

# WELCOME TO GREEN LAKE AND THE FREELAND FILM FESTIVAL.



Welcome to Green Lake and the Freeland Film Festival. Freeland's vision is a world that is free of wildlife trafficking and human slavery. In our front line work around the world, we have learned that good storytelling can save land and lives.

This weekend, we project a rare snapshot of Mother Earth and humanity onto movie screens in this beautiful, historic town. We have selected the best of over 1,000 films submitted, including short and feature length documentaries about people, wildlife and ecosystems facing, and overcoming, daunting challenges. These incredible stories give a voice to the voiceless, and celebrate the strength of the human spirit and the beautiful, durable soul of Mother Earth. Slaves winning their freedom. Endangered animals and fragile ecosystems making a comeback. Heroes and heroines from all walks of life. These are stories that educate and inspire us about our present day world.

The weekend agenda includes talks and performances by directors, musicians, human rights campaigners, farmers, and conservationists from across the world to the shores of Green Lake. Enjoy the films and festivities, as well as this beautiful town that Freeland and I are proud to call home.

- Steve Galster, FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

FESTIVAL PRODUCER

**EVENT & DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR** 

Dawn Borchardt

Evelyn Galster

FESTIVAL EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

Rich Christian

Sam La Strapes

PROJECTIONISTS

MUSIC COORDINATOR

Greg Babush • DeWitt Davis

Marcella Jones

Ryan Putskey

VENUE MANAGERS

Brian Patterson • Leyton Schiebel • Hollie Wierschke

**BOARD OF ADVISORS** 

Luis Palomino Benitez • Thomas Eddy • Molly Ferrill • Claire Lind Josie Raine • Kurt Sensenbrenner • Chanadda Thanikulapat Colin Sytsma • Robin Wallenfang

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

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Steve Galster • Dan & Pat Jorndt • Rich Christian & Debra B. Walker DJ&T Foundation • Bill & Lori Graham & Family









#### **DIAMOND LEVEL \$1500-\$2499**



#### GOLD LEVEL \$1000-\$1499

Michael C. Mitchell • Jo Ellen & Sean Madden • Don & Carole Lisle





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Alfred T. Peck Grant Fund



#### **BRONZE LEVEL \$450 - \$749**

Jennifer Lisle • Mike & Jill Havey • Barry Rodgers • Bruce Castro • Rip Suster Pearsall Family Foundation • David & Susan Rammelt • Karla Spinks





#### COPPER LEVEL \$100-\$449

Kurt Sensenbrenner • Mary Hunter • Tom & Barb Eddy • Tom & Janet Seno Evelyn Galster • Mary Jane Bumby • Judith LaBuda • Mary Jo & Scott Johnson Claire Lind • Cynthia Galster • Kristin Galatowitsch • Celeste King • Nick White Kent & D Lee Delucenay • Tom & Brad Hernandez-Suster • Jim LaBuda Marion Sandelback • Tom & Mary Avery















## **VENUE & TICKET INFORMATION**

#### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets can be purchased at www.freelandfilmfest.org/tickets or in person at venues starting 30 minutes before the first show of the day.

## Opening Night Film + Party \$20

Party Only Tickets will be sold on a space-available basis starting at 9pm for \$10

#### **All Films are Ticketed**

\*except Fern Gully in Deacon Mills Park & the Kids Shorts at Caestecker Library Regular \$8 • Senior 62+/Student/Active Military \$7

## The following are free and open to the public

**Panels** 

**Art Exhibits** 

Outdoor performance by Bucks Native American Singing and Drumming Group

#### VIP Weekend Pass \$125

Experience the festival like a VIP! Wear your beautiful VIP pass to get access to all films & public events. Complimentary festival t-shirt. Pass is non-transferable.

#### **VENUE INFORMATION**



Town Square 492 Hill St.



Thrasher Opera House 506 Mill St.



The American Legion 518 Water St.



Caestecker Library 518 Hill St.



Deacon Mills Park South & Park Streets



City Hall - Art Exhibit Only 534 Mill St



MAP · VENUE & TICKET INFORMATION

## **WORKSHOPS + ART**

All workshops are \$5 per student. Art exhibits are free and open to the public.

