

23rd UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION FILM FESTIVAL October 15-25, 2020 • Palo Alto • East Palo Alto • San Francisco • Stanford University unaff.org

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Joan Baez to be presented with UNAFF Visionary Award On Closing Day of 23rd United Nations Association Film Festival Final documentary programs on October 25 themed to *The Moral Compass*

PALO ALTO, CA - The United Nations Association Film Festival (UNAFF), in its 23rd year, marks its closing day of documentary films and panel discussions on October 25, 2020, finishing 11 days of online film programs. Four films are presented on UNAFF Closing Day, all tied to the theme **The Moral Compass**. In this year's virtual platform, those films are available to be watched any time on October 25. The Closing Day live Zoom panel discussion at 6:00 PM (PDT) includes a presentation of UNAFF's Visionary Award to legendary singer, songwriter, musician and activist, **Joan Baez**, recognizing her life-long unwavering commitment to human rights, and her leadership, creativity, persistence, and vision, which inspired several generations to promote peace and a better future for all. Joan Baez is a key subject featured in Closing Day film *The Boys Who Said No!*, which profiles the young men and women who actively opposed the military draft in order to end the Vietnam War. Joan Baez will participate and receive the award during the live event between 6:00 – 7:00 PM (PDT). UNAFF schedule is online at:

http://www.unaff.org/2020/schedule.html Link for tickets is: http://www.unaff.org/2020/tickets.html

Below is Closing Day schedule of programs:

Sunday, October 25 Session 25 A NORMAL GIRL (US, 14 min) WAGING CHANGE (US, 61 min)

Session 26 BUREAU 39 -- KIM'S CASH MACHINE (Germany/North Korea/Netherlands/US, 58 min) THE BOYS WHO SAID NO! (US/Vietnam, 90 min - presented in collaboration with the Mill Valley Film Festival)

6:00PM CLOSING NIGHT Awards (special UNAFF Visionary Award to Joan Baez) and Meet the Filmmakers, Subjects of the Films and Experts (all guests subject to change) *A Normal Girl*, Producer/Film Subject Pidgeon Pagonis *Waging Change*, Director Abby Ginzberg *Waging Change*, Film Subject Saru Jayaraman The Boys Who Said No!, Stanford Expert Clayborne Carson The Boys Who Said No!, Director Judith Ehrlich UNAFF Visionary Award recipient, Singer, Songwriter, Musician and Activist Joan Baez theme: The Moral Compass

LISTINGS SUMMARY 23rd UNAFF (United Nations Association Film Festival) October 15-25, 2020 Taking place online Program and schedule: <u>http://www.unaff.org</u> E-mail: <u>info@unaff.org</u> Phone: (650) 724-5544 Like UNAFF: <u>www.facebook.com/UNAFF</u> www.twitter.com/unaff

PRESS RESOURCES Press photos are available at <u>http://www.unaff.org/2020/press.html</u> **Clips available for media use:** Trailer for 23rd UNAFF (United Nations Association Film Festival) on YouTube: 90 second: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UgH9-lw7kE4</u> 30 second: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bwj59fqBhOU</u> Download trailer from these links: 90 second: <u>https://vimeo.com/468012481</u> 30 second: <u>https://vimeo.com/468012462</u>

Trailers for individual films can be accessed from https://unaff2020.eventive.org/films?mode=list Clips for THE BOYS WHO SAID NO! are at: <u>https://www.boyswhosaidno.com/film-clips</u> Joan Baez clip from THE BOYS WHO SAID NO!: <u>https://vimeo.com/94604481</u>

The theme of UNAFF 2020, THE POWER OF EMPATHY, continues the celebration more than two decades long of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, emphasizing our readiness to care about other people's emotional experiences and exploring possible paths emanating from it into the future.

UNAFF 2020 will have presented 60 documentaries spotlighting current events from across the globe, including through its very popular programs UNAFF AND KIDS and UNAFF IN SCHOOLS. UNAFF is committed not only to presenting films, but also creating spaces where audience members can engage in ongoing dialogue about the subjects at hand. FREE online daily discussions "Meet the Filmmakers, Subjects of the Films and Experts" will take place during the eleven days of the Festival covering broad, timely, and thought-provoking topics.

The award-winning United Nations Association Film Festival 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 addition to providing early outlets for films, many of which have gone on to win major awards and accolades, UNAFF takes pride in creating a community

forum for discovery and dialogue about different cultures, social issues and solutions. Over the years UNAFF has screened some of the most awarded and talked about documentaries in the industry, including eight that went on to win Academy Awards and thirty that were nominated. 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.

UNAFF's mission has expanded to broad, year-round programs that augment its reach. In addition to the annual film festival, UNAFF organizes panel discussions, initiates programs that engage children, students, seniors, veterans, hosts a traveling festival which keeps the films alive well beyond their initial festival showings and opens its doors to documentary film students and researchers.