

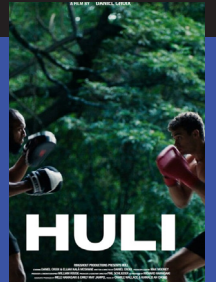
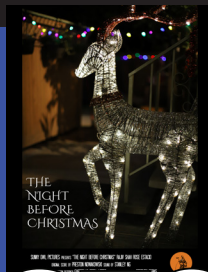
THE 22ND  
OAKLAND  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL



SEPT.12-21  
2024

PROMOTING INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS

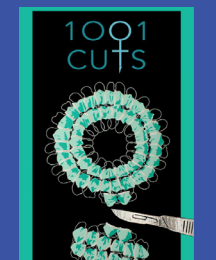
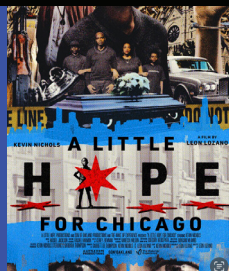
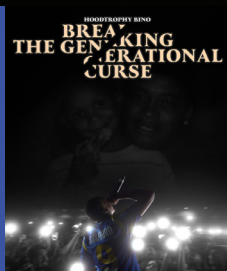
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OIFF.ORG

THEIR STORIES

OIFF.ORG





On behalf of The Oakland Film Society, I would like to thank the filmmakers and the Oakland community for supporting this year's event. Without filmmakers, there are no films. Without theaters, there is no place to gather to watch the films.

While it sounds fairly basic, over the past few years, we have seen establishments close down that once were places we gathered to appreciate some form of art/culture. I don't want to get too deep here, but just want to acknowledge and thank **Allen Michaan**, owner of **The Grand Lake Theater**, which has been our main home since 2002.

We would also like to thank **Northeastern University** for opening their doors to The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival (Screenings will be held at the Jeannik Mequet Littlefield Concert Hall at Northeastern University).

Thank you **RBA Creative** for opening your place to host a Press Conference happening on Wednesday, September 11th - 4-6 p.m. and Virtual Filmmaker Conversation on Friday, September 13th at 2-4 p.m.

Thank you **Geoffrey's Inner Circle** for hosting a Panel - Mixer - Jazz - on September 15th at 12:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Thank you Club **Zanzi** for being the official late night spot to keep the conversations going!

Without these local businesses there is no Oakland International Film Festival.

If The Oakland International Film Festival introduces you to these businesses, please share with them that you discovered their business through The Oakland International Film Festival.

In addition to our main goal of "promoting filmmakers and their stories" and "uplifting emerging & established filmmakers from around the world"... we seek to utilize film as a cultural thread that brings people together and communities together.

We believe film is a powerful tool that can be used everywhere and by everybody to inspire the preservation of our planet and love for one another.

I would also like to thank our team - Randolp Belle, Paula Harrell, Johnny Drake, Dr. Mack Roach III, Myron Potier, Rhea Settles, Jeannette Wright, Jackie Wright and community leaders: Lynell Bevels, Fred Blackwell, Billye Aaron, Geoffrey Pete, Lathan Hodge.

Special thanks to my wife Nicole, son, Solomon and daughter Sela and my mother Artie Bennett and brothers Bomani, Paul and Anthony.

Without you all, there is no me!

See you at the movies!

Best  
David N. Roach



# OIFF PRESS CONFERENCE



Filmmakers selected into the 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will share their filmmaking journey.

Date: September 11th

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

View : [Oiff.org/events](http://Oiff.org/events) for updates



**September 12th screenings at the  
Historic Grand Lake Theater-  
5:00 p.m -7:30 p.m  
TICKETS AT: OIFF.ORG**

**The feature documentary: “THE BRIDGE” directed by Evan Jackson Leong. “THE BRIDGE” will screen followed by a question and answer session with filmmaker.**



Fifty years ago, our country grappled with widespread discrimination. In Los Angeles, neighborhood leaders challenged these barriers by establishing a community-focused bank, aiming to deliver the American dream to all. The Bridge explores the struggles, perseverance, and successes of this remarkable journey.



Director  
**Evan Jackson Leong**



Director  
**German Torres**



**“RENEGADE”**

Preceding “The Bridge” we will screen the short film: “RENEGADE” by German Torres. “RENEGADE” Renegade Running, founded by Victor Diaz, is an inclusive run specialty store in Oakland, CA. Bucking the norms of the industry, Diaz’s journey with running and his fierce determination led him to create a vibrant and rebellious space, where every runner, especially those often underrepresented, can find a home and be celebrated for who they are.



