



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**AFTER SATURDAY'S MATINEE FOR KIDS, UNAFF CONTINUES THE PROGRAM
ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22nd
AT THE MITCHELL PARK COMMUNITY CENTER IN PALO ALTO
WITH FILMS SHOWING A TRANSGENDER TEEN'S JOURNEY TO FIND HIS VOICE,
A PREFERENCE FOR SONS HAS LED TO THE MURDER OF FIFTY MILLION
GIRLS AND WOMEN IN INDIA IN THE LAST CENTURY, CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING
IN OAKLAND CA AND THAILAND, AND AN AFGHAN TEENAGER FIGHTS FOR
THE WAY SHE WANTS TO LIVE HER LIFE**

THE REAL BOY (USA)

Real Boy is the coming-of-age story of Bennett Wallace, a transgender teenager on a journey to find his voice—as a musician, a friend, a son, and a man. As he navigates the ups and downs of young adulthood, Bennett works to gain the love and support of his mother, who has deep misgivings about her child's transition. Along the way, he forges a powerful friendship with his idol, Joe Stevens, a celebrated transgender musician with his own demons to fight. Directed by Shaleece Haas. 1:30pm
FILMMAKER PRESENT

PETALS IN THE DUST: THE ENDANGERED INDIAN GIRLS (Canada/India/USA)

A filmmaker's personal journey to understand and shed light on the origins and the enormity of the war against Indian women. The film examines the condition of an endangered class of people living in one of the most populous, culturally and economic vibrant countries: modern India. They come from all walks of life and share only one common trait: they are female. A patriarchal mindset, a preference for sons and a deep-seated intolerance has led to the murder of fifty million girls and women in India in the last century. By bringing this issue out into the open, the filmmakers hope to light the spark of resistance to this culture of gender violence and extermination, mobilize the Indian and International communities into getting involved in ending this "gendercide" and to encourage a new generation of Indian citizens to value, and respect their daughters, wives and the women in the community. Directed by Nyna Pais Caputi.
2:50pm **FILMMAKER PRESENT**

4:30pm **Panel "Each Child is Precious"** (FREE Admission)

SURVIVING INTERNATIONAL BOULEVARD: DOMESTIC CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING (USA)

Surviving International Boulevard reveals the complex reality of domestic child sex trafficking through the intersecting experiences of two local women from Oakland, California. Driving along International Boulevard's dark streets, a mother recounts her own wild determination to rescue her fifteen-year-old daughter from a sex trafficker 'boyfriend'. A nonprofit advocate and survivor of sexual exploitation shares her fourteen years of experience helping young victims get the help they so desperately need. Directed by Sian Gowan. 6:00pm **FILMMAKER PRESENT**

THE WRONG LIGHT (Afghanistan/Cambodia/Thailand/USA)

The Wrong Light is a feature documentary that explores the dark side of child advocacy through the story of a charismatic "activist," Mickey Choothesa, who claims to rescue at-risk Thai girls but is instead proven to have misrepresented them for his own gain. In doing so, he joins Somaly Mam in Cambodia and Greg Mortensen in Afghanistan as perpetrators of exploitation and misrepresentation within the global aid industry. Directed by Josie Swantek and Dave Adams. 6:30pm

SONITA (Afghanistan/Iran)

Sonita is an eighteen-year-old female, an undocumented Afghan illegal immigrant living in the poor suburbs of Tehran. She is a feisty, spirited, young woman who fights to live the way she wants, as an artist, singer, and musician in spite of all her obstacles she confronts in Iran and her conservative patriarchal family. In harsh contrast to her goal is the plan of her family—strongly advanced by her mother—to make her a bride and sell her to a new family. The price right now is about US\$9,000. Directed by Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami. 8:15pm

For the full program, press material, photos and other details visit www.unaff.org

The award winning UNAFF (the United Nations Association Film Festival) held annually in October at Stanford, Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and San Francisco, now in its 19th year has grown to be one of the oldest and most respected documentary film festivals in the United States. UNAFF was originally conceived to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was founded by Stanford educator and film critic Jasmina Bojic.

In 2014 the ICFT (International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication of UNESCO) presented the UNESCO Fellini Medal to Jasmina Bojic, Founder and Executive Director of UNAFF, in recognition of her exceptional contribution in promoting the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights through the art of documentary film.