UNA Midpeninsula Chapter presents: UNAFF for SENIORS
A Documentary Film Series | January – March 2015 | Free Admission

Conceived in 1998 at Stanford University by film critic and educator, Jasmina Bojic, in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Association Film Festival (UNAFF) screens international documentaries dealing with topics such as human rights, environmental survival, women’s issues, children, refugee protection, homelessness, racism, disease control, universal education, war and peace. By bringing together filmmakers, the academic community and the general public, UNAFF offers a unique opportunity for creative exchange and education among groups and individuals often separated by geography, ethnicity and economic constraints. www.unaff.org

Screening Location: Avenidas Senior Center, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto (www.avenidas.org)

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JANUARY 5, 2015 – MON, 2 PM: CHINA 21
DIR: Ruby Lang PROD: Lambert Yam (China/USA, 60 min)
CHINA 21 follows four Chinese families as they step into the 21st century. Armed with a digital camera and sans an official journalist permit, the filmmakers aim their ‘candid’ camera with unabashed curiosity at the cast of characters who form a microcosm of a dynamic, tumultuous, changing China. Tang Enliang, 19 studies law at Shanghai’s top university; lawsuits are a novelty in China, which makes him a pioneer. Li Zhong Qui is all of six years old growing up on a Hunan farm whose father has gone to work in a booming coastal region; the money he sends home makes a difference but the family wonders if the separation is worth it. Terry Han, 23 with girlfriend in tow desires to go to an American business school. His parent’s cautionary tales of the Cultural Revolution juxtoposes their youthful optimism.

FEBRUARY 2, 2015 – MON, 2 PM: WHAT I SAW IN HEBRON
DIR: Dan and Noit Geva PROD: Michael Arram (Israel, 73 min)
At the turn of the century, Jews and Arabs lived together peacefully in northern Israel. Then the arrival of orthodox Jews created an imbalance. As Ashkenazi Jews came to redeem lands in the Holy Land in the beginning of the 20th century, the relationship between Hebron’s Sephardic Jews and Palestinians was disrupted. The unrest culminated in a bloody massacre 1929, when local Arabs killed 67 members of the Jewish community. In What I saw in Hebron filmmaker Noit Geva tells the story of her grandmother, Zemira Mani, who survived the massacre because an Arab neighbor saved her.

MARCH 2, 2015 – MON, 2 PM: GRANDMOTHER TO GRANDMOTHER:
NEW YORK TO TANZANIA
DIR/PROD: Anne Macksoud, John Ankele (Tanzania, 56 min)
In sub Saharan Africa, AIDS is wiping out a generation of parents, leaving thirteen million orphans behind. Many of the grandmothers, impoverished by the epidemic, have rescued these children from the streets and are struggling to raise them. A similar thing is happening in cities all across America. AIDS, drugs, and violence are wiping out a generations of parents, leaving millions of children behind. Determined to keep these children out of foster care, their grandmothers are stepping in to raise them. Their task is made more difficult because many are poor women living in sub-standard housing and gang-ridden neighborhoods. This film introduces two outstanding projects—one in the Bronx, one in Tanzania.