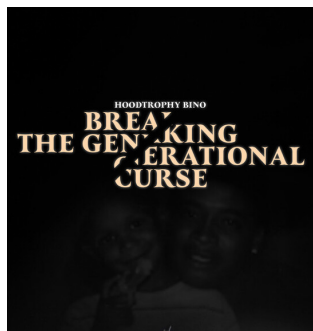
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**

**Day 1- Sept: 12th, 2024 at The Grand Lake Theater, we present three sessions all in one: The HoodTrophy - BINO STORY : BREAKING THE GENERATION CURSE, THE KINGMAKERS MUSIC VIDEO SESSION: FEATURING FOUR NEW ARTIST AND CECIL BROWN'S SHORT DOC : FORGOTTEN STUDENT NONVIOLENT MOVEMENT**

**Thursday September 12th**

8:00 - **THE HOODTROPHY** - (RT- RT: 20:14)  
 8:30 - **KINGMAKERS MUSIC VIDEO'S** - (RT-20:00 MIN)  
 9:15 - **THE FORGOTTEN HISTORY OF THE NON-VIOLENT MOVEMENT** - (RT: 15:11)

**LOCATION -The Grand lake Theater 3200 Grand Ave, Oakland,CA**



Dive into the captivating narrative of HoodTrophy Bino - a California hip-hop artist from the projects of South Central and Palmdale, discovered by Soulja Boy in jail, and destined to overcome the generational curse of poverty and incarceration plaguing all of the males in his immediate and extended family. Bino opens up about the trials and triumphs that shaped his life - offering insights into the challenges of growing up in a tough environment. From overcoming adversity to pursuing his dreams, Bino shares poignant stories that resonate with authenticity and resilience. Join us as we explore the powerful narrative of self-discovery, perseverance, and breaking free from the chains of the past. Don't miss out on this inspiring tale of transformation into a Trophy!



Sam "Gebar" Gebremiche  
Director

GEBAR (Director/ Editor) is an aspiring film director originally from Eritrea, Africa. Born and raised in Eritrea, he moved to America at age 11 with his family. He pursued his dream of filmmaking while graduating from San Francisco State University with a degree in Cinema. In 2016 he started his own production company called Ordinary Visions. He has directed two short narrative films and a variety of music videos. He started filming music videos in 2016 and has filmed various artists ranging from Blueface, rexxliferaj, Fenix Flexin, Lil Bean, AzChike, Young Slobe, EBK Young Joc, Rucci, Drakeo the Ruler, and many more.

Please see Gebar's instagram account for more: @g.e.b.a.r



Credits for the songs are:

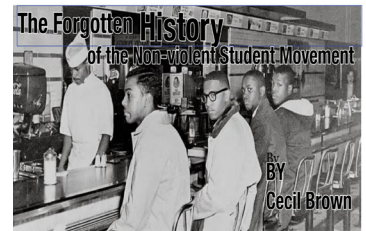
Glisten : (feat. SeQuoia, Basi, Ajai Kasim & 42k Lil)

I'm A King: (feat. Basi, Amari, Zo1, 42klil)

Right on Time: (feat. Basi, Amari, and Zo1 Music Production by Drew Banga)

Public Criticism: (feat. Amari, B. DeveauxMusic Production by Ari Carpenter and Silas WilsonMusic)

Black Love Live: (feat. SeQuoia, Basi, Ajai Kasim & 42k Lil)



Why did heroes of look like ordinary people? Here's a story of four students who did exactly that!

In 1960 black students walked into a Greensboro Woolworth Diner in North Carolina. They sat down at a white only lunch counter, definitely protesting racial segregation.

A white waitress came up to them and said, "I'm sorry, but we don't serve Negroes here!" Without missing a beat, one of the four college student said, "We don't eat them either."

This witticism sparked a protest that went all across the South. All they did was sit down but the actions spoke volumes. Greensboro Four taught us that anytime you sit down or stand up for what is right, you change the world. So the next time you are feeling powerless, remember the Greensboro Four.

Sometimes, all it takes is a little courage and a lot of heart to change the world!

**FORGOTTEN HISTORY OF THE NON-VIOLENT STUDENT MOVEMENT**



Directed by  
**Cecil Brown**

# Day 2 is a continuation of Day 1...



We invited the filmmakers of Day 1 films at the Grand Lake Theater to share more details about their filmmaking journey.