#### **WORKSHOPS**

### Youth Filmmakers Workshop: Creating Movies for Change

Saturday June 16th • 5-6:30pm • Caestecker Library

Wisconsin Filmmakers Kurt Sensenbrenner and Colin Sytsma, codirectors of From Mass to the Mountain are conducting a workshop on the fundamentals of documentary filmmaking. This two part workshop consists of a conversation on responsible filmmaking, and then transitions to a hands-on experience focusing on capturing the moment. The UW-Milwaukee alumni first started working together in 2012 at the awarding winning documentary film house 371 Productions and have collaborated on projects ever since. Two Green Lake High School filmmakers will assist Kurt and Colin. This workshop is geared towards middle school and high school aged students. To sign up please visit www.freelandfilmfest.org/tickets.

#### Youth Eco-Art Workshop

Sunday June 17th • 10-11:30am • Caestecker Library

Claire Lind and Rachel Reinert are elementary school teachers with a special interest in protecting the environment and using resources wisely. They will engage with kids on the importance of recycling and going green with materials in their very own home. Children will create a container plant and walk away a better steward to our earth. This workshop is geared towards elementary school students. To sign up please visit www.freelandfilmfest.org/tickets.

#### **ART**

## Eco-Art Exhibit by local students from Green Lake School

Saturday & Sunday • 10am-7pm • City Hall

## Natural Capital Photography Exhibit by Thomas Eddy

Lobby of Thrasher Opera House

#### **Art Exhibit**

Saturday & Sunday • 10am-7pm • City Hall

## **Bird Paintings by Tom Schultz**

Lobby of Town Square

## **PANELS**

All panels are free and open to the public.

#### Human Trafficking: Insights into Modern Slavery, and how to Stop it

Human trafficking is a \$150 billion a year global business. People may be surprised where it occurs and why. How can we help to stop it?

- Steve Galster Founder of Freeland
- Honorable Virginia M. Kendall United States District Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

#### National Geographic: Women Leaders in Wildlife Conservation

More women are taking up leadership roles in protecting wildlife and wild habitats across the world. Come meet some of them.

- Juliana Machado Ferreira Director of Freeland-Brazil, National Geographic Explorer & TED Fellow
- Onkuri Majumdar Director of Freeland-India, National Geographic Explorer & TED Fellow
- Molly Ferrill National Geographic Explorer, Filmmaker & Producer of Freeland-TV
- Kate Brooks Photojournalist and Director of *The Last Animals*

#### Lake Ecosystems and Farms: Partnerships for Conservation

Agriculturists and conservationists are discovering new ways to collaborate to protect natural ecosystems.

- Matt Boersen Owner of local organic farm Boersen Farms
- Stephanie Prellwitz Green Lake Association
- Father Wally Subject of film From Mass to the Mountain

#### Conservation, Development, and Communities: Where to Draw the Line?

Where do we draw the line between economic development and nature protection? What tools and lessons can we learn from?

- Ronnie Monroe Founder of Brave Wisconsin
- Dylan Jennings Director of Public Information for Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission & Tribal Council Member with Bad River Tribe
- Toby McLeod Project Director of Earth Island Institute's Sacred Land Film Project
- Bur Zeratsky President Green Lake Conservancy & Leader of Camp Grow Campaign

#### Out of Green Lake County to Africa: A Local Family Tells their Story

Ross and Lucy Hazlewood were part of a 15 member team providing medical and dental care in a remote area in western Kenya. While staying in homes near a boy's orphanage, they supplied basic care and clothing, as well as enrichment activities to the orphan boys and local children. Conversation curated by Linda DeNell, Director of the Caestecker Public Library.

## **MUSIC**

Many of our films will have acoustic music performances beforehand, starting 30 minutes prior to the screening start. Enjoy while getting a drink and finding your seat! Times listed below are when music starts.





## MILWAUKEE BUCKS

Sun • 2:30pm • Deacon Mills Park
Native American singing & drumming group
Full performance free and open to the public!

