



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**UNAFF CONTINUES THE PROGRAM ON OCTOBER 20th
AT THE MITCHELL PARK COMMUNITY CENTER IN PALO ALTO WITH FILMS
COVERING THE WOMEN'S MARCH, HONOR KILLINGS IN ISRAEL AND
PALESTINE, WOMEN'S PORTRAITS FROM THE ANDES MOUNTAINS, A SCHOOL
IN THE CONGO FOR MEN TO END THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN,
AND THE SHOCKING AMOUNT OF UNTESTED RAPE KITS IN AMERICA**

WOMEN'S MARCH (USA)

A story about democracy, human rights and what it means to stand up for your values in America today. On January 21, 2017, hundreds of thousands of women marched on Washington, DC. That same day, hundreds of sister marches took place across the country and around the world. Directed by Mischa Hedges. 4:00pm. **Filmmaker present.**

WOMEN OF FREEDOM (Israel/Palestine)

Women of Freedom follows the stories of women who were murdered in the name of 'honor killing,' in the Arab and Palestinian society. This documentary aims to unravel the social and political circumstances that had led to this troubling phenomenon. The director, who witnessed such tragedy in her own life, embarks on a journey—wandering through Israel and Palestine, collecting various stories of the victims, the survivors and the killers themselves. The film wishes to encourage a discussion on this silenced and controversial problem that many societies are still inflicted by. Directed by Abeer Zeibak Haddad. 4:40pm. **Filmmaker present.**

JERICO, THE INFINITE FLIGHT OF DAYS (Colombia)

The film is a journey of intimate portraits featuring women of different ages and backgrounds who live in the Colombian village of Jericó, in the Andes Mountains. It evolves like a kaleidoscope, revealing their stories, pains, secrets, beauty, humor, wisdom and authenticity. Directed by Catalina Mesa. 5:50pm

RISING SONS (Congo)

Plagued by roaming militias who have commonly used brutal rape as a weapon of war, Eastern Congo has suffered the worst humanitarian crisis since WW2 with over 6 million dead since 1995. The film documents one week of the Sons of Congo training program held by Congolese couple Esther and Camille Ntoto at their school in Goma in their efforts to end the cycle of violence against women and educate men. Directed by Erin Heidenreich. 8:00pm. Filmmaker present.

I AM EVIDENCE (USA)

I Am Evidence exposes the shocking number of untested rape kits in the US today. Despite the power of DNA to solve and prevent crimes, hundreds of thousands of kits containing potentially crucial DNA evidence languish untested in police evidence storage rooms across the country. Behind each of these kits lies an individual's unresolved sexual assault case. The documentary follows stories of survivors who have waited years for their kits to be tested, as well as the law enforcement officials who are leading the charge to work through the backlog and pursue long-awaited justice in these cases. It reveals the high cost of the lingering lassitude surrounding rape investigations in this country, and the positive effects of treating survivors with the respect they deserve and an opportunity for justice. Co-directed by Trish Adlesic and Geeta Gandbhir. 8:40pm.

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 20th 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.