





PRESENTED BY PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF WISCONSIN

WONEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Turn Our Mics Up: Amplifying Our Stories





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. Milwaukee Film operates the magnificent Oriental Theatre, a historic cinema palace committed to high quality and accessible film and education programming.

MILWAUKEE FILM MISSION

To entertain, educate, and engage our community through cinematic experiences.

Through our operations, advocacy, and community engagement, Milwaukee Film seeks to accelerate film culture and positively impact the Greater Milwaukee Region.

For more information or to become a Member, visit mkefilm.org

Facebook: @MilwaukeeFilm • Twitter: @mkefilm Instagram: @mkefilm

Cultures and Communities

Milwaukee Film's Cultures and Communities is a multicultural film programming and outreach initiative established in 2019 to expand Milwaukee Film's reach into traditionally overlooked sections of the city with a variety of year-round programming options. Guided by principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion, Cultures and Communities seeks to lift the voices of historically underrepresented groups, including those identified by race/ethnicity, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic or citizenship status.

Women's History Month Sponsors

PRESENTED BY

























How to Watch

Join us virtually throughout March to celebrate and elevate stories about women told by women.

WHO CAN WATCH?

Whether you already have a pass, or you are planning to select one film at a time, you're a part of our 2021 Women's History Month celebration. Please note that all films are available only to viewers within the U.S., and due to regulations from film distributors, a few titles will be restricted to Wisconsin. Those films are marked in the film descriptions. 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. If you have a pass, you can view it up to 48 hours from the time you start watching; if you purchase a ticket, you'll have 24 hours to redeem your ticket, then 24 hours to finish watching. A couple of titles have special restrictions; those films are marked in the film descriptions.

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:

amazon firetv androidt√ **€** tV **Roku** Samsung S**®**ARTTV

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 are planning to watch on a projector or similar device, you may run into those restrictions.

PASSES

A Monthly Pass provides you with the chance to access all Women's History Month films through our virtual platform! Due to restrictions set by film distributors, some films may have limited availability based on the number of total views or the viewer's location.

If you have a pass, you will get instructions via email on how to set up your login details. Once you've down-loaded the app of your choice, you can log in directly through the app. If you're not using an app, go to watch.mkefilm.org and log in there.

Price: \$24.99 (\$19.99 for Members)

TICKETS

Tickets to single films are available starting at 4 p.m. CT on Monday, March 1 through mkefilm.org/whm. Click on "FILMS" to view the full listings. Click "view more" on the film you want to see, then click the "purchase ticket" button. After you check out, you'll have 24 hours to start watching! Click the "watch online" link from your receipt or use your voucher code to watch through one of our apps or at watch.mkefilm.org.

Price: \$3.99 (\$1.99 for Members)

Women's History Month 2021 includes more than 15 feature films and 2 shorts programs, with most films available to watch throughout the month. Limited run and special engagement films are marked.



93 QUEEN (LIMITED RUN: MARCH 22-29) USA | 2018 | 90 min | English/Hebrew/Yiddish (partial subtitles)

93 Queen is set in the Hasidic enclave of Borough Park, Brooklyn, where EMS corps have long been the province of men. Though the neighborhood is home to the largest volunteer ambulance corps in the world known as Hatzolah, that organization has steadfastly banned women from its ranks.



CODED BIAS

USA | 2020 | 90 min | English

At the MIT Media Lab, researcher Joy Buolamwini discovered that facial recognition software could not detect her dark skin tone until she put on a white mask. Her experiments and research pointed out serious inefficiencies at some of the biggest technology companies around the globe.

DIR SHALINI KANTAYYA



AHEAD OF THE CURVE

<u>USA</u> | 2020 | 95 min | English

Launched in 1990, Curve is the best-selling lesbian lifestyle magazine ever published. Following the pioneering exploits of its founder, Franco Stevens, *Ahead of the Curve* charts the groundbreaking cultural impact the magazine had on lesbian politics and visibility.

DIR JEN RAININ



DILEMMA OF DESIRE

USA | 2020 | 118 | English

This funny and provocative documentary challenges the double standards of women's sexuality. Women's bodies are used to sell practically everything, but women's actual desires are ignored and demonized. Following four pioneering women in the fight for "cliteracy," The *Dilemma of Desire* features a neuroscientist, an artist, a medical doctor, and an industrial designer of vibrators as they fight against male-dominated medical biases that shortchange the power of the clitoris and its role in sexual pleasure.

