



LA COSTA FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES WORLD PREMIERES, SEMINARS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

THE 3RD ANNUAL LA COSTA FILM FESTIVAL RUNS FROM
SEPTEMBER 10-13, 2015

Carlsbad, CA (August 2015) - The La Costa Film Festival (LCFF) is returning to Carlsbad for four days of screenings, panels and special events, September 10-13, 2015. The Festival is annually scheduled to begin on the first Thursday after Labor Day. Screenings and events will be held at the Omni La Costa Resort & Spa, Cinépolis Luxury Cinemas La Costa and the Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium at the Carlsbad Dove Library. Founded by Carlsbad residents Michael and Ruby Callihan in 2013, the Festival combines an incomparable coastal destination with the mystique of Hollywood in celebration of the art of motion pictures.

This year, the La Costa Film Festival will screen over 47 films from around the world including the debut of up to 5 World Premieres. They will also present their Legacy Award to renowned actor John C. McGinley and honor Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson as their Ambassador of Sports.

Opening Night 'Sip & Savor' Gala

On September 10th, the La Costa Film Festival opens with the 'Sip & Savor' Gala on the Valley Promenade at the Omni La Costa Resort & Spa. It will feature many of the areas finest restaurants, wineries and breweries including Agave Del Mar, Baker & Olive, Bistro 65, Blue Fire Grill, Blue Ocean Robata & Sushi, Blue Ribbon Pizza, Café Secret, Carruth Cellars Winery, Chandlers Restaurant, Chuao Chocolatier, Cinépolis Luxury Cinemas, The Craftsman, Gaia Gelato, Green Dragon

Tavern & Museum, Gregorio's, Hatfield Creek Vineyards, Iron Fist Brewery, Latitude 33 Brewing Co., Legacy Brewing Company, Old Harbor Distilling Company, Powell Mountain Cellars Winery, Sabor de Vida Brazilian, Solterra Winery, Susie's Cakes, Twenty/20 Bar & Grill, Vigilucci's, Urban Plates, to name a few.

The Festival continues with the 30x17 foot screening under the stars on Center Court of the opening night feature film, ***All In Time***, a dramatic comedy about life, love, passion, and a few twists you might not expect along the way. Actors Lynn Cohen, Sean Modica, Laura Shay, and Pritesh Shah as well as Co-Director/Co-Writer/Producer, Marina Donahue will be in attendance for Q & A afterwards.

Friday Night 'We Remember' screening and After-Party

Prior to the 'We Remember' ceremony, the Ambassador of Sports award will be presented to Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, who was instrumental in keeping the Kings in Sacramento and will also be supporting the documentary, ***Down in the Valley***, which will screen earlier that evening at Cinepolis. Omni La Costa's Center Court will be the site for the special tribute honoring our military families in remembrance of 9/11. It will begin with a color guard and a skydiver display of a 1000 sq. ft. flagdrop. The ceremony will be followed by the feature film ***The Great Alone***, the inspiring comeback story of champion sled dog racer, Lance Mackey, one of the greatest sled dog racers of all time. He will be available along with his lead sled dog Amp, as well as Director Greg Kohs and Producer Jonathan Hock to answer questions. The 'We Remember' After-Party will feature comfort food, craft beer, boutique wine and rousing entertainment.

Saturday La Costa Honors Night Screening & Gala After-Party

The Awards ceremony will take place at Center Court under the stars following a red carpet reception, and beginning with the Sports Film Competition winners. Esteemed judges on the Sports Jury include Cash Warren, Brad Holland, Paul Rudy, Ginger Helgeson, and Heather Bown. The high school short film competition winners will be announced by our highly regarded guest filmmakers Geoffrey Clark and Jared Hillman, who served as judges, and will present the \$1,000 cash prize from ScholarShare. Our annual Legacy Award will be presented to actor John C. McGinley, whose diverse career includes Broadway, TV, and over

60 films. He is best recognized as Dr. Perry Cox on the hit show *Scrubs*. After the awards the screening on Center Court will feature ***Welcome to Happiness***, a comedy that follows a children's book author who is the gatekeeper to a mysterious door in his closet that only allows certain people to enter. When he learns where the door leads, his life is forever changed. Actors Molly Quinn and Brendan Sexton III will be joined by Writer/Director Oliver Thompson and Producer Bay Dariz.

