



24 YEARS OF PROMOTING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING

**UNAFF (UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION FILM FESTIVAL) CELEBRATES
GROUNDBREAKING DOCUMENTARIES WITH 60 FILMS FROM ACROSS
THE GLOBE THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR VIEW OF THE WORLD.**

4 WORLD PREMIERES AND 20 US PREMIERES TO BE SCREENED
OCTOBER 21-31 WITH THE THEME “**MOVING FORWARD**”.
OVER 40 FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE
THROUGHOUT THE IN-PERSON FESTIVAL.

(Palo Alto, CA) The United Nations Association Film Festival (UNAFF) announces its program for the 24th year. After having a virtual festival last year because of COVID-19, UNAFF organizers are happy to hold the film festival in-person again. Considering the safety of our community UNAFF is requiring all attendees, guests, panelists, staff and volunteers to be fully vaccinated or tested and wear masks at all times. Additionally, the festival staff will scan temperatures at the door, provide sanitizers and spare masks, while moving all receptions outdoors.

This year’s theme MOVING FORWARD continues UNAFF’s two- decade-long celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, emphasizing our readiness to resume resolute strides towards lasting solutions.

“After a troublesome year of lock-downs, and fear about health and climate, and a year full of political and social upheavals, it is time to take stock of the situation that the world finds itself in and make decisive moves toward solutions.” - Jasmina Bojic, Founder and Festival Director

UNAFF 2021 will be held over eleven days, October 21-31, and will present 60 documentaries (64% directed/produced by women filmmakers and 60% filmmakers of color), from all over the world. One of the oldest documentary film festivals in the US, this year’s United Nations Association Film Festival will spotlight current events from across the globe, including Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Palestine, Pakistan, Poland, Russia, Spain, South Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Turkey, Venezuela, UK, US and Yemen. The film programs are announced and online at <http://www.unaff.org/2021/films.html>. Tickets are on sale at: <https://tickets.stanford.edu> and Roxie program at: <https://bit.ly/unaffroxie>

Topics include:

The longest US war – 20 years in Afghanistan; Barbara Lee, a steadfast voice for human rights, peace and economic and racial justice in the US Congress; decades of Cuba's isolation; behind the coup in Iran in 1953; how Jimmy Carter's selfless leadership and moral integrity ultimately cost him the presidency; climate change and wildfires; mental health and sports; the first woman conductor and music director of a major symphony; the first all-women band to release an LP with a major record label; illegal sterilizations in women's prisons; criminal justice reforms; rare insight into the ways information is controlled; refugee resettlement program; homelessness and pandemic; hunger-stricken children in Yemen; young victims of the war against the Islamic State; a gay immigrant from China during the pandemic; bringing basic healthcare to people in the developing world; connecting the brain of a paralyzed man to a computer; creativity and disability; and the oldest living national park ranger 100-year-old Betty Reid Soskin's inspiring life, work and urgent mission to restore critical missing chapters of America's story.

UNAFF is committed not only to presenting films, but also providing opportunities for audience members to engage in ongoing dialogue about the subjects at hand. In addition to 40 filmmakers available for Q&A, **six FREE panel discussions** will take place during the course of the festival presenting issues such as crossing borders, reforming criminal justice, youth action for climate, mental health and sports, censorship and press, technology and our planet.

This year's **UNAFF Visionary Award** will be presented to two people: unique public servant, Congresswoman **Barbara Lee** and legendary singer, songwriter, musician and activist, **Harry Belafonte**, recognizing their life-long unwavering commitment to human rights, and their leadership, persistence, and vision, which inspired several generations to promote economic, racial and social justice, peace and move us forward to a better and more just society.