DIR MARIA FINITZO



END OF THE LINE: THE WOMEN OF STANDING ROCK

(LIMITED RUN: MARCH 22-31) USA | 2021 | 98 min | English

A group of indigenous women risk their lives to stop the Dakota Access oil pipeline construction that desecrated their ancient burial and prayer sites and threatens their land, water, and very existence.

DIR SHANNON KRING



LIFT LIKE A GIRL
EGYPT/GERMANY/DENMARK
2020 | 92 min | Subtitled

For over 20 years, Captain Ramadan coached world-class weightlifters in Alexandria, Egypt. Mayye Zayed's observational documentary dives into the training of Ramadan's new protégé: the determined Zebiba, who dreams of lifting on the level of Captain's past stars.

DIR MAYYE ZAYED



ONCE UPON A RIVER

USA | 2019 | 92 min | English

Based on the best-selling novel by Bonnie Jo Campbell, Once Upon A River is the story of Native American teenager Margo Crane in 1970s rural Michigan. After enduring a series of traumas and tragedies, Margo (newcomer Kenadi DelaCerna) sets out on an odyssey on the Stark River in search of her estranged mother. On the water, Margo encounters friends, foes, wonders, and dangers; navigating life on her own, she comes to understand her potential, all while healing the wounds of her past.

DIR HAROULA ROSE



PERSONHOOD

(LIMITED RUN: MARCH 1-8) USA | 2019 | 82 min | English

With the rise of the "fetal personhood" movement, comes dangerous new laws that treat pregnant people as second-class citizens. This widening web of laws encourages the surveillance, policing and criminalization of women during pregnancy. As a result, prosecutions for miscarriages, stillbirths, and using drugs while pregnant are becoming widespread.

DIR JO ARDINGER



REPRESENT USA | 2020 | 94 min | English

Represent is equal parts personal and political, journeying through life on and off the campaign trail to tell the stories of female candidates from vastly different communities, support systems, and political parties. The politics may be local, but for these women, the stakes are high.

DIR HILLARY BACHELDER



RESISTERHOOD

USA | 2020 | 97 min | English

This powerful documentary captures the stories of everyday Americans who became grassroots activists working tirelessly to defend our democracy and stop the erosion of our civil rights. *Resisterhood* showcases the wave that brought us the most ethnically, racially and gender diverse Congress in history.

DIR CHERYL JACOB CRIM



SOME GIRLS USA | 2018 | 52 min | English

This feature documentary follows a group of troubled Latina teens from a Bronx-based suicide prevention program who are transformed by an exploration of their roots via the use of ancestral DNA testing, followed by a trip to the Dominican Republic.

DIR RAQUEL CEPEDA



STRIVE

USA | 2019 | 82 min | English

Kalani is a teenage girl living in Harlem's housing projects with her older brother Jacob, and her younger sister, Bebe. While her mother struggles to make ends meet for the family, Kalani's ambitious goal is to get admitted to an Ivy League college. As her siblings get caught in a myriad of hardships, Kalani teeters on the brink of ruin as she struggles to keep both her family and her dream intact.

DIR ROBERT RIPPBERGER



THROUGH THE NIGHT USA | 2020 | 72 min | English

The need for multiple jobs to make ends meet has become a common reality for many families in this country, which leads to a fundamental question: Who looks after the children while their parents work? Filmmaker Loira Limbal examines the economic and emotional toll affecting some American families, told through the lens of a 24-hour daycare center in Westchester, New York. DIR LOIRA LIMBAL



THE VIEW FROM TALL USA | 87 min | 2016 | English

A 17-year-old student finds an unlikely lifeline in her therapist after a sexual transgression. As the lines of propriety between two lonely souls are slowly broken, she has to navigate the thorny issues of age, lust, and leaving one's life behind.

DIR CAITLIN PARRISH, ERICA WEISS



UNAPOLOGETIC

USA | 2018 | 86 min | English

After two police killings, Black millennial organizers challenge a Chicago administration complicit in state violence against its Black residents. Told through the lens of Janaé and Bella, two fierce abolitionist leaders, *Unapologetic* is a deep look into the Movement for Black Lives, from the police murder of Rekia Boyd to the election of mayor Lori Lightfoot.

DIR ASHLEY O'SHAY



WOMEN IN BLUE

USA | 2020 | 82 min | English

Women in Blue follows the stories of the women police officers in Minneapolis who try to reform the department and restore trust in the community after a high-profile police shooting forces its first female chief to resign.

DIR DIERDRE FISHEL



WRESTLING GHOSTS *USA* | *2019* | *92 min* | *English*

An intimate portrait of a young mother who, over two heart-breaking and inspiring years, battles the traumas from her past to create a new present and future for her and her family.

