



Oakville Film Festival...Meet the World Online in 2021!

It's time to grab your festival pass for this year's Oakville Festival of Film and Arts annual Film Festival. An international roster of virtual screenings will be available to Canadians digitally June 23rd to 29th, 2021.

For Immediate Release

Monday, May 17th, 2021 - OAKVILLE, ON - It's time to pull out the popcorn maker and call dibs on your favourite seat in the house - be it your recliner, your patio lounge, or the front seat of your car; The Oakville Festival of Film and Arts is officially launching its festival season with the most impressive selection of international films yet!

For seven days, festival-goers will have access to over 100 movies. Almost all films will be available across Canada, with some screenings available internationally and most available for seven days following the initial screening. The lineup includes 18 feature-length films and documentaries, and 87 shorts from diverse genres (55 Canadian, others from Turkey, USA, India, Germany, UK, France, Iran, Mexico, Finland, China, Brazil, Italy, Turkey, Australia, Philippines, and other countries).

Taking place Wednesday, June 23rd through Tuesday, June 29th, this year's festival promises something for everyone with a selection of comedy, romance, thrillers/suspense, Sci-Fi and Supernatural, horror, and world-class documentaries.

Kicking off on Wednesday, OFFA proudly presents the **Local Short Film Fest**, the first of three mini short film fests featuring Oakville's world-renowned locally-developed talent, and films from nearby communities, in partnership with Sheridan College Alumni. The other short fests include **Shorts in Quarantine**, an international selection of COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown films (June 28th, 5 pm EDT), and the **Animation Shorts Showcase** (June 29th, 5 pm EDT)

The Prime-time launch includes the **Oakville Festival Premiere** of the movie, *Marlene*, inspired by the true story of Marlene Truscott, a housewife who fought to exonerate her husband, Steven Truscott,

from a crime he didn't commit. The lineup also includes an incredible array of fantasy/Sci-Fi and supernatural-themed films, including the Regional Premiere of the critically-acclaimed dystopian fantasy, **Nine Days**, as well as the Canadian premiere of the French Sci-Fi/thriller **Meander**.

Fortuitously, this year's festival falls on **Canadian Multiculturalism Day**, Sunday, June 27th, and is OFFA's *Women Who Give Event* for 2021. OFFA will be offering a special day pass for Multiculturalism Day, as well as an all-access pass, both of which include a donation to Zonta International. Zonta is a perfect community partner for Multiculturalism Day; the organization envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman can achieve her full potential. The 2021 festival is the most multicultural and globally diverse to date. Showcasing women's stories from around the globe, Multiculturalism Day will present films in a variety of languages (with subtitles), with submissions from Canada, Bangladesh, France, USA, Syrian Arab Republic, Bolivia, Germany, Australia, and more.

Other thematic focuses include women's issues and stories (*The Girl From Mogadishu*, *Woman in Car*, *Lorelei*, *Alice*, *The Names of the Flowers*), empowerment of women (*Marlene*, *Alice*, *Bangla Surf Girls*, *Her Stories*), substance abuse, and PTSD (*American Desert (Canadian Premiere)*, *Lorelei (Ontario Premiere)*), the environment, food, and our food system (*First We Eat*, *Coral Ghosts*, *Bread and Bones*), and disability (the World Premiere of *Gosia @ Tomek*). Michelle Pfeiffer graces OFFA's screens in the comedy/drama *French Exit*, for which she received both a Golden Globe and Canadian Screen Award nomination. Also starring Academy Award nominee Lucas Hedges (*Manchester by the Sea*) and Tracy Letts, based on a novel by Patrick DeWitt.

This year's digital festival will allow the entire family to take part (no babysitters required!): all-access passes will be \$135, 10-ticket packages are \$90, a five-ticket package is \$50 and single tickets are \$12.99. If you would like to join the **Virtual Launch Event Tuesday 18 May at 7:30 pm**, you can register [here](#) and you'll receive a link to access it.

For more information about the festival, film screenings, and exclusive Q&A's, please visit: OFFA.ca.

- 30 -

To access bios, movie posters, and logos, please visit our [Media Gallery](#).

To schedule an interview with Festival Co-Founder, Wendy Donnan, request an interview with one of the film directors, actors, or producers, or to request a media pass, please contact:

Colleen McCourt, Media relations, Front Door PR

Email: colleen@strategyplus.ca

Cell: 705-358-2006

ABOUT OFFA

Established in 2014, OFFA is a cultural not-for-profit that envisions a community of cultural and artistic diversity with the cinematic arts as a focal point. OFFA produces Oakville's only independent film festival which is now in its 8th year, and is now a hybrid festival, featuring live and digital events. **For more information on this year's 8th annual hybrid festival which is set to happen June 23-29th, the longest festival yet at seven days and over 100 films, please visit OFFA.ca. @oakvillefestivals #OFFAonline #OakvilleFilmFestival**