Festival Name: 17th UNAFF (United Nations Association Film Festival)

Locations: Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, San Francisco and Stanford University

Festival Dates: **October 16-26, 2014** For more information: **www.unaff.org**

E-mail: <u>info@unaff.org</u> Phone: (650) 724-554

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(50 Word Description)

The 17th UNAFF (United Nations Association Film Festival) from October 16-26, 2014 *Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, San Francisco and Stanford University* celebrates the power of documentary films dealing with human rights issues, the environment, racism, women's issues, universal education, war and peace. The theme for this year is *BRIDGING THE GAP*.

(150 Word Description)

Palo Alto - San Francisco - East Palo Alto - Stanford University

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. The 17th UNAFF will be held from October 16-26, 2014 in Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, San Francisco and Stanford University. The theme for this year is **BRIDGING THE GAP**.

UNAFF celebrates the power of films dealing with human rights, environmental themes, women's issues, population, homelessness, racism, children, health, universal education, war and peace. In the past sixteen years, UNAFF has attracted a broad audience from the San Francisco Bay Area with regards to ethnicity - many finding the screenings to be a rare chance to see the state of human rights and culture in their own native countries. UNAFF promotes education, awareness and social change through images, dialogue and action.

(300 Word Description)

Palo Alto - East Palo Alto - San Francisco - Stanford

Founded in 1998 by Jasmina Bojic, film critic and educator, UNAFF is an international documentary film festival originally established to honor the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It has grown and earned the respect of audiences and filmmakers alike for its fearless independence and integrity. In addition to providing early outlets for films, many of which later went on to win major awards and accolades, UNAFF prides itself in creating a community forum for discovery and dialogue about different cultures and solutions.

UNAFF has received praise from academic, civic and community leaders for using the documentary film format to give voice to people who would otherwise go unheard, to highlight vastly different life experiences, and to awaken new understanding of major political, cultural and environmental issues.

UNAFF brings together the interests of human rights advancement and cinematic achievement for one of the oldest documentary-only film festivals in the United States. The 17th UNAFF will be held for eleven days - five days in Palo Alto, one day in East Palo Alto, one day in San Francisco in addition to four days of screenings on Stanford's campus. Also, by offering the very popular programs UNAFF & KIDS and UNAFF IN SCHOOLS and seven panel discussions during which renowned experts will elucidate topics such as climate change, the impact of social media and arts, how dance can transcend barriers of language and race, immigration and children, hate crime and LGBT issues, women poverty and inequality, interracial marriage and tolerance, human trafficking and modern slavery, scientific studies on the effect of meditation on the brain, philanthropy and social change and the passion for producing human rights documentaries.

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