## Wade and Quinton Fernandez & Annie Humphrey

Fri • 6:30pm • Thrasher Opera House Preceding Opening Night film The Last Animals Native American folk rock

#### **Wade and Quinton Fernandez**

Sat • 11am • Thrasher Opera House Preceding Shorts Package 1: Indigenous Films Native American folk rock

#### **Annie Humphrey**

Sat • 1:30pm • Thrasher Opera House Preceding From Mass to the Mountain Sat • 3:30 • Town Square Preceding Standing on Sacred Ground & Back Forty Mine Native American folk rock

#### **Mambo Surfers**

Sat • 7:30pm • Deacon Mills Park Preceding outdoor screening of FernGully: The Last Rainforest Jazz Rock

### Rojo & Saji of Mambo Surfers

Sat • 2pm • The American Legion Shorts Program 2 - Patagonia Films Sun • 6:30pm • Thrasher Opera House

Preceding Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock

Jazz Rock

#### **Phil Gatewood**

Sat • 6:30pm • Thrasher Opera House Preceding Even When I Fall Sun • 4:30pm • The American Legion Preceding Sold Singer-songwriter doing original music in a rock vein

#### **Brian Drow**

Sat • 4pm • Thrasher Opera House Preceding Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock Sat • 6pm • Town Square Preceding Shorts Program 4 - Wild Card Singer-songwriter of original folk music

#### **Stu Marston**

Sun • 12:30pm • Thrasher Opera House Preceding Shorts Program 4: Wild Card Singer-guitarist of original music and classic rock covers

#### **Kelly Ashbrook**

Sun • 4pm • Thrasher Opera House Preceding The Long Shadow Singer-guitarist doing pop rock and pop standards covers

#### **Richie Plass**

Sun • 12:30pm • Town Square Preceding Panel: Conservation, Land Development and Human Rights Native American poet/activist and singer/hand drummer

#### **Green Lake Noteworthy**

Sat • 6:30pm • The American Legion Preceding Shorts Package 3: Wisconsin Shorts High School student group - from a capella to barbershop



The Last Animals follows the conservationists, scientists and activists battling poachers and criminal networks to protect elephants and rhinos. From Africa's front lines to behind the scenes of Asian markets to the United States, the film takes an intense look at the global response to this crisis and the desperate measures to genetically rescue the Northern White rhinos who are on the edge of extinction. **Director Kate Brooks in** person. Arrive at 6:30pm to catch an acoustic set from renowned Native musicians Wade and Quinton Fernandez and Annie Humphrey.

Opening Night Party 8:30-11pm • The American Legion Join us after the film with music, food and drinks to celebrate the inaugural Freeland Film Festival! Appetizers will be provided by Peppercorn Catering. At-the-door tickets will be sold for \$10 on a space-available basis starting at 9pm.

## FEATURE FILMS



## Awake, a Dream from Standing Rock

Sat • 4:30pm + Sun • 7pm Thrasher Opera House • 92 mins In 2016 the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe captured attention through peaceful resistance to the Dakota Access Pipeline, which threatens the drinking water of

18 million people and Indigenous sovereignty. While many may know the details, this film captures the story of the Native-led defiance that forever changed how we fight for clean water, our environment and the future of our planet. Directed by Academy Award nominated filmmaker Josh Fox (Gasland), Academy Award nominated filmmaker James Spione (Incident in New Baghdad) and Digital Smoke Signals founder Myron Dewey. Film subject & writer Floris White Bull in person.



#### **Back Forty Mine**

Sat • 4pm • Town Square • 24 mins Playing in conjunction with Standing on Sacred Ground - Islands of Sanctuary

An open-pit mine, called the "Back Forty," that a Canadian developer wants to dig on the riverbank about 65 miles

north of Green Bay, Wisconsin, has a community up in arms. For the past several years, opponents have mounted a grass-roots campaign to stop the mine, working in collaboration with the Menominee Tribe - meeting, marching and calling on public officials to oppose the project. It's also an even-handed account of the arguments in favor of the mine - jobs, economic development, and tax revenue that would support local schools, roads and public services. The film leaves it to the audience to draw their own conclusions about the controversy. Dir. Mark Doremus in person.



