



th

ANNUAL

Show Me



**FILM
FESTIVAL**

APRIL 1-3
2020

Welcome to the tenth anniversary Show Me Justice Film Festival.

In the past 10 years We have shown hundreds of films representing the injustices from around the world. This year we are pleased to screen 50 films from around the world representing injustices that you see in your daily news feeds. We are so fortunate to receive support from The University of Central Missouri, The UCM Foundation and the College of arts humanities and social sciences. Additionally, the Missouri Arts Council has been a tremendous supporter over the past 10 years. We are grateful to the local community and UCM Students for their assistance in producing this event.

We appreciate the fine work of the filmmakers and local communities who have supported this festival in bring awareness to these injustices. The festival strives to raise awareness about social justice through the powerful medium film. Please take the opportunity to immerse yourself in these films and gain a greater appreciation for not only the art and craft of filmmaking, but a new found awareness of the injustices in our society today.

This year we are presenting our first Social Justice in Action award. This award recognizes individuals that have worked to correct injustices. This year's recipients are Water.org co-founders Gary White and Matt Damon. Their work to provide safe water and sanitation has been vital in saving communities and improving the quality of life around the globe.

Shannon Johnson
Festival Director

CONTACT

ShowMeJusticeFilmFestival.com | filmfest@ucmo.edu
University of Central Missouri | Warrensburg, Mo.



SMJFF



showmejusticefilmfestival.wordpress.com





Welcome to the tenth annual Show Me Justice Film Festival. The University of Central Missouri is proud to host this important event. Higher education plays a critical role in stimulating and defending social justice as part of its core mission to advance the public interest, by fostering an understanding of societal challenges and their potential resolutions: individual and public health, infrastructure and economy, environment and prejudice, among the myriad issues that we humans face.

In promulgating social justice, a process that requires the broadening of individual perspectives, the artistic medium of the visual narrative is immensely compelling. We understand the world and each other through storytelling and film is especially influential in helping us see issues through the eyes of others, to consider perspectives outside of our everyday existence. This outstanding selection of films from around the world will challenge and entertain you, leave you with questions to ponder, and perhaps even cause a champion.

Michael Sawyer, Ph.D.

Dean, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
University of Central Missouri

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, April 1 - Hendricks Hall

7 p.m. Mateo's Story
Voice for the Voiceless
Undue Burdens
Hope
L'eau est vie
I am Water
A Living Future

Thursday, April 2 - Hendricks Hall

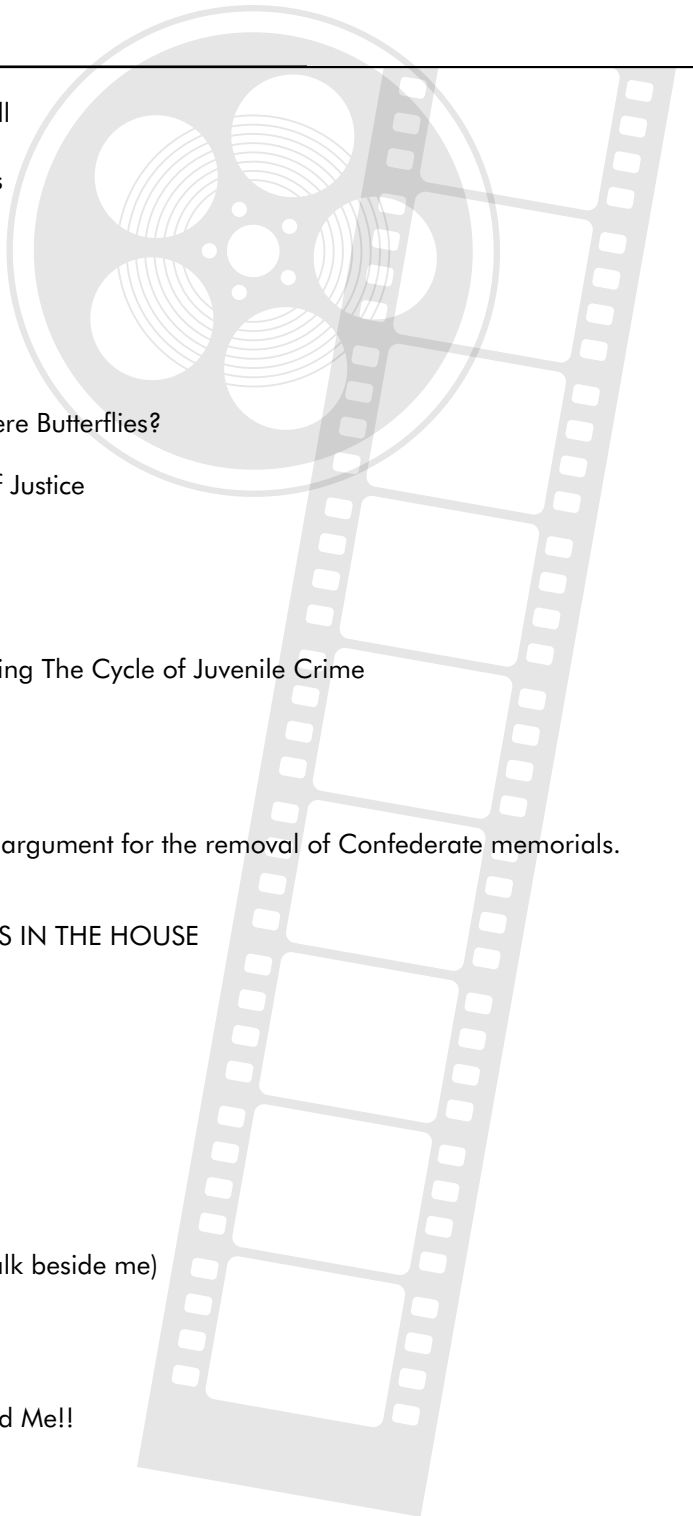
11 a.m. What If Black Boys Were Butterflies?
Your Hair is Cute
True Administration of Justice
Tank man
For
The Task
Hear for You
Taking Root
I Was That Kid: Breaking The Cycle of Juvenile Crime
Silent Child