'The Reel Pitch'

The La Costa Film Festival (LCFF), has partnered with Mandalay Sports Media (MSM) to introduce an exciting new addition to this year's festival - 'The Reel Pitch.' The public is invited to view this event live on Saturday at the Festival and witness ten promising storytellers/filmmakers as they present their development ideas to a panel of seasoned producers and executives hungry for new material. The ten finalists will be pre-selected by a separate independent committee of judges from the initial pool of applicants. Each finalist will present a 5 minute pitch to an MSM selected panel drawn from Hollywood's most experienced studio executives and producers. They will choose one winner to refine her/his pitch under the guidance of one of the judges, and ultimately, the opportunity to deliver that pitch to one of MSM's studio partners and fulfill their dream.

Special Features - 18 Q & As for the following films:

BiPolarized

Down in the Valley

Humberto

Worthy

Life in a Walk

Sharing the Rough

The Play-World Premiere

Ocean Driven

7 Miles of Paradise -World Premiere

Welcome to Happiness

The Great Alone

Fastball

Chaldean

The Fake
Becoming Henry
Dream Killer
All American Family
Tose-World Premiere

Sports Focus - Narratives, Documentaries, and Shorts

The Festival has a special focus on sports films, and welcomed the collaboration of Mandalay Sports Media (MSM) to help curate content and invite key celebrities. MSM consistently attracts the best in sports features, documentaries, and shorts, and allows the Festival the ability to maintain a balance of the finest independent films in all genres. The sports films that are invited are entered into our Sports Competition with the winner selected by our panel of judges consisting of:

1. **Brad Holland** - CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Carlsbad/ former LA Laker and member of the 1980 NBA championship team.
2. **Cash Warren** - Producer of programming across all formats including television series, feature films, documentaries, digital content, and branded entertainment.
3. **Paul Rudy** - Sports Director of KUSI- TV San Diego. His signature program, *Pigskin Report* has been nominated for 13 Emmys , winning 7 for "Best Sports Program" in the Pacific Southwest.
4. **Ginger Helgeson** - a former American women professional tennis player, she is considered to be the greatest player ever to come out of Minnesota, and was once ranked #29 in the world.
5. **Heather Bown** - is currently a Pro Volleyball player, and formerly an Olympic Silver Medalist in the 2008 games in Beijing

Sports film competition entries:

Shooting for Socrates (Feature) - is a David Vs. Goliath set in Belfast against the backdrop of the 1986 World Cup. Starring John Hannah (Four Weddings and a Funeral), it tells the story of a momentous time in Northern Ireland's football history through the eyes of players, fans and the media.

Far From Home (Doc.) - Initiated by two 19 year old college students, Phil Hessler and Galen Knowles, *Far From Home* started as small snowboard project that grew into a feature length film. With the support of industry veterans, the film has transformed into a gripping exploration of one man's journey to make history.

The Great Alone (Doc.) - is a feature length documentary shot in the arctic wilderness of Alaska that captures the inspiring comeback story of champion sled dog racer, Lance Mackey, one of the greatest sled dog racers of all time.

Down in the Valley (Doc.) -For three decades, Sacramento has been the improbable home to one of the NBA's most improbable franchises: the Kings. Through the good, the bad, and the laughably ugly, Kings fans have always stood by their team. So when news broke in 2011 that the team was leaving, it sent shock waves through the community. Fans awaited season ticket renewal forms that never came. Broadcasters wept openly on the air. All hope was lost until the city decided fight back.

7 Miles of Paradise (Doc.) - The North Shore is a 7 Mile stretch of paradise like no other on Earth. Every year thousands of people flock to the North Shore of Oahu to see the world's best surfers ride arguably the world's best waves. Pro surfers have created their careers, made their livings and even become legends from surfing these shores. Pro surfer Anastasia Ashley will be your tour guide and take you to the places she loves, the places she went as a kid growing up there, and introduce you to the people that always made it feel like home.