#### **Even When I Fall**

Sat • 7pm • Thrasher Opera House • 95 mins Even When I Fall is a beautifully shot documentary that tells the incredible story of Nepal's first circus, set up by survivors of child trafficking. Dir. Sky Neal & Kate McLarnon



#### FernGully: The Last Rainforest

Sat • sunset (about 8:30pm) outdoors Deacon Mills Park • 76 mins

A wacky animation from 1992 that is fun for all ages! The magical inhabitants of a rainforest fight to save their home, which is threatened by logging and a

polluting force of destruction called Hexxus. Starring Robin Williams, Samantha Mathis, Christian Slater & Tim Curry. Dir. Bill Kroyer.

Screening will be preceded by a concert in the park with the Mambo Surfers starting about 7:30pm.





#### From Mass to the Mountain

Sat • 2pm • Thrasher Opera House + Sun • 4:30pm • Caestecker Library 65 mins

From Mass to the Mountain takes you to eastern Panama, where decades of government corruption and neglect

have impoverished the region. But thanks to the tireless efforts of one priest to build infrastructure, protect watersheds, and conserve the rainforest, life is looking up for the locals. **Co-Directors Kurt Sensenbrenner & Colin Sytsma and film subject Father Wally in person.** 



#### Pre Feature Short - Kokota: The Islet of Hope

Playing before From Mass to the Mountain 29 mins

Nearly ten years ago, Mbarouk Mussa Omar visited a tiny East African Island islet called Kokota and was shocked by

what he saw. Kokota was teetering towards collapse, and Mbarouk knew climate change and deforestation were the culprits. Kokota: The Islet of Hope tells the story of Mbarouk's quest to save the islet. Dir. Craig Norris.



## The Long Shadow

Sat • 12pm • Caestecker Library + Sun • 4:30pm • Thrasher Opera House 87 mins

Of all the divisions in America, none is as insidious and tenacious as racism. In this powerful documentary, director Frances

Causey investigates the roots of our current racial conflicts. Causey and Long Shadow producer Sally Holst, both daughters of the South, were raised with a romanticized vision of America's past. Haunted by the truth of slavery's legacy in their own histories, they passionately seek the hidden truth and the untold stories that reveal how the sins of yesterday feed modern prejudice, which burns undiminished despite our seeming progress. Dir. Frances Causey & Maureen Gosling. **Dir. Maureen Gosling in person.** 



#### Sold

Sat • 9:15pm • Thrasher Opera House + Sun • 5pm • The American Legion • 94 mins Lakshmi is a twelve year-old Nepali girl who lives at the foothills of the Himalayas. When a monsoon destroys the family's rice paddy, her stepfather

negotiates an advance payment from a "city" woman who offers Lakshmi work as a domestic servant. Lakshmi's strength and dignity give us hope that an end to slavery is possible. Starring Gillian Anderson and David Arquette. Dir. Jeffrey D. Brown & Prod. Jane Charles in person.

#### **Standing on Sacred Ground Series**

The Standing On Sacred Ground series tells distinct stories from the view of diverse indigenous communities — stories that evoke ancient and contemporary spiritual connections to earth, while exploring how the health of our global environment can be sustained through respectful understanding of the sacred lands and traditions of these native peoples.



#### **Islands of Sanctuary**

Sat • 4pm • Town Square - playing in conjunction with Back Forty Mine • 55 mins Native Hawaiians & Aboriginal Australians resist threats to their sacred lands in a growing international movement to defend human rights and protect the

environment. In Australia's Northern Territory, Aboriginal clans maintain Indigenous Protected Areas and resist the destructive effects of a mining boom. **Dir. Toby McLeod in person.** 



#### **Pilgrims and Tourists**

Sun • 9am • The American Legion • 55 mins
In the Russian Republic of Altai, a pristine
mountain region in southern Siberia,
traditional native people create their
own mountain parks to rein in tourism,
and resist state-run energy giant

Gazprom's plans to run a pipeline to China through a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Dir. Toby McLeod in person. Complimentary breakfast will be served!