12:30 p.m. BOn the border
The Butterfly Effect
Hope
Dear Johnny Reb: An argument for the removal of Confederate memorials.
Lockdown
Flag Country
A WOMAN'S PLACE IS IN THE HOUSE
Emma
Preamble
The Reason

7 p.m. Gaza: Still Alive
Jumping the Line
Rainshadow

Friday, April 3 - Hendricks Hall

11:00 a.m. Passage
Camina conmigo (Walk beside me)
Stronger than steel
Sin Titulo
Pulpe Fiction
Bye Luna
...And Then She Kissed Me!!
Illegal
Caring
Beacon





Mateo's Story

USA, Documentary, 23 minutes
Directed by Malona Badelt

A Central American family flees deadly gang violence to seek asylum in the U.S. Soon after, U.S. Immigration separates one-year-old Mateo from his father, and a journey to safety turns into one of trauma and fear.



Voice for the Voiceless

Russia, Documentary, 33 minutes
Directed by Anna Barsukova

After being diagnosed as HIV-positive, Marina begins a search for answers in a country that greatly stigmatizes and discriminates against tuberculosis (TB) and HIV patients.



Undue Burdens

USA, Documentary, 32 minutes
Directed by Andrea Raby

This documentary follows the Midwest Access Coalition as they organize to help women access abortions throughout the Midwest. By looking at both the past and the present, we see how powerful women can be when they band together.



Hope

USA, Documentary, 5 minutes
Directed by Kathleen Duke

Community leader DeeDee explains how the Integrated Tribal Development Program brought prosperity to his rural Thai village.



L'eau Est Vie (Water is Life): From Standing Rock to the Swamp

USA, Documentary, 24 minutes
Directed by Sam Vinal

In Louisiana's Atchafalaya Basin, a council of indigenous women are ready to fight predatory oil companies to preserve the environment and their people's way of life.



I am Water

USA, Experimental Animation, 2 minutes
Directed by Jim Hall

This film-poem is about our connection with water, on the Earth and in ourselves, and the possibility of saving the planet – one drop at a time.



A Living Future

USA, Documentary, 7 minutes
Directed by Natalie Sipes

Potable water is scarce in Costa Rica's Guanacaste Province. La Liga Comunal del Agua has helped lessen hardship and increase health.



What if Black Boys Were Butterflies?

USA, Experimental, 4 minutes
Directed by DaeQuan Collier

In today's world, black boyhood is brief and complicated. This film meditates on black boyhood and what it ultimately could be.



Your Hair is Cute

Netherlands, Experimental, 4 minutes
Directed by Cintia Taylor

This film is a poetic monologue about the subtleties of everyday racism.



True Administration of Justice

USA, Documentary, 9 minutes
Directed by Esmé Fox

This film explores the U.S. criminal justice system and its inherent racism.



Tank Man

USA, Narrative, 15 minutes
Directed by Robert Peters

On June 4, 1989, in Tiananmen Square, Beijing. A single man stands in front of a tank, and all we know is based on the photographs of his acts. This film speculates what he went through on that day in June.



For

Russia, Narrative, 2 minutes
Directed by Andrey Buyanov

Caring for the environment is the key to a bright future!



The Task

Netherlands, Narrative, 7 minutes
Directed by Sander Houwen

In a small village, local goldsmith Alain delivers wedding rings to gay couple Sam and Daan.



