

## Oakville Festivals of Film and Art Celebrating A Decade of Cinematic Excellence

The Oakville Festivals of Film and Art (OFFA) is proudly celebrating their 10th Anniversary with over 100 Films, Shorts, Docs at this year's annual Film Festival from June 21st-27th, 2023

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE–OAKVILLE, ON–** The Oakville Festivals of Film and Art (OFFA) is proudly celebrating its 10th Anniversary at this year's <u>10th Annual June Film Festival</u>. With over 100 films across all genres, this year's overriding theme is fitting for the Oakville community with a focus on family and the relationships we forge with the families we are born into, those we seek and find, and those we create through community.

OFFA is thrilled to be back to their regular programming in theatres this year, returning to Oakville's premiere film venues for their three red-carpet Gala nights: 5 Drive-In, Film.ca, and the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts. With an outstanding roster of local, national and international movies, docs, shorts and animation, film buffs will be able to access some of the most buzzed about releases both in person and through select virtual screenings from June 21st through June 27th, 2028.

Nine awards will be given out by the Jury at an awards brunch on Sunday 25th June at the Argus Holiday Inn, Oakville. The Expedia Cruises/Celestyal Cruises Audience Choice Award will happen after the festival and voting is in, everyone who votes will be entered into a draw to win a luxury 7 day cruise in Greece.

To mark their 10th Anniversary, this year's Gala Screening selections boasts an outstanding line-up and red carpet events open to all, including:

- Wednesday, June 21st Opening Night Gala celebrates National Indigenous Peoples Day with the Canadian premiere of the indigenous film *THE BEEHIVE*, screening in an open-air theatre, 5 Drive-In. In partnership with Grandmother's Voice and 101 Dewegans, and the town of Oakville, the screening will be preceded by special performances highlighting Indigenous song and dance, and guest appearances from Red River MétisWriter/Director Alexander Lasheras, as well as producers Mike Johnston and Arun Fryer, all here from BC for the Gala.
- **Thursday, June 22nd's THURSDAY NIGHT GALA RED CARPET** presented by **EY** will screen *THE YEAR OF THE DOG*, showing at the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, with a special movie-themed music medley performance from Intrada Brass, and powerful dance performance from Oakville's Cydnee Abbott (Canada's Got Talent finalist). Guests will include: Writer/Director Robert Grabow, and others from the film.
- Friday, June 23rd's CANADIAN PREMIERE GALA RED CARPET will feature the Canadian Theatrical Premiere of the movie *POLARIZED* at Film.ca, attended by Writer/Director Shamim Sarif, Actors Holly Deveaux and Maxine Denis, and featuring a special vocal performance from singer/songwriter Brooke Pallson, with her husband on guitar

- Saturday through Monday will features over 100 features, documentaries, and short films carefully-selected by OFFA's curation team. Special presentations will include a Local Shorts Showcase, Docs including the regional Premieres of COVEN, THE FAMILY OF THE FOREST, LANCASTER, and the World Premieres of Oakvillian David Peck's BROKEN COURAGE, and DR. CLIFF: WORLDWIDE VET.
- Of note will be a 10th Anniversary aerial salute by an Avro Lancaster Mk. X with a fly-by during the LANCASTER documentary screening at Film.ca Cinemas on Saturday 24th June.

Live and virtual programming, including events will be held at three primary venues: Film.ca cinemas in Oakville, The Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, and The 5 Drive-In. Patrons can choose either a virtual or live screening if they are available, for the same price. Virtual screenings will be available from the date of screening to the end of June (30th June at midnight)

For the full listing, description and facts about the over 100 films being showcased, please visit the <u>OFFA</u> <u>Film Festival Event Page</u>

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

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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: <u>colleen@frontdoorpr.com</u> 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 <u>now in its 10th year</u>, and is now a hybrid festival, featuring live and digital events. For more information on this year's 10th annual hybrid festival which is set to happen June 21-27th, with seven days and over 100 films, please visit OFFA.ca. @oakvillefestivals #OakvilleFilmFestival #OFFA