



# Announcing the 27th UNAFF

The 27th UNAFF (United Nations Association Film Festival) presents 60 documentary films with “SHARED HUMANITY.”

The [United Nations Association Film Festival](#) (UNAFF) is pleased to announce its program for the 27th year. The festival will be held from **October 17-27, 2024** in **Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, San Francisco**, and at **Stanford University**. At a time when divisions here and abroad are more ominous than ever, this year’s theme [SHARED HUMANITY](#) continues our devotion to human rights with an emphasis on our common destiny and issues fostering it, or standing in its way.

For eleven days, UNAFF will present **60 documentary films** from across the globe.

Here are a few numbers from this year's festival:

- Representation consisting of **57 percent women filmmakers**
- Representation consisting of **54 percent filmmakers of color**
- **4 World Premieres**
  - [As I Witness](#)
  - [Rock Paper Paint: Art of the People](#)
  - [Singing for Justice](#)
  - [Van Versus Vikas](#)
- **1 North American Premiere**
- **9 US Premieres**
- **11 West Coast Premieres**
- **16 Bay Area Premieres**

One of the oldest documentary film festivals in the nation, UNAFF spotlights current events from around the world. In the 27th iteration of the festival, this includes Afghanistan, Austria, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, El Salvador, Egypt, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Palestine, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tanzania, Turkey, Uganda, UK, Ukraine, US, Venezuela, and Zambia.

For press information and film photo assets, please visit: <http://www.unaff.org/2024/press.html>.

An interactive schedule will tentatively be published by September 26. A PDF schedule can be found here: <http://www.unaff.org/2024/schedule.html>.

A few highlights from the program are included below. You may also skip ahead to a section:

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As always, please contact [publicist2024@unaff.org](mailto:publicist2024@unaff.org) for help with any press materials or information.

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## OPENING & CLOSING NIGHT REMARKS

**Opening Night** of the 27th annual United Nations Association Film Festival includes a proclamation by Palo Alto Mayor Greer Stone. Award-winning filmmaker, actor, author, photographer, political activist, and environmentalist Matthew Modine presents messages about *shared humanity* and environmental justice in his film, [RIPPLE EFFECT](#). Bay Area filmmakers traveling in Central America capture the lives of community leaders fighting for environmental, cultural, and economic survival in [WATER FOR LIFE](#). The evening concludes with the US Premiere of [ZUCCHERO SUGAR FORNACIARI](#), a film about the legendary Italian rock and blues musician. Exclusive footage in the film provides testimonies from friends, like Bono, Sting, Andrea Bocelli, and more.



Photo: WATER FOR LIFE, directed by Will Parrinello

*Shared humanity* continues to prevail into **Closing Night**. In [MAKE A CIRCLE](#), filmmakers present a moving portrait of life as an early childhood educator. It is a love letter to early educators and a rallying cry for a childcare system in crisis.

An estimated \$427 billion in tax is lost yearly to global tax abuse by multinationals and the wealthy. The pandemic and the war in Ukraine have worsened income inequality, with the world's ten richest men doubling their fortunes while 99% of people saw their incomes drop. [TAX WARS](#) exposes efforts to prioritize people over profits, holding multinationals accountable for fair tax contributions.

The [Potential Jazz Ensemble](#) will be providing music at both the Opening Night and Closing Night Receptions. They began as a group of Stanford University students and alumni in the early 1980s who enjoyed playing African-American Classical Music, otherwise known as jazz.



Photo: MAKE A CIRCLE, directed by Jen Bradwell and Todd Boekelheide

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## FREE EVENTS

UNAFF offers several **free events** for audiences to engage with its programming.

The **UNAFF & Kids Program**, Session 4, on Saturday, October 19th at 1:00 PM in Palo Alto is **free** for audiences.

Additionally, **six panel discussions are also available at no cost:**

**ENVIRONMENT UNDER SIEGE**, Sunday, October 20th at 2:50 PM  
Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road

**FREEDOM AND JUSTICE**, Monday, October 21st at 6:10 PM  
Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road

**ADDRESSING HEALTH CRISES**, Tuesday, October 22nd at 6:30 PM  
Stanford University, School of Medicine Conference Center at Li Ka Shing Center,  
291 Campus Dr., Room 120

**PROMOTION AND UNIVERSAL RESPECT**, Thursday, October 24 at 7 PM  
Stanford University, Green Library, Honbach Hall Presentation Palace, 557



Escondido Mall

**FROM WAR TO PEACE**, Friday, October 25th at 6:20 PM

Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road

**TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF ART**, Saturday, October 26th at 4:40 PM

Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road

## FREE STUDENT TICKETS

Students may receive free tickets to films with their student ID. Students and teachers are welcome to attend the **UNAFF in Schools** at no cost. This program takes place as Session 12, on **Tuesday, October 22nd** at 3:10 PM in East Palo Alto. For more information, contact [info@unaff.org](mailto:info@unaff.org) or call (650) 724-5544.