DIR ANA JOANES

Short Films



SHORTS PROGRAM #1: THE MANY MAKINGS OF MOTHERHOOD

57 minutes

DULCE

Colombia | 2018 | 10 min | Spanish (subtitled)

In the coastal village of La Ensenada, Colombia, where digging for shellfish is a way of life, everyone must learn to swim eventually — even little Dulce. But as the effects of climate change, marked by swelling tides and shrinking coastlines, begin to threaten the village's livelihood, the carefree s wimming lessons led by Dulce's mother take on a sense of urgency.

DIR GUILLE ISA AND ANGELLO FACCINI

HELLO FROM TAIWAN

USA | 2020 | 16 min | English

A poetic drama about a Taiwanese American family who struggle to reunite after a year of separation, set in the late 1980s and told from a child's perspective.

DIR TIFFANY FRANCES

ONE CAMBODIAN FAMILY PLEASE FOR MY PLEASURE USA | 2018 | 13 min | English

A lonely Czech refugee writes a letter begging an organization to send a Cambodian refugee family to resettle in her new hometown of Fargo, North Dakota.

DIR A.M. LUKAS

STILL WYLDE

USA | 2020 | 12 min | English

Gertie and her sometimes boyfriend, Sam, are faced with a major life decision only to realize that even when they know what they want, life has other plans.

DIR INGRID HASS

25 HOURS

USA | 2019 | 6 min | English

A firefighter works a 24-hour shift, balancing her job and new motherhood.

DIR ELLIE WEN

Short Films





SHORTS PROGRAM #2:

THE BODY POLITIC: RIGHTS, REGULATIONS, AND BEAUTY

78 minutes

ABORTION HELPLINE, THIS IS LISA

USA | 2019 | 13 min | English

At the Philadelphia abortion help line, counselors arrive each morning to a nonstop ring of calls from women and teens who are seeking to end a pregnancy but can't afford to.

DIR JANET GOLDWATER, MIKE ATTIE, AND BARBARA ATTIE

BYE BYE BODY

USA | 2019 | 10 min | English

When Nina fails to meet her goal in the final week of weight loss camp, she makes a deal with the devil, only to discover a new understanding of her body.

DIRECTED BY: CHARLOTTE BENBENISTE

FUTURE FIRST

USA | 2018 | 6 min | English

Future First is an artistic interpretation of a black girl's response to the madness, showcasing a bevy of Black women serving as a moving background to a poem challenging the notion of and reclaiming beauty in Black spaces. The women are showcased in all of their Black girl magic in all shades and sizes, while rocking TWAs, curly coily afros, braids and cornrows.

DIRECTOR: NAOMI GRANT

SHE PARADISE

USA | 2020 | 15 min | Trinidad

A teenage girl struggles to fit into a crew of Soca backup dancers. She does not succeed at first. The crew presents her with an opportunity for friendship and escape. Her first chance on stage becomes a night of difficult choices but also possibilities for an exciting new future.

DIR MAYA COZIER

TANGLED ROOTS

USA | 2020 | 19 min |English

Tangled Roots follows Attica Scott, the only black woman in the Kentucky state legislature, as she fights to dismantle a system of discrimination against black people penalized for something seemingly innocuous – their hair.

DIRECTED BY SAMANTHA KNOWLES

VETERANE

Canada | 2019 | 15 min | French (subtitles)

Camelia, an escort with a troubled past, is newly employed at an erotic massage parlor in eastern Montreal. Met coldly by her competitive new colleagues, she struggles to establish a clientele while maintaining her dignity.

DIRECTED BY ASHLEIGH JADEE

Each week of March centers a unique set of thematic panels and events, building out discussion within the community.

Events will be streamed through the Milwaukee Film and Black Lens YouTube and Facebook pages.

THE BODY POLITIC: RIGHTS, REGULATIONS, AND BEAUTY

March 1-7

An exploration of issues facing women's bodiesfrom ideas of beauty and sexuality to reproductive and gender justice.



BLACK CROWNS: THE POLITICS OF HAIR WITHIN BLACK COMMUNITIES

Wednesday, March 3 • 5 p.m. CT

Dr. Monique Liston moderates a discussion with scholar-activist and cultural consultant Dr. Yaba Blay (pictured) about the politics of identity and skin color, the decriminalization of Black hair, and the role of white supremacy in sustaining unequal institutional norms of acceptability.