Date: September 13th

Time: 2 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Entry Fee: Invite Only/ Film Pass

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**

**Day 2- Sept: 13th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will feature Dianne Houston’s “FREEDOM HAIR” and the short film “THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS” - Directed by Alexey Samsonov & Tatiana Veremeenko**

**Friday, September 13th**

6:00 - **THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

6:00 - **FREEOOM HAIR**

**LOCATION - Mills College at Northeastern University  
5000 MacArthur Blvd**



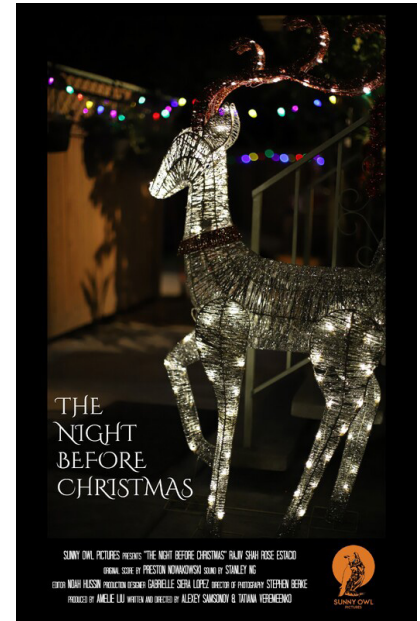
**FREEDOM HAIR**

Based on the inspiring, true story of Melony Armstrong, a mother who works at a shelter for battered women decides to start a natural hair braiding business to achieve financial independence for herself and others. To do so she must overcome unexpected obstacles imposed by a powerful cartel and the state of Mississippi.



Director of “Freedom Hair”  
**Dianne Houston**

DIANNE HOUSTON is an Oscar nominated writer/director with three decades of credits and accomplishments in television and film. In 1996, Houston transformed Arne Bontemp’s classic Harlem Renaissance short story A Summer Tragedy into her Academy Award nominated Short Film Tuesday Morning Ride. This nomination made Houston the first African American female director to be nominated for an Oscar in that or any other directing category.



**The Night Before Christmas**

‘Twas the night before Christmas, and Maria and Jose had a lot of Christmas presents to pack. But their race against time didn’t stop when they were done. Will the Christmas bring joy to their family?

Directed by

Alexey Samsonov  
Tatiana Veremeenko

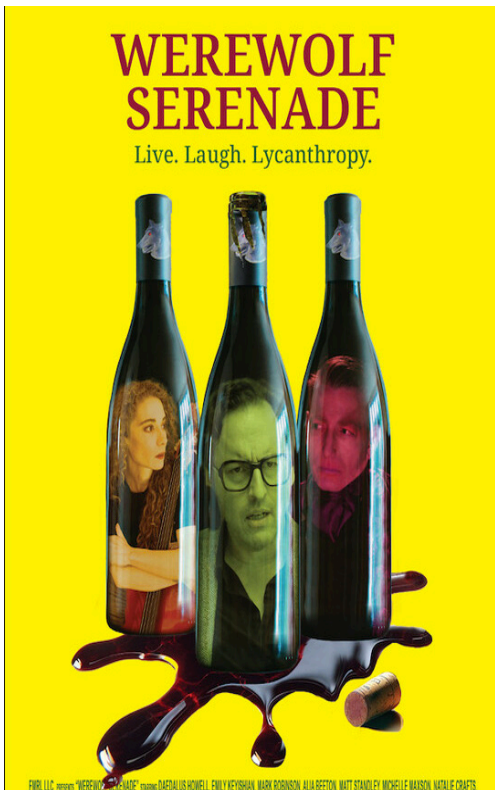


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TICKETS - OIFF.ORG

Day 2- Sept: 13th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will feature Daedalus Howell’s “WEREWOLF SERENADE” and the short film “ECLIPSE -THE ATTRITION” - Directed by DESCIPLE.

