to revitalize and restore our city's historic cinema palace.

In 2019, we fully restored one of the three houses inside the theater, replaced the lobby concessions stand, and still showed nearly 250 film titles outside of MFF. After the theater closed in March 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic, we began our next phase of renovations. From updated seats and carpeting, to improved sightlines and sound quality, plaster restoration, and beginning the process for installation of a 1925 Wurlitzer

theater organ, the magnificent updates will take your breath away.

Completed in phase four of five total, the newest renovations include the addition of glass donor signage in the main lobby and balcony restoration including plaster damage repair which has been textured to match the historic surface, restoration of ceiling while preserving historic color and decorative elements, and

cove light replacement.

We can't wait to see everyone back at the Oriental Theatre. Take a step back in time to 1920s cinema, your magical motion picture moment awaits.





ABOUT MILWAUKEE FILM

Milwaukee Film is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to entertaining, educating, and engaging our community through cinematic experiences, with a vision to make Milwaukee a center for film culture.

We operate the magnificent Oriental Theatre, a historic cinema palace committed to high-quality and accessible film and education programming. Our education programs and Cultures & Communities initiative provide avenues toward making our community a more empathetic and

equitable place for everyone to live.

Since 2009, the annual
Milwaukee Film Festival has
brought together film fans and
filmmakers to celebrate the
power of cinema.



MILWAUKEE FILM FESTIVAL (MFF)

The cornerstone of Milwaukee
Film's programs, our annual
Milwaukee Film Festival
attracted more than 87,000
attendees into packed cinemas
in 2019 (remember when we
could do that?) and more than 42,000
moviegoers at our most recent, first
springtime, all-virtual festival.
Recognized in 2019 by Moviemaker
Magazine as one of the Coolest Film
Festivals in the World, MFF is also the
largest arts event in the city. MFF has
served to elevate Milwaukee's film
industry, as well as bring world-class

res. It's a celebration

films and filmmakers to local audiences. It's a celebration of film, arts, and culture unlike anything else in our community.



Education

Beyond screening movies,
Milwaukee Film's vision is
to foster deeper audience
engagement with film and to
serve our community. Our
education programs are critically
important elements of this
work. Whether it's 8-yearolds or 80-year-olds, film
professionals or professional
film fans, educators or students,
participants in our education
programs are part of the lasting
impact we seek to have on local
movie lovers.

CULTURES & COMMUNITIES: EA PROGRAM

Engage & Activate Your Workplace Through Film

The affective power of film allows us to confront stigmas and remove barriers to understanding, as it provides insight into the shared human condition.

Using the cinematic experience to engage your workforce, we can activate learning opportunities that help you build a more empathetic and equitable workplace environment.

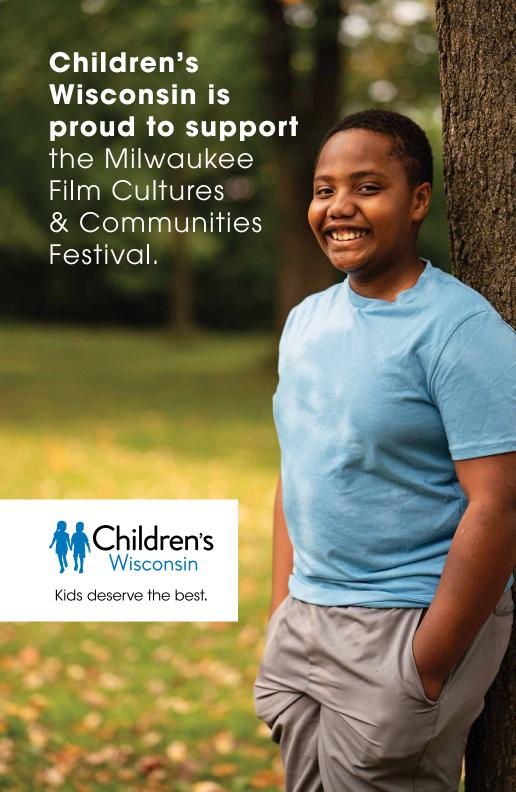
The EA program is a film-based vicarious learning model that matches our cultural programming experts with your team to select a film and discussion event that fits



for strengthening your organization's strategies to build a more empathetic and equitable workplace.

Contact: Maureen Post Director of Strategic Partnerships maureen@mkefilm.org







Committed to serving our community

Froedtert Health is committed to valuing and celebrating the wealth of diversity reflected in patients, their families, staff and communities. We are committed to being an inclusive and culturally competent organization that provides exceptional care to everyone.

As a health care organization, we often care for people who have been impacted by racism. We are taking action to treat racism as a health crisis. We will help to end racism and racial disparities in health care by:

- Examining our own biases
- Measuring, tracking and reviewing our policies and practices to meet the needs of everyone we serve
- Treating people with dignity and respect
- Leading change in our communities and addressing health care disparities

