



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 27, 2016

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19th UNAFF Visionary Award to William Draper

In Silicon Valley the name of William Draper is synonymous with Venture Capital, high-tech investments and bold innovation. What is less known, however, is that he has been involved in many other areas with equal success. As head of the United Nations Development Programme, he oversaw thousands of international aid projects and contributed unique insights of the business community to our international cooperation efforts.

In addition to his devotion to foreign affairs, Mr. Draper has pursued opportunities to help socially oriented enterprises not only through his philanthropy, but also through mentorship and support analogous to his high-tech ventures, providing a vibrant ecosystem of projects which have immensely enriched our community.

One of the proud recipients of his generosity throughout its existence has been UNAFF, the United Nations Association Film Festival. He has been giving UNAFF encouragement and support from its inception in 1998 and has continued to do so to this day. His role was not limited to his financial contributions, but he also shared his wisdom and ideas, always giving excellent advice whenever it was needed and provided words of comfort when things would not align ideally.

For all his work - supporting UNAFF, supporting many community-oriented socially involved local projects, while at the same time working at the highest level of international affairs through our government and the United Nations, we could not think of a better recipient for our second UNAFF Visionary Award, which was presented to the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, last year.

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.