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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pasadena, CA, October 21 and 22, 2015- Pasadena Chapter of *United Nations Association of the United States of America* invites you to their 5th Annual UNA Pasadena Film Festival recognizing the October celebration UN Day & UN Disarmament Week. Festival includes opening night reception, with filmmakers and gender equality and social justice activist Kamilah Willingham at Settebello Pizzeria Napoletana*. Films screen at Laemmle Playhouse 7 Theatre in Pasadena.

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The 2-day festival includes acclaimed long and short form documentaries featuring stories with local, national and international perspectives including the U.S., Palestine, Israel, Brazil and New Zealand. Firsts for this year- the festival includes student films from *Chapman University's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts*, ranked among the top film schools in the world by *Variety Magazine*, and two films from the Go Public documentary initiative on Pasadena Unified School District. Each night includes panel discussions Oct. 21 and 22. The Festival's moving and uplifting films include;

The Hunting Ground- A controversial exposé of rape crimes on U.S. college campuses, their institutional cover-ups, and the devastating toll they take on students and their families. Grand Jury Nomination Sheffield International Documentary Festival. Directed by Kirby Dick.

ARISE- Capturing the stories of extraordinary women around the world who are coming together to heal our planet, weaves together poetry, music, art and stunning scenery to create a hopeful and collective story that inspires us to work for the earth. Winner Spirit of Activism Colorado Environmental Film Festival, Official Selection LA Femme International Film Festival, Official Selection Social Change Film Festival, Official Selection Bahamas International Film Festival. Narrated by Daryl Hannah. Directed by Lori Joyce, Candice Orlando, Molly Ross.

Palestine and Israel: Mending Hearts- A United Nations film. A parent's worst nightmare- a critically sick baby and no medical help. But in Palestine and Israel, a heart-warming venture is not only saving children's lives but also crossing borders and uniting enemies.

Brazil: Story Of Slavery- A United Nations film. More than four million slaves were shipped to Brazil from the coast of Africa during the 16th century and onward. While abolished in 1888 in many ways the struggle continues. This is the story of slave descendants of the Danda community – a quilombo – fighting for their right to lands their ancestors lived on and worked on for generations.

Marie's Dictionary- In the United States more than 130 Native American languages are in danger of extinction. This film captures the story of Marie Wilcox, the last fluent speaker of her Native American Wukchumni dialect, trying to archive and preserve a language from becoming extinct. Directed by Ivan Kander for Go Films.

BLOOM: Taking Waste For All Its Worth- This is a both a science and environmental film with a story, focused on solutions, and a wake-up call that invention is only half the battle. It tells the inspiring innovation story of Nick Gerritsen who saw fuel potential in a deadly threat to New Zealand's fishing industry and a toxic menace the waterways. Directed by Veronica Stevenson

Selections from Dodge College of Film and Media Arts

Titanes del Arte- This the timely story of three contemporary Cuban artists. Although they live in Cuba as successful artists, they have had to overcome many obstacles due to the embargo placed on their country by the United States because of rocky relations with the Cuban government. Their livelihood is on the line as they face the challenges of how they will obtain their materials and grow as brilliant artists on a global

Continues....

scale. Official Submission Arlington International, Semifinalist 42nd annual Student Academy Awards, Official Selection 2015 Student Film Festival Hollywood Official Selection San Jose International Student Film Festival. Directed by Mor Albalak

State of Emergency- *A short form documentary overview of the many facets of the California drought. This film takes a look at some of the key entities involved in the struggle for fair water distribution during these times of severe scarcity. 2015 Official Selection Sedona International Film Festival, American Documentary Festival, Frozen River Film Festival, Cinema Verde Film & Arts Festival. Directed by Casey Acaster*

Selections from Go Public- Pasadena Unified School District initiative

ABBY The Beauty of Biliteracy- *Film spotlighting a progressive dual language immersion public education program shares the story of Abby Griffith and her twin -2nd graders learning how to read and write (and sing) in two languages. Directed by Rita Grant*

Rosie Can: Special Ed Integration- *Little Rosie, a kinder-1st grade child with Down Syndrome is a happy-go-lucky redhead who loves drawing with chalk, playing with her friends, and spending time with her family. This film spends time with her in a public school inclusion program where children with special needs are fully integrated into a regular classroom. Directed by Gina Long*

When Starts Weds 10/21 at 5:30pm with a reception with filmmakers at Settebello Pizzeria Napoletana*

Films: Weds. 10/21 from 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Thurs. Early Bird screening 6 - 6:25 pm “BLOOM”

Thurs. 10/22 films 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Tickets- All tickets, including reception*, available at unapasadena.yapsody.com

\$10.00 single night, \$17.00 both nights. Discount tickets for students, seniors, and current UNA members \$7.50 single night, \$13.00 both nights. Tickets for screenings only also available October 21 and 22 at Laemmle Playhouse 7 box office.

***Reception** tickets also available \$15 per person payable at Settebello Pizzeria Napoletana October 21,

Where Laemmle Playhouse 7

673 E Colorado Blvd

Pasadena, CA 91101

(310) 478-3836

Settebello Pizzeria Napoletana, **reception with filmmakers* 5:30 – 6:30pm Weds Oct. 21th**

625 E Colorado Blvd,

Pasadena, CA 91101

(626) 765-9550

COST OF RECEPTION \$15.00 AT THE DOOR

For more information, visit unapasadena-filmfestival.squarespace.com, call (626) 449-1795 or Laemmle Theatre at 310- 478-3836.

The United Nations Association (UNA) Pasadena Chapter is a local chapter of the national organization. We are dedicated to fostering the goals of the United Nations on a local level. With a membership that covers most of the San Gabriel Valley, Burbank, Glendale, and Northeast Los Angeles, UNA Pasadena Chapter is one of the largest UNA-USA chapters in the nation. We bring informational, educational and cultural programs to the Pasadena community that are designed for all ages. The chapter was formed in 1947 and continues to celebrate its service to the greater Pasadena area.

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