Moderated by Dr. Monique Liston, Chief Strategist and Joyful Militant Ubuntu Research & Evaluation, LLC

WORKPLACE AND MOTHERHOOD: A STRUGGLE OF BALANCE AND IDENTITY

March 8-14

Conversations exploring how the pandemic and working from home has highlighted and compounded issues of work/life balance for working mothers.



THE FEMALE RIGHT: SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE EQUALITY

Tuesday, March 9 • 6 p.m. CT

Informed by the film Personhood, this event brings together community advocates and health experts for an open discussion on women's reproductive rights, access to care and the impact of Wisconsin legislation governing women's bodies.



SELF-CARE FOR THE MAMAS

Wednesday, March 10 • 7 p.m. CT

From working from home and virtual school to struggles of unemployment, inconsistent childcare and increased demands to be everything to everyone, there's no question this pandemic has elevated the stress and exposed the systemic inadequacies facing mothers. Join this candid conversation with Kisha Shanks (pictured) of Mindful Mama and Symphony Zawadion of MelenatedMama on ways mothers can practice self-care.



WORKPLACE AND MOTHERHOOD: STRUGGLES OF BALANCE AND IDENTITY

Thursday, March 11 • 2 p.m. CT

From issues of inadequate childcare to gender pay disparities and women leaving the labor force, this panel explores how the pandemic has compounded work/life balance issues for working mothers and may continue following the pandemic.

Moderated by Corry Joe Biddle, executive director, FUEL Milwaukee

SHIFTING THE GENDER BALANCE IN STEM

March 15-21

Stories of women and girls excelling in STEM, how their inclusion ensures a diverse and talented STEM workforce and prevents biases in these fields.



MAKING HER MARK IN THE STEM WORLD: A CONVERSATION WITH ATIPICA FOUNDER AND CEO LAURA GOMEZ

Tuesday, March 16 • 2 p.m. CT

At the age of 17, Laura Gómez (pictured) took an internship with Hewlett-Packard, which started her tech career. Gómez would later work as one of the few Latinas at Google and YouTube before becoming a founding member of Twitter's International Team. In 2015, Gómez founded Atipica, a recruiting software start-up that uses artificial and human intelligence to help companies make bias-free decisions when hiring employees.

Moderated by Leana Nakielski, Strategic Partnerships Director at American Family



FEMALE EXPERTISE: WOMEN INFORMING AND PROPELLING FIELDS OF STEM

Wednesday, March 17 • 6 p.m. CT

While women have historically been underrepresented in the STEM industry workforce, there is incredible opportunity for women to develop and change the face of our tech, healthcare, IT, and engineering industries as we know them today. Join us for a conversation with female experts discussing their path into STEM and why their inclusion and impact is crucial for unbiased and innovative outcomes.



BUILDING A STEM IDENTITY: CHANGING THE FACE OF EDUCATION

Thursday, March 18 • 4 p.m. CT

Join us for a screening of the short film *The Missfits*, which follows an all-girls robotics team that competes to smash stereotypes and prove themselves in a male-dominated field while also trying to get through high school. Following the film, students discuss pursuing STEM and their goals for diversifying the industry.

Moderated by Lita Mallett, High School Principle at Milwaukee Excellence

WHEN WOMEN LEAD: INSIGHTS AND EXPERIENCE OF EMPOWERED WOMEN

March 22-28

Stories of women breaking barriers and gaining power in politics, athletics, and corporate leadership.



BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS: A CONVERSATION WITH LEADERS IN COMMUNITY

Tuesday, March 23 • 6:00 p.m. CT

From starting small businesses to seeking corporate leadership positions, women and specifically women of color, have been making inroads in record numbers. This discussion explores the struggle, experience and impact of women in ownership and decision-making roles.

Moderated by Denise Thomas, Founder & owner, The Effective Communication Coach



IDENTITY, SEXUALITY AND SUCCESS: A KEYNOTE CONVERSATION WITH SOPHIA CHANG

Thursday, March 25 • 5:30 p.m. screening / 6 p.m. conversation CT

The first Asian woman in hip-hop, Sophia Chang (pictured) shares the inspiring story of her career in the music business, working with such acts as The Wu-Tang Clan and A Tribe Called Quest, her path to becoming an entrepreneur, and her candid accounts of marriage, motherhood, aging, desire, marginalization, and martial arts. Join us for a screening of the short film, *Defining Moments with Ozy: Sophia Chang*, followed by a conversation including excerpts of her memoir, *The Baddest Bitch the Room*.

Moderated by Shalina Ali, Co-director at TRUE Skool