LISTINGS SUMMARY

24th UNAFF (United Nations Association Film Festival)

October 21-31, 2021

Venues:

October 21-25 & 30-31: Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road

October 26: Stanford University, Stanford Medical School LKC

October 27: San Francisco, Roxie Theater, 3117 16th Street

October 28-29: Stanford University, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies Encina Hall, 616 Serra Street

Ticket prices: **\$12 PER FILM SESSION** (1.5 – 3 hours per session)/ **FESTIVAL PASS – \$220** (all sessions, *excludes Opening and Closing Night Receptions*)/ free admission to discussion panels

Roxie program tickets: \$13

Tickets available at **STANFORD TICKET OFFICE**: <https://tickets.stanford.edu>

Roxie program on 10/27 tickets available at: <https://bit.ly/unaffroxie>

Film programs are announced and listed at www.unaff.org

For more information: www.unaff.org
E-mail: info@unaff.org
Phone: (650) 724-5544

Press photos are available at <http://www.unaff.org/2021/press.html>
Like UNAFF: www.facebook.com/UNAFF
www.twitter.com/unaff

PROGRAM

UNAFF 2021 - MOVING FORWARD

Details at <http://www.unaff.org/2021/films.html>

THURSDAY October 21 | Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road
Session 1

5:30 PM Opening Night Reception – sponsored by Adelante Coffee and Judy’s Breadsticks,
music by POTENTIAL Jazz Ensemble
6:00 PM Opening words by Palo Alto Mayor, Tom DuBois
6:30 PM HUNGER WARD (Yemen, 40 min)
7:20 PM GHOSTS OF AFGHANISTAN (Afghanistan/US, 59 min)
8:30 PM BARBARA LEE: SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER (US, 82 min)

FRIDAY October 22 | Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road
Session 2

4:00 PM OUTSWING (Pakistan, 26 min)
4:40 PM THE RETURN: LIFE AFTER ISIS (Spain/Syria/UK, 90 min)

Session 3

7:00 PM LION ON THE MAT (US/Vietnam, 16 min)
7:30 PM SEYRAN ATE: SEX, REVOLUTION AND ISLAM COME AND TAKE IT
(Germany/Norway/Turkey, 55 min)
8:40 PM DICKTATORSHIP (Italy, 90 min)

SATURDAY October 23 | Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road
Session 4

1:00 PM FROM THESE HANDS (Lebanon/Syria/UK, 18 min)
1:30 PM THE LIST (India, 18 min)
2:00 PM NANMIN (Japan, 20 min)
2:30 PM AGAINST THE CURRENT (US, 31 min)
3:10 PM A HOME CALLED NEBRASKA (US, 69 min)
4:30 PM Panel "Crossing Borders" (FREE Admission)

Session 5

5:30 PM RESURRECTION! AIRTO MOREIRA & THE PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND (Brazil/US, 20 min)

6:00 PM FOR THE LEFT HAND (US, 70 min)

Session 6

7:40 PM OLEG (Russia/US, 97 min)

9:30 PM UNITED STATES VS. REALITY WINNER (US, 93 min)

SUNDAY October 24 | Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road

Session 7 UNAFF & Kids Program (FREE Admission)

1:00 PM ZERO GRAVITY (US, 74 min)

Session 8

2:30 PM A COMMUNITY UNDER FIRE (Australia, 23 min)

3:00 PM UNBREATHABLE: THE FIGHT FOR HEALTHY AIR (US, 30 min)

3:40 PM WE HAVE REACHED THE MOMENT (US, 34 min)

4:30 PM I AM GEN Z (UK/US, 101 min)

Session 9

6:40 PM THE ROAD TO JUSTICE (US, 30 min)

7:20 PM NO TIME TO WASTE: THE URGENT MISSION OF BETTY REID SOSKIN (US, 52 min)

8:30 PM I AM BELMAYA (Nepal/UK, 82 min)

MONDAY October 25 | Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road

Session 10

4:15 PM THE LAST MEAL (Australia, 18 min)

4:40 PM LIFE AND LIFE (US, 80 min)

6:10 PM BELLY OF THE BEAST (US, 82 min)

Session 11

7:40 PM Panel "Reforming Criminal Justice" (FREE Admission)