Friday, September 13th  
8: - WEREWOLF SERENADE  
8:30 - ECLIPSE -THE ATTRITION

Location -Mills College at Northeastern University  
5000 MacArthur Blvd

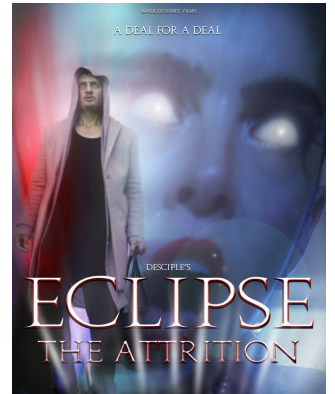


When burnt-out college professor Peter MacTire accidentally becomes a werewolf, he and his concert cellist wife Julia embrace the change to thwart an evil occultist plot, save the college, and their marriage.



DIRECTOR OF WEREWOLF SERENADE  
**Daedalus Howell**

Daedalus Howell is a Petaluma, CA-based writer and filmmaker whose previous feature film, Pill Head, was called “...Satirically off-the-wall...” by the Press Democrat and “...Mind-bending...” by the Sonoma Valley Sun. Howell is the author of the novels Quantum Deadline, The Late Projectionist and the essay collection I Heart Sonoma: How to Drink in Wine Country. As a journalist, he’s written about wine and the arts for various publications (Men’s Health, San Francisco Chronicle) and, since 2019, has been the editor of the North Bay Bohemian and Pacific Sun—more at DHowell.com.



**Eclipse : The Attrition**

A paranormal bounty hunter goes after a renegade demon while trying to find the answers to his father’s demise. This short is a prequel to 48 hour film project that screened in 2022 called, The Eclipse.



Director of ECLIPSE’  
**DESCIPLE**

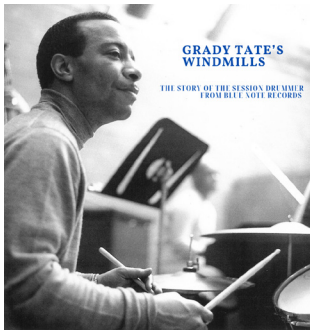
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**

**Day 3- Sept: 14th, 2024 I will feature “GRADY TATE’S WINDMILLS” and two short films “HULI” and “WAKE THE TOWN”.**

**Saturday, September 14th**

3:00 - **WAKE THE TOWN** - (RT- 12:00 MIN)  
 3:30 - **HULI** - (RT-12:00 MIN)  
 3:30 - **GRADY TATE** - (RT- 101 MIN)

**LOCATION -Mills College at Northeastern University  
 5000 MacArthur Blvd**



**GRADY TATE’S WINDMILLS**

Grady Tate, legendary, masterful, jazz drummer and vocalist. For more than six decades, Grady’s distinctive sound has graced literally thousands of recordings and performances with such musical giants as Quincy Jones, Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Ray Charles, Tony Bennett, Ella Fitzgerald, Aretha Franklin and Lena Horne.



Director of “Grady Tate’s Windmills”  
**Matt Pirkoff**

As a drummer, Grady earned the reputation as one of the greatest jazz drummers of all time and arguably the most recorded musician in history. As a vocalist, Grady earned two Grammy nominations and left as his legacy the definitive version of the masterpiece ‘Windmills of Your Mind.’ Grady Tate’s Windmills spends time with his jazz colleagues and captures intimate moments with jazz great Grady Tate.



Sol, a Black biracial young man, ran away from New York to Hawaii to start a new life. During a period of heightened radicalized violence on the US continent, he seeks a new “home.” He’s a hyper-driven escapist - training as a boxer, living out of his car, and seeking the “American dream” of opulent wealth. While well intended, Sol lacks balance, restraint, and roots.



Director of “Huli”  
**Daniel Croix**



**WAKE THE TOWN**

Three former residents of Oakland CA tell their stories of leaving the city they called home. Two of the three have now died--one of murder--showing the high tragically cost of housing instability.



Directors of  
 “Wake The Town”  
**Jason Blalock & Bryan Wiley**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**

**Day 3- Part 2 - Screenings on Sept: 14th, 2024 will showcase the feature length film - “Dovey’s Promise” preceded by the short documentary: “All Tied Up”.**

**Saturday, September 14th**

5:30 - **ALL TIED-UP** - (RT- 6:16 MIN)

5:45 - **DOVEY’S PROMISE** - (RT- 110 MIN)

**Location - Mills College at Northeastern University**



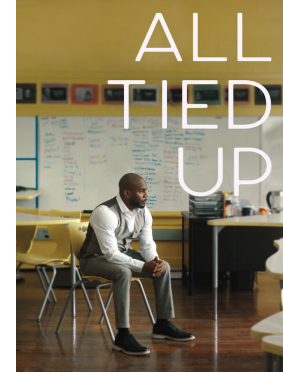
**DOVEY’S PROMISE**  
**( RUN TIME - 110 MIN)**

Dovey’s Promise is a courtroom drama about Dovey Roundtree’s brilliant defense of Raymond Crump in the Tow-path murder trial of 1965, in which the victim was Mary Pinchot Meyer, the last mistress of JFK. It was Dovey against the vast resources of the U.S. Department of Justice. Joy White stars as the indomitable Dovey.