## **SHORTS 1 - INDIGENOUS FILMS**

Sat • 11:30am • Thrasher Opera House + Sun • 5:30pm • Town Square • 62 mins



#### **Dislocation Blues**

An incomplete and imperfect portrait of reflections from Standing Rock. Cleo Keahna recounts his experiences entering, being at, and leaving the camp and the difficulties and the reluctance in looking back with a clear

and critical eye. Terry Running Wild describes what his camp is like, and what he hopes it will become. Dir. Sky Hopinka



## A Last Stand for Lelu CONTENT WARNING FOR PROFANITY

An injustice is being done on Lelu Island near Prince Rupert, B.C., the sacred and traditional territory of the Lax Kw'alaams people for over 10,000 years. The B.C. provincial government

is trying to green light the construction of a massive LNG terminal on the island. The Lax Kw'alaams have voted unanimously against the project and became legendary when they rejected a \$1.15 billion dollar deal from Petronas in an attempt by the company to gain consent. Dir. Farhan Umedaly & Tamo Campos. Dir. Farhan Umedaly in person.



#### Timbo

Construction of dams by energy companies in the Brazilian Amazon would destroy the heart of the world's largest rainforest, and severely affect the Indigenous community. If built, the dams would flood an area the

size of London, Paris, and Amsterdam combined. The flood would also dissolve toxic plants known as Timbó, capable of killing humans, into the water. Dir. Peiman Zekavat.



#### The Trees Hide the Forest

For a long time the town of Cherán, Michoacán, was harassed by the cartel "la familia michoacana" which blackmailed the population and destroyed the surrounding forests. Armed with stones and sticks its

inhabitants decided to banish crime all together, stop the illegal felling of trees and reforest their woods. Dir. Gastón Andrade.

# SHORTS 2 - PATAGONIA FILMS

Sat • 2:30pm • The American Legion 53 mins





#### **Fair Trade**

How is your clothing made? Our new short film investigates why choosing Fair Trade Certified clothing is an important first step toward changing the garment industry.



#### **Jumbo Wild**

The true story of the decades-long battle over the future of British Columbia's iconic Jumbo Valley and highlights the tension between the protection of wilderness and the backcountry experience and ever-increasing development

interests in wild places. Set against a backdrop of incredible backcountry ski and snowboard footage, Jumbo Wild documents all sides of a divisive issue bringing the passionate local fight to protect the Jumbo Valley to life for the first time.



## The Refuge

For hundreds of generations, the Gwich'in people of Alaska and northern Canada have depended on the caribou that migrate through the Arctic Refuge. With their traditional culture now threatened by oil extraction and climate

change, two Gwich'in women are continuing a decades-long fight to protect their land and future.



#### **Sea of Miracles**

There has been consistent, galvanized resistance to a proposed nuclear power plant in Kaminoseki, Japan. Patagonia grantee and activist Midori Takashima, founder of the Kaminoseki Nature Conservation Association

 along with fishermen and farmers who have been actively protesting for 35 years – continues to fight against the proposed construction.

## SHORTS 3 - KIDS

Sat • 11:30am • The American Legion • 31 mins • This program is free and open to the public. Films will be followed by an interactive discussion.



#### Bzzz

A little girl with a great affinity for bees pushes the limits in order to protect her community. Dir. Anna Cetti & Guicho Nuñez.



#### Look

Human activity does not always have a positive effect on our planet. This short animated film explores natural cycles of exchange between humans and animals. Dare to look and change the world. Dir. Meinardas Valkevicius.



#### The Path Back

For thousands of years, the plains bison sustained the native tribes that inhabited the Great Plains region of North America. But when Europeans arrived in the area, they nearly exterminated the buffalo and an indigenous way of life. In

recent years, however, the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of Montana's Fort Peck Reservation have joined with other tribal groups throughout the region to bring buffalo back to their ancestral lands and into their lives. Dir. Kori Price.



## Swimming in the Desert

In the drought-stricken town of Agua Dulce, in the California High Desert, a ten year old girl challenges her grandfather, a cranky retired firefighter, to follow a crazy plan and bring the water back to the dry river. Dir. Alvaro Ron.



