



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**STORIES INCLUDE COUNTRY WITHOUT MILITARY SPENDING – COSTA RICA NUMBER ONE IN THE HAPPY PLANET INDEX; CAN YOU FIND LOVE IF YOU'RE HIV+ AND A UNIQUE JOURNEY BY US JAZZ MUSICIANS IN 1956 AS CULTURAL AMBASSADORS IN AFRICA**

**AS THE 21st UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION FILM FESTIVAL CONTINUES**

**ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24<sup>th</sup> (THE UN DAY)**

**AT THE NINTH STREET INDEPENDENT FILM CENTER**

**IN SAN FRANCISCO**

### **A BOLD PEACE** (*Costa Rica*)

In 1948, Costa Rica dismantled their military establishment and intentionally cultivated security relationships with other nations through treaties, international laws, and international organizations. Free of the burden of military spending, they used the financial savings to invest in their people, creating strong public institutions including public higher education and universal health care. In short, Costa Ricans created a society committed to peace, solidarity, and international law. They have survived with safety and relative prosperity for nearly seventy years without a standing army. Co-directed by Matthew Eddy and Michael Dreiling. 7:00pm. **Filmmaker Present**

### **LOVESICK (India)**

In India, a culture obsessed with marriage but where AIDS is an unspeakable disease, can you find love and companionship if you're HIV+? Ancient tradition and the new reality HIV collide. *Lovesick* is the modern love story that results. Co-directed and co-produced by Priya Desai and Ann S. Kim. 8:05pm. **Filmmakers Present**

### **THE JAZZ AMBASSADORS (UK/USA)**

The Cold War and Civil Rights collide in this remarkable story of music, diplomacy and race. Beginning in 1956, when America asked its greatest jazz artists to travel the world as cultural ambassadors, Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington and their mixed-race band members, faced a painful dilemma: how could they represent a country that still practiced Jim Crow segregation? Directed by Hugo Berkeley. 9:30pm.

For the full program, press material, photos and other details visit [www.unaff.org](http://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 21st 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.*