Directed by  
**Ralph Cinque**

Ralph Cinque is a 73 year old independent filmmaker from Austin, Texas. Dovey’s Promise is his 6th feature film. His two websites are doveyspromise.com and ralph-cinquefilms.com. His inspiration to write Dovey’s Promise came from his love of courtroom dramas and his desire to honor Dovey Roundtree.



**All Tied Up**

“All Tied Up” is a story about a program committed to providing opportunities for young teens, regardless of their background or family circumstances. With a focus on promoting education and achievement, our film highlights the founder of All Tied Up and his drive to empower and encourage his students to pursue their passions and break barriers.



Directors of “ All Tied Up”  
**MATT KLUG & BLAKE BOGOSIAN**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: [TICKETS - OIFF.ORG](https://www.oiff.org)

## MADE IN OAKLAND

DAY 4 – Sunday, September 15th  
FILMMAKER PANEL / MIXER



### FILMMAKER PANEL & MIXER & MUSIC

**12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

OIFF22 filmmakers share their journey of making films and telling ehir stories

FILM PASS

**3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

FILMMAKER MIXER

After learning about who is in the room

FILM PASS-

**6:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.**

JAZZ AT GEOFFREY'S

STAY TUNED FOR ARTIST PERFORMING

FILM PASS



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**

**Sunday, September 14th**

**10:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.**

  
UNITED TRIBES OF AFRICA

# SHAKE BODY

**OAKLAND**



**SOUNDS BY  
FLYGERIAN JEFF | DJ DENNIS**

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**ZANZI**  
19 GRAND AVE,  
OAKLAND, CA  
9:30PM - 2AM

**SEPT 14TH**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**

**Day 5 - Sept: 16th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will host two screening sessions The first screening session will feature the feature doc- “Water For Life” Director of “WATER FOR LIFE” preceded by the short doc- “1001 Cuts”**

**Monday, September 16th**

6:00 - **1001 CUTS**- (RT- 24:15 MIN)

6:30 - **WATER FOR LIFE** - (RT-131:00 MIN)

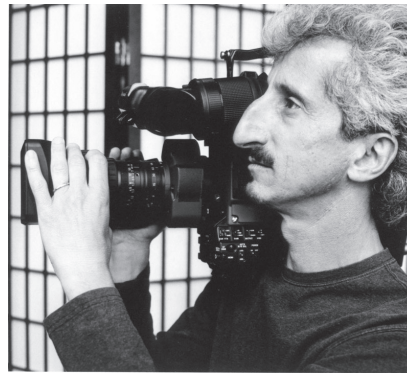
**LOCATION - Mills College at Northeastern University  
5000 MacArthur Blvd**

(RT -105 MIN)



**WATER FOR LIFE**

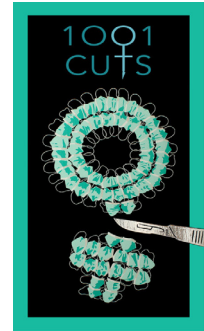
Water For Life explores the collision of water rights, Indigenous beliefs, and resource extraction through the lives of three community leaders in Central and South America. Our protagonists face harassment and death threats as they fight the powerful forces that threaten the environmental, cultural and economic survival of their communities.



**Director of “WATER FOR LIFE”  
Will Parrinello**

Will Parrinello – (Producer/Director) has been producing and directing award-winning documentaries for 30 years. His work has appeared on Netflix, PBS, ABC-TV, Discovery, A&E, MTV, Sundance Channel, ABC Australia, ARTE France, NHK, RAI, SkyTV, iTunes and Amazon Prime and at film festivals from Tribeca to Venice, Sundance to Cannes, Mountainfilm to Full Frame.

His credits include Mustang – Journey of Transformation, Emile Norman - By His Own Design, Dreaming of Tibet, Little Italy, Kerouac, Summer ‘82 - When Zappa Came to Sicily and the Emmy award-winning series The New Environmentalists.