Ocean Driven (Doc.) - A true story that tracks the development of South African big wave surfer Chris Bertish. His single-minded pursuit of his dreams and refusal to let seemingly insurmountable obstacles stand in his way, culminates with his win at the Mavericks Invitational in 2010, in the biggest waves at a Mavericks competition. Moments after nearly drowning, he takes the world by storm. *Ocean Driven* is a tale of overcoming obstacles and fears, inspiring viewers to realize their dreams and never give up. The film features archived material recorded throughout the life of Chris Bertish and his unsponsored journey to make it to Mavericks. The story is told through the voices of Chris's family, peers, mentors, sports specialists and Chris himself.

Fastball (Doc.) - a fascinating documentary behind the magic of a 100-mph fastball, when pitted against the best of human reaction. It presents a gladiator challenge of the limits of human ability and the thrill of victory.

The Play (Doc.) - is one of the most famous and highly discussed plays in the history of American college football, in which California used five laterals on the last play to beat Stanford 25-20 in the 1982 Big Game. This documentary adds new and often hilarious insights in reliving the 25th anniversary of this miraculous event.

Every Day (Short) - At 86, Joy Johnson was the oldest woman to run the 2013 New York City Marathon. This is the story of an inspiring athlete with an uncommon passion for her sport, and for life.

All - American Family (Short) -For four generations, the Pedersen family has had a star player on The Eagles, one of the best football teams in California. Unlike other teams, the players are all deaf. They live in a deaf community and have over 30 deaf relatives. But they wouldn't want it any other way.

World Premieres

The La Costa Film Festival will present at least three and maybe five world premiere films at press time; ***7 Miles of Paradise*** – Phillip Waller, Geoff Clark; ***The Play***-Peter Vogt; and ***Tose***-Mike Tollin

Shorts Programs

The La Costa Film Festival will showcase 22 shorts by filmmakers from around the world:

Winter's Journey

The Man Who Fed His Shadow

The Visit

The Chicken

Becoming Henry

Chaldean

Deserted

Discipline

Mettle

9:30 A.M.

Buon Nuit

Boogaloo & Graham
Sonnet 134
1-0
All American Family
Through the Breaking Glass
The Fake
Bernard Le Grand
Hollywood Blvd USA
Every Day
Red Thunder

The La Costa Film Festival collaborated with Outside the Lens and received support from the Coastal Community Foundation to host a free filmmaking workshop at the Omni La Costa Resort & Spa. It was open to all North San Diego County students entering the 7th-9th grades. The students learned A to Z core filmmaking concepts and produced a short narrative film, ***FORE!***, which will be shown at the 3rd annual La Costa Film Festival.

Panels

Three diverse panels are offered FREE for attendees at this year's Festival.

- 1. 'The Reel Pitch'-a live filmmaker competition with one chance to fulfill their dreams.**
- 2. Game Changer: Why Diversity Matters in Business and Film**
- 3. Storytelling Through Sports-Why it works**

For tickets and information please visit **LaCostaFilmFestival.org** or email **Tickets@LaCostaFilmFestival.org**

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[About The La Costa Film Festival](#)

The La Costa Film Festival (LCFF) is annually scheduled to open on the first Thursday after Labor Day. The 3rd annual four-day festival of domestic and international screenings, panels, Galas, and special events will occur this September 10-13, 2015. Screenings and events will be held at the Omni La Costa Resort & Spa, Cinépolis Luxury Cinemas La Costa, and the Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium at the Carlsbad Dove Library. The La Costa Film Festival is sponsored in part by Omni La Costa Resort & Spa, Mandalay Sports Media and Cinépolis USA. The La Costa Film Festival also receives grant funding from Community Arts Grant from the City of Carlsbad's Cultural Arts Office, grants from San Diego County, and Visit Carlsbad. For a full list of sponsors visit: www.lacostafilmfestival.org.

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