8:40 PM IN A WHOLE NEW WAY (US, 31 min)

9:20 PM THE FIRST STEP (US, 90 min)

TUESDAY October 26 | Stanford University, Stanford Medical School LKC room 130 (session 12)
and LKC room 120 (session 13)

Session 12

3:30 PM GROUNDED (Canada, 7 min)

3:50 PM FULL PICTURE (US, 12 min)

4:20 PM THE PIANIST FROM RAMALLAH (Israel/Palestine, 60 min)

Session 13

6:30 PM THEY KEEP QUIET SO WE MAKE NOISE (Malaysia/US, 12 min)

7:00 PM FATHER OF THE CYBORGS (Ireland/US, 76 min)

8:30 PM MEDICINE MAN: THE STAN BROCK STORY (UK/US, 85 min)

WEDNESDAY October 27

Session 14 East Palo Alto, Cooley Landing Park and Education Center, 2100 Bay Road

3:00 PM YOUTH V GOV (US, 110 min)

4:50 PM Panel "Youth Action for Climate" (FREE Admission)

Session 15 San Francisco, Roxie Theater, 3117 16th Street

6:30 PM THE LEAF (China/US, 4 min)

6:45 PM COVISIONS: QUARANTINE DIARY (US, 7 min)

7:00 PM THE BROTHERS (LOS HERMANOS) (Cuba/US, 84 min)

8:40 PM FANNY: THE RIGHT TO ROCK (Canada/US, 92 min)

THURSDAY October 28 | Stanford University, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies

Encina Hall, 616 Serra Street

Session 16

4:00 PM MIND/GAME: THE UNQUIET JOURNEY OF CHAMIQUE HOLDSCLAW (US, 56 min)

5:10 PM AULCIE (Israel/US, 72 min)

6:40 PM Panel "Mental Health and Sports" (FREE Admission)

Session 17

8:00PM PRESERVING THE HOLOCAUST (Poland/US, 11 min)

8:20PM IRAQ'S LOST GENERATION (Iraq/Syria/US, 52 min)

FRIDAY October 29 | Stanford University, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies

Encina Hall, 616 Serra Street

Session 18

4:00 PM FRENEMIES (Cuba/US, 86 min)

5:40 PM COUP 53 (Iran, 119 min)

7:40 PM Panel "From Havana to Tehran – Strained Relations" (FREE Admission)

Session 19

9:00 PM CARTERLAND (US, 122 min)

SATURDAY October 30 | Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road

Session 20

1:00 PM THESE MOMENTS (US, 20 min)

1:30 PM STRIKE WITH THE BEAT (Myanmar, 25 min)

2:10 PM HELLO, DICTATOR. ORBÁN, THE EU AND THE RULE OF LAW (Germany, Hungary, 89 min)

3:50 PM TELL THE TRUTH AND RUN: GEORGE SELDES AND THE AMERICAN PRESS (US, 111 min)

5:40 PM Panel "Telling the Truth about a Country" (FREE Admission)

Session 21

7:00 PM THE CONDUCTOR (US, 90 min)

8:40 PM MEET THE CENSORS (China/Germany/Iran/Norway/South Sudan/Sweden/US, 100 min)

SUNDAY October 31 | Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road

Session 22

1:00 PM THE SEED (US, 30 min)

1:40 PM IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (US, 81 min)

Session 23

3:10 PM ISRAEL-PALESTINE: A SWISSMAN ON THE EYE OF THE STORM (Israel/Palestine, 53 min)

4:20 PM TO THE STREET (A LA CALLE) (Venezuela, 111 min)

Session 24

6:30 PM A FISTFUL OF RUBBISH (Spain, 14 min)

6:50 PM SOLUTIONS (Denmark/US, 110 min)

9:00PM Awards Ceremony and Closing Night Reception sponsored by Coupa Café and Hobee's,
Music by the Potential Jazz Ensemble

ABOUT UNAFF

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 seven that went on to win Academy Awards and thirty two 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.