**1001 CUTS**

1001cuts explores the careers of the daughters of Title IX through the experiences of surgeons. Social and cultural change in the 1970’s allowed for the opportunity to train and be included into this high stakes professional environment. This film documents the pervasive stereotypes and gender-based discrimination that persist within workplaces designed for, and still controlled by men.



**Director of “1001 Cuts”  
Dr. Sarah Temkin**

Dr. Sarah Temkin is a first time film maker inspired to make a film about women by her lived experience as a surgeon.



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**

**Day 5 - Sept: 16th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will host two screening sessions The first screening session will feature the feature film: "STAMPILA" preceded by two shorts: "ABOVE THE ROOTS" AND "COLLATERAL"**

**Monday, September 16th**

8:45 - **ABOVE THE ROOTS** - (RT- 6:18 MIN)

8:55 - **COLLATERAL**- (RT - 14:36 MIN)

9:15 - **STAMPILA** - (RT- 90 MIN)

**Location - Mills College at Northeastern University  
5000 MacArthur Blvd**



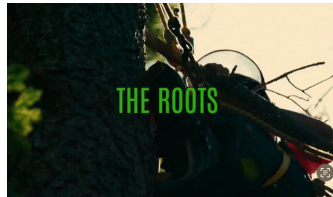
**STAMPILA**

A middle-aged woman decides to overthrow the powerful oligarch who controls her country. Armed with only her wit and a stolen government stamp, she must outsmart the oligarch's henchmen, evade the secret police, and trick her countrymen into sparking a revolution. Facing off against armed riot police, water cannons, and deep fakes, she must stop the oligarch from stealing the people's money and making her country the poorest in Europe.



**Directed by David Larson**

David Larson is a first time writer/director who grew up in Malibu, California. He received business degrees from Berkeley and Wharton, and worked on Wall Street. Following the September 11th attacks, David changed course and joined the Peace Corps serving first in West Africa and later Central Asia. David's first film, "Stampila" (The Stamp), chronicles the fictional overthrow of a real Moldovan oligarch, filmed on location in Moldova while the real oligarch was still in power.



**ABOVE THE ROOTS**

A Documentary Short about a young arborist in Oakland California



**Directed by  
Aesa Masliyah**



**COLLATERAL**

Army veteran Adrián is suffering from PTSD after a decade in the military. An invitation by a journalist friend to share his story leads him to meet Nayeli, a mother searching for her disappeared son. Can two seemingly opposing people find a way to reconsider established ideas of victimization, peace, and justice



**Directed by Sonja Wolf**

Sonja Wolf is a German social scientist and filmmaker based in Mexico. She holds a PhD in International Politics from Aberystwyth University, United Kingdom, and is a graduate of the National Film and Television School, United Kingdom. fiction short film.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TICKETS - OIFF.ORG

Tuesday, September 17th - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Location -Virtual

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OjQUAWuJXTA



THE 22ND OAKLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OIFF SEPT. 12-21 2024

**KINGMAKERS OF OAKLAND**

# BEHIND THE SCENES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

 <b>BRENDEN ANDERSON</b> MANAGING DIRECTOR OF MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY	 <b>THEO HOLLINGSWORTH</b> ANIMATION PROGRAM MANAGER	 <b>JAMES EARL-ROCKERFELLER</b> MEDIA SERVICES MANAGER	 <b>DAVID ROACH</b> FOUNDER, OAKLAND INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
<b>RAMASSES HEAD</b> HISTORY IN THE MAKING FILMS	<b>SHAKAJAMAL REDMOND</b> OLUB FILMS	<b>JUDD FLEMING</b> UP TO CODE MEDIA	

AN EVENING FOR FILMMAKERS AND FILM ENTHUSIASTS

JOIN US FOR A RECEPTION AND PANEL, STARTING WITH A MEET AND GREET WITH THE FILMMAKERS AT THE KOOLABS DESIGN CENTER & PRODUCTION HOUSE

5:30PM-7PM  
1035 7TH STREET  
OAKLAND, CA

**KOOLABS**  
DESIGN CENTER & PRODUCTION HOUSE

REGISTER HERE 

Join us for a reception and panel starting with a meet and great with the filmmakers at the Koo Lab Design & production house.

# Made in Oakland

**Day - 7 - Wednesday, September 18th**  
**7:30 - 11:00 p.m.**

Featuring some of Oakland's up and coming filmmakers at one of Oakland's up and coming places - Zanzi.

