

21<sup>st</sup> UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION FILM FESTIVAL October 18-28, 2018 • Palo Alto • East Palo Alto • San Francisco • Stanford University unaff.org

Please join us for a press conference announcing **The 21st UNAFF (United Nations Association Film Festival)** In Palo Alto - San Francisco - East Palo Alto - Stanford University The theme for 2018 is "TOMORROW?"

UNAFF 2018 to screen 60 documentaries for eleven days October 18-28 spotlighting current events from across the globe including Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, India, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Mozambique, North Korea, Palestine, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Syria, UK and the US. Additional topics include:

the opioid epidemic in rural America; can new technologies help us treat and prevent an alarming rise in untreatable bacterial diseases; female chefs in the male dominated food universe; how do our personal and collective histories of trauma affect who is perceived as a 'perpetrator' and a 'victim' of violence; health risks from the rise of wireless technologies; racial stereotypes in US society through the lens of comics; child refugees; the transition of a transgender Vietnam veteran; gun laws; the effects of runaway global warming; finding love while HIV positive; before Walt Disney there was a woman at the vanguard of animation; environmental injustices in Native Hawaii; the secret of the Silicon Valley success; a female Muslim immigrant running for elected office in the US and the story of the whistleblower of the My Lai massacre in Vietnam.

# TUESDAY, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

World Affairs Council of Northern California 312 Sutter Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, San Francisco, CA

**5:15pm Reception** (Light refreshments)

### 5:45pm Press Conference

Introductory remarks by UNAFF Founder and Executive Director Jasmina Bojic, who will present the festival trailer, program and filmmakers (Bay Area filmmakers present)

## 6:30pm Film Screening

### FROM BAGHDAD TO THE BAY

*(68 min) Iraq/US* Director/Producer: Erin Palmquist, Executive Producer: Frances Reid

*From Baghdad to The Bay* follows the epic journey of Ghazwan Alsharif, an Iraqi refugee and former translator for the US military. Wrongfully accused of being a double agent, tortured by the US military and ostracized from family and country, we follow Ghazwan as he struggles to rebuild his life in the San Francisco Bay Area while coming out as an openly gay activist.

### 7:45pm Q&A with the filmmakers and the subject of the film

For more information, please contact UNAFF Publicist Meghan Hurder – <u>meghan@unaff.org</u> or visit <u>www.unaff.org</u> Press kits and screening schedules will be available on the web site after the press conference

Please RSVP to info@unaff.org by September 14<sup>th</sup>