Hear for You

United Kingdom, Narrative, 6 minutes
Directed by Lorenzo Calder-Smith, Thomas Slendebroek, Hannah Beach, Lana Bruce and Kira Yankovich

Samantha is having hearing aid problems and becomes increasingly concerned when she realizes a man is following her.



Taking Root

USA, Documentary, 9 minutes
Directed by Jonah Elias

In a small Vietnamese farming area, one man attempts to change the perception of organic farming and spread the practice throughout the region.



I Was That Kid: Breaking the Cycle of Juvenile Crime

USA, Documentary, 6 minutes
Directed by Manjula Varghese

United Playaz program coordinators, David Monroe, Krystal Morales and Will Ramirez, reflect on the choices they made as youth, which led them to work in youth violence prevention.



Silent Child

USA, Documentary, 4 minutes
Directed by Mario Lopez

This film shows a small part of a quiet boy's life before he gets bored and decides to play with a deadly toy.



On the Border

Mexico, Narrative, 7 minutes
Directed by Arturo M. Merelo

Surrounded by constant news of violence, catastrophe and crime, a woman watches her neighbors, suspecting they are in some kind of trouble.



The Butterfly Effect

USA, Documentary, 11 minutes
Directed by Kate Boylan-Ascione

As deforestation and climate change disturb Belize's rainy season, one organization uses butterflies to educate people about the importance of preserving the rainforest.



Hope

South Korea, Documentary, 8 minutes
Directed by Neil P. George

Ali, a young Yemeni refugee, arrives on Jeju, an island off the coast of South Korea. He has only one real wish – to help others, especially Yemenis. However, Ali can't go back and must search for the things we take for granted, including a place to call home.



Dear Johnny Reb: An Argument for the Removal of Confederate Memorials

USA, Narrative, 8 minutes
Directed by Philip H. Scarborough, Jr.

The filmmaker and his fellow Mississippians have crafted a letter to "Johnny Reb," a historical personification of the Confederacy, and sentinels across their state explaining why it's time for them to stand down and go home.



Lockdown

USA, Narrative, 6 minutes
Directed by Patrick Heaphy

High school English teacher Robyn is gathering the courage to ask out new teacher, John. When chaos erupts, the pair take refuge in the women's bathroom where their relationship, and their lives, hang in the balance.



Flag Country

USA, Experimental, 6 minutes
Directed by Pamela Falkenberg

This film-poem is based on the poem “Flag Country,” which tells the story of an unplanned road trip to stop and see an enormous flag at a car lot in Orbisonia, Pennsylvania.



A Woman’s Place is in the House

USA, Experimental, 9 minutes
Directed by Judith Lynn Stillman

See the impact of women in government in this upbeat music video that celebrates women power — and the 36 new congresswomen in the U.S. House of Representatives.



Emma

Australian, Narrative, 7 minutes
Directed by Kevin Spink

Like everyone, Emma is faced with daily modern obstacles, but perhaps a secret lies behind her smile.



Preamble

USA, Experimental, 3 minutes
Directed by Alan J. Christ

This short film is a recitation and interpretation of the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution, encouraging everyone to speak up and participate in our democracy.



The Reason

Ukraine, Narrative, 2 minutes
Directed by Anton Shtuka

Each day the hero accepts a new challenge on the way to his dream; he has only one reason to stop fighting.



Gaza: Still Alive

United Kingdom, Documentary, 53 minutes
Directed by Harry Fear

In the impoverished Gaza Strip, Palestinians of all ages live with ongoing isolation and trauma. Through the stories of ordinary civilians and their psychologists, we see the Gazans' immense invisible suffering.



Jumping the Line

USA, Documentary, 38 minutes
Directed by Michael Lintz

Student actors live a lesson in diversity and an exercise in empathy while working through their high school's production of the traditionally all-black play *The Wiz*.



Rainshadow

USA, Documentary, 37 minutes
Directed by Kari Barber

A school for at-risk high school students, *Rainshadow*, is under threat of state take over based on its low test scores. However, there's one more shot to save the school that has saved so many students.



Passage

India, Animation, 5 minutes
Directed by Asavari Kumar

In a state of limbo, a woman revisits her immigration journey and voyages through the emotional landscape of memory, identity, belonging, and the illusion of the American Dream.



Camina Connigo

Spain, Narrative, 4 minutes
Directed by students at Valencia's C.E.I.P Serrería School

When we are born, we are labeled and separated, but if we walk together, it's easier to choose our own path.



Stronger Than Steel

USA, Documentary, 7 minutes
Directed by Jacob Pincus

After the Tree of Life synagogue shooting, the people of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania came together to protest hate and violence, and show there is still hope for a divided nation.