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## 27th UNAFF – “SHARED HUMANITY” – PROGRAM SCHEDULE

For the most current schedule, please visit <http://www.unaff.org/2024/schedule.html>.

An interactive schedule will tentatively be up by September 26th.

Find individual film details at <http://www.unaff.org/2024/films.html>.

Find press photos for each film at <https://www.unaff.org/2024/press.html>.

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## SCREENERS AVAILABLE

Screeners are available for reviewing press by request to [publicist2024@unaff.org](mailto:publicist2024@unaff.org). This list is actively updated, so please feel free to inquire about a film if you do not see it below. **An asterisk (\*) denotes a local film.**

Here is the current list of available screeners:

- [American Delivery](#)
- [As I Witness](#)\* (World Premiere)
- [Bird Rescue Center](#)\*
- [Can I Hug You?](#)
- [Cinema is a Journey](#)
- [The Click Trap](#)
- [Death By Numbers](#)
- [A Divine Journey](#)
- [First Frames](#)
- [Giants Rising](#)\*
- [Hollywoodgate](#)
- [Imelda is Not Alone](#)
- [Ithaka](#)
- [Journeys of Black Mathematicians: Forging Resilience](#)\*
- [Joymakers](#)\*
- [The Light of Women](#)
- [Make a Circle](#)\*
- [Mediha](#)
- [Moses](#)\*
- [One Fighting Irishman](#)\*
- [Radio Dadaab](#)
- [Rock Paper Paint: Art of the People](#)\* (World Premiere)
- [Si Pudiera Quedarme / If I Could Stay](#)\*
- [Singing for Justice](#)\* (World Premiere)
- [Skin of Glass](#)\*
- [Sludge: A PFAS Uprising](#)
- [The Strike](#)\*
- [A Symphony for a Common Man](#)
- [Tax Wars](#)
- [Truth Tellers](#)\*

- [Unconditional\\*](#)
  - [Water for Life\\*](#)
  - [What We Never Forget For Peace Here Now\\*](#)
  - [Where Olive Trees Weep](#)
  - [Works for All\\*](#)
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## **TICKET INFORMATION**

Film passes and individual session tickets are available for the festival.

- Individual session tickets are priced from \$17 to \$20.
- Festival passes are priced from \$70 to \$240.

Students may receive free tickets by presenting their ID. More ticket information will tentatively be available by September 26th at <http://www.unaff.org/2024/tickets.html>.

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## **ABOUT UNAFF**

Founded in 1998 by Jasmina Bojic, film critic and educator, UNAFF (United Nations Association Film Festival) is an international documentary film festival originally established to honor the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Over the years UNAFF has screened some of the most awarded and talked about documentaries in the industry, including eight that went on to win Academy Awards and 36 that were nominated. For more information about UNAFF, please visit [https://www.unaff.org/2024/files/UNAFF2024\\_About.pdf](https://www.unaff.org/2024/files/UNAFF2024_About.pdf).

The 27th UNAFF will be held from October 17-27, 2024 exploring the theme SHARED HUMANITY. UNAFF celebrates the power of films dealing with human rights, including environmental themes, women's issues, racism, child welfare, war and peace. Over its 26 years, UNAFF and its year-round programs have attracted a broad audience from around the Bay Area, with many finding the screenings to be a rare chance to engage with different cultures and see the state of human rights around the world and at home. UNAFF promotes education, awareness, and social change through images, dialogue, and action.



## LISTING DETAILS

**Festival Name:** 27th UNAFF (United Nations Association Film Festival)

**Location:** Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, San Francisco, and Stanford University

**Festival Dates:** October 17-27, 2024

**More Information:** <http://www.unaff.org/2024/mission.html>

**Email:** [info@unaff.org](mailto:info@unaff.org)

**Phone:** (650) 724-5544