#### Verge

A small, gawky, newly born green sea turtle falls behind his siblings on his voyage to the sea. As he arduously tries to scramble to the ocean, massive waves and trash smack him back to the shore, stimulating a series of challenges. Dir. ChingTien Chu

## SHORTS 4 - WILD CARD

Sat • 6:30pm • Town Square + Sun • 1pm • Thrasher Opera House • 53 mins



## The Deep Place

Thousands of children between the ages of 6 and 18 live in slavery on Lake Volta. For these young children, the only way out of slavery is to drown or be rescued. Dir. Mawuko Kuadzi.



### Eeya

*Eeya* examines the impact of forest elephant poaching on the indigenous Baka tribes in the region. **Dir. Mariah Wilson in person.** 



#### **Gardeners of the Forest**

If Laotian elephants become extinct it means a loss of one of earth's largest mammals, but also a loss for Laotian culture. This doc will explore how the Chinese market, tourism, and deforestation play a role. Dir. Ceylan Carhoglu.



#### **Naturals**

Since the dawn of time there was no problem when you had the urge to pee in the forest. You just needed to pick a tree. But times are changing... Dir. Viktor Svoboda.



#### The Wall Within

In Arizona, forensic anthropologists analyze the remains of thousands of migrants who die each year in the desert trying to cross into the US. In this humanitarian crisis there are also vigilantes. Dir. Juan Manuel Ramírez



## Sigek Cokelat (A Piece of Chocolate)

An intimate story of the cost of deforestation for palm oil. Dir. Ashram Shahrivar.

## **SHORTS 5 - WISCONSIN SHORTS**

Sat • 7:00pm • The American Legion • 91 mins



## Green Lake Conservancy's Mitchell Glen

Mitchell Glen has a deep history as part of the Green Lake watershed, and was once a place where the indigenous Ho-chunk peoples lived. This film tells the story of Mitchell Glen, and how the GLC was able to

acquire the property from a family who wanted to protect it for all peoples in the future. **Dir. Rich Christian in person.** 



### Improving the Health of Our Soil

The Green Lake Association (GLA), Green Lake County Farm Bureau and other partners brought together farmers & lake property owners for a day of learning about soil and the best practices for reducing runoff pollution.

This short film shows how incorporating soil health practices improves soil infiltration, reduces runoff and ultimately leads to cleaner water bodies downstream. More than 60% of the Green Lake drainage area is agricultural land, so these collaborations are critical to the future of a clean lake. **Dir. Rich Christian in person.** 



#### Kewaunee: River of the Lost

In the small county of Kewaunee, Wisconsin, one third of all citizens can't drink their water. As they struggle with contaminated wells, tensions rise between dairy farms, citizens, and local government over the cause of the contamination. Dir. Luke Stevens.



## Operation Wolf Patrol: Poacher's Kingdom CONTENT WARNING FOR PROFANITY

The film follows Rod Coronado, Wolf Patrol's leader, as he endeavors to raise awareness about wolf poaching in Northern Wisconsin. The film also treats the issue of Wl's new "Hunter

Harassment" law- a law that makes it illegal to take photos of hunters on public lands. **Dir. Joe Brown in person.** 



## **Wisconsin's Mining Standoff**

In 2013, legislation was signed that rewrote Wisconsin's iron mining laws, paving the way for Gogebic Taconite to dig an open-pit iron mine in the pristine woods of the Penokee mountain range. The mine provoked a

standoff between GTAC and its supporters seeking mining jobs, and the residents, Native American tribes and political leaders intent on protecting their communities and water from contamination. Dir. by Brad Lichtenstein. **Producer Colin Sytsma in person.** 



#### **Yahara Watershed**

An area of 536 square miles drains into the Yahara chain of lakes, flowing eventually into the Rock River and the mighty Mississippi. From dairy and grain farming to the unique urban lakes, what happens in the Yahara

Watershed, which surrounds the Madison, Wisconsin area, affects hundreds of thousands of people — today, and decades into the future. Produced by Wisconsin Public Television.

## FESTIVAL SCHEDULE - SATURDAY

## FESTIVAL SCHEDULE - SUNDAY



## **NOTES**

Use this space to keep track of inspiration or thoughts that come to mind as you enjoy the festival.





# Stories that Inspire