Sin Titulo

Mexico, Animation, 7 minutes
Directed by Jose Luis Silva

Working in a factory near the border, she remembers her papa's stories and her mama's hope, all while moving through a dream from which she cannot wake.



Pulpe Fiction

France, Animation, 1 minute
Directed by Janek Tarkowski

Which luscious candidate will be cast?



Bye Luna

USA, Narrative, 4 minutes
Directed by Alexis Duran

Michael is trying to teach his daughter, Luna, their native tongue when a surprise confrontation shows him an unexpected reality of fatherhood.



...And Then She Kissed Me!

USA, Animation, 2 minutes
Directed by Alexia Khodanian

This film shows a love story between two girls who find happiness in each other. A re-interpretation of the classic rock song "And Then He Kissed Me."



Illegal

USA, Narrative, 7 minutes
Directed by Jesus Nebot

A traffic stop for speeding takes a turn for the worse, landing a mother and her child in police custody.



Caring

Russia, Documentary, 10 minutes
Directed by Sergey Filatov

Living in the Far North is not a piece of cake. Volunteering lets the residents help others and fulfill themselves.



Beacon

USA, Animation, 3 minutes
Directed by Claire Pullen

The Mother of Exiles is a symbol of hope and a reminder that all should be welcome in the American dream.

THANK YOU

FESTIVAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Shannon Johnson, Festival Director

Dr. Mark von Schlemmer, Associate Professor - Associate Festival Director/Mentor

Dr. Michael Graves, Assistant Professor at UCM

- Associate Festival Director/Social Media Director of SMJFF.

Dr. Eric Newsom - Assistant Professor at UCM - Website Designer/film

Dr. Stephen Price - Assistant Professor at UCM - Technical assistance

Kristin Hirlinger - UCM Student, Music Composer-original festival music

MARKETING AND DESIGN

An Quigley, UCM , Graphic Designer

Dominic Davis, Integrated Marketing Specialist

SCREENING JUDGES

Mark von Schlemmer

Mary Beth Woodson

Shannon Johnson

Caroline Smith

Blake Proctor

David Gildehaus

Evan Holmes

Jacob Peck

Ryan Sheehan

Brian Bestgen

Joshua Wagner

Nick Precht

Erica Oliver

Taylor Kopek

McKenzie Koppe

Scott Flowers

Barry Chang

Larisa Lamb

Andrew Arbeau

ADDITIONAL THANKS

Josh Thomlison

Arthur Rennels

Stephanie Beers

Beth Rutt

Sodexo

Sarah Craig,

Kathryn Schnakenberg

Peggy and Kenneth Brown

Paula Beck

MaryBeth Woodson

Michael Sawyer, Dean



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LEARNING TO A GREATER DEGREE

**“Injustice anywhere is a threat
to justice everywhere.”**

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

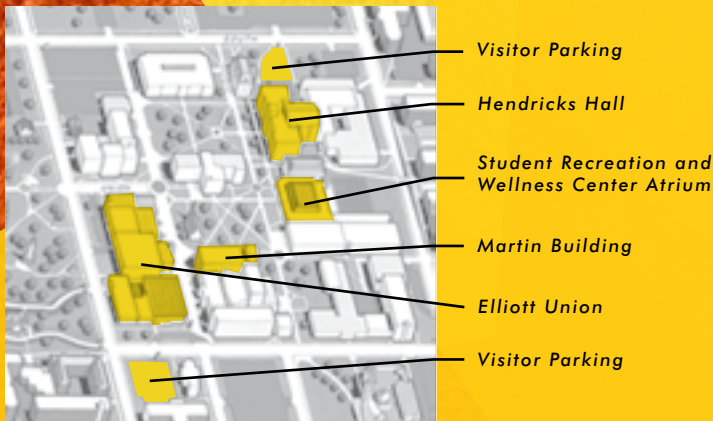
ART IN ACTION

The Show Me Justice Film Festival is committed to being an active and responsible part of the community while taking a dynamic role in acts of social justice through festival actions.

Highlights of our own commitment to social justice include:

- Half-price entry to festival events with a donation of canned goods for local food pantries.
- The use of recycled paper when possible in our publications (such as this program).
- Utilizing 100 percent organic cotton for festival T-shirts.

While some of these actions may seem small, these efforts and choices reflect the ability to change the world, one small step at a time. The festival embodies the spirit of global thinking by showcasing international films and acting locally to make the world a better place.



Festival attendees are welcome to use the visitor parking lots or any campus lot after 5 p.m. on weekdays, or all day on weekends.

THANK YOU
FOR ATTENDING
THE TENTH ANNUAL
SHOW ME JUSTICE
FILM FESTIVAL.