Thanks for allowing your place to be a space to bring filmmakers together.

Visit: [oiff.org/events](https://www.oiff.org/events) for the latest updates.





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: [TICKETS - OIFF.ORG](https://www.oiff.org)

**Day 7 - Sept: 18th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will host two screening sessions The first screening session will feature the feature doc- “The fight for Black Lives”” preceded by the short docs- “Descendants and Keith Lamar Sweets”**

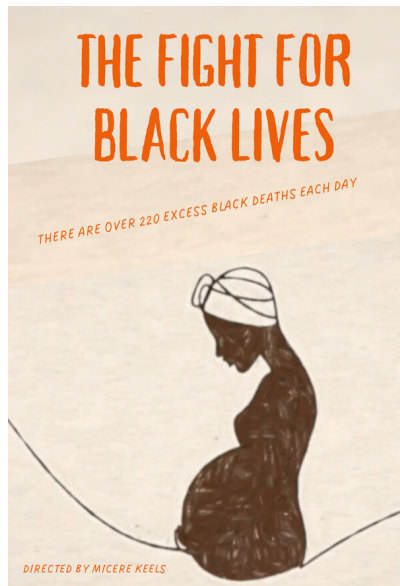
**Wednesday, September 18th**

6:00 - **DESCENDENTS OF US**- (RT- 17 MIN)

6:20 - **KEITH LAMAR SWEETS** - (RT 5:49 MIN)

6:30 - **THE FIGHT FOR BLACK LIVES** - (RT-72 MIN)

**Location - Mills College @ Northeastern**



**THE FIGHT FOR BLACK LIVES**

The Fight for Black Lives chronicles the ways that racial stress and the American healthcare system disadvantages the health of Black Americans. This health disparity is traced back to emancipation, which increased the Black mortality rate, in part, because formerly enslaved people had no access to formal health care even when they could pay. The film shows that there is nothing new about the disproportionate rate of Black mortality that was associated with the COVID-19 pandemic by showing that on almost all measures of health Black people in the United states live sicker and die younger.



**“The Fight For Black Lives”  
Directed by Micere Keels**

Micere Keels is a Professor in the Department of Comparative Human Development at the University of Chicago. Her research focuses on understanding how race, ethnicity, and poverty structure exposure to challenges that place people at risk for poor life outcomes. She is particularly invested in systems-change interventions that can narrow intergenerational inequities. This is her first attempt at using popular narrative forms to influence how people understand persistent inequities.

The injustice of high overall Black mortality and how it shows up in maternal and infant wellbeing is both personal and political for me. Within a 12-month period in my early 20s I went from my excessive menstrual bleeding not being taken seriously at the emergency room, to a doctor suggesting that the bleeding may be due to having a long-term untreated STD and recommending immediate precautionary medications before waiting for test results, to finally receiving the appropriate examination and diagnosis of large obstructive fibroids that were removed in expedited surgery. Fibroids that had been there so long they had begun to calcify. Fibroids that were identified only after I drove 45 minutes to begin seeing a female gynecologist of color.



A compelling, artistic, and humanitarian short film that shares the stories of people whose families overcame incredible odds to build lives in America.

Directed by Shaun Daniels



**“KEITH LAMAR SWEETS”**

KEITH LAMAR: SWEET is a collaboration unfolding across and over the prison walls. It was inspired by a call between Keith LaMar and Samora Pinderhughes (Keith calling from death row), part of a series of interviews conducted as part of The Healing Project. Keith LaMar is a writer, poet, and musician who has spent over 30 years in solitary confinement on Death Row in Ohio after being framed for murder following the 1993 Lucasville Prison Riot. Our mission, through this film, is to free him from prison.

Directed by **Samora Pinderhughes, Christian Padron, Amanda Krische**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**

**Day 7 - Sept: 18th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will host two screening sessions The second screening session will feature the feature film “CHELLADU preceded by two shorts: “Change the System” and “Jano”**

**Wednesday, September 18th**

8:00 - **CHANGE THE SYSTEM** - (RT - 8 MIN)

8:10 - **JANO** - (RT -12 MIN) - SPAIN

8:15 - **CHELLADURAI** - ((RT - 90 MIN)

**Location - Mills College @ Northeastern**

**5000 MacArthur Blvd**

**Oakland, CA 94613**



**“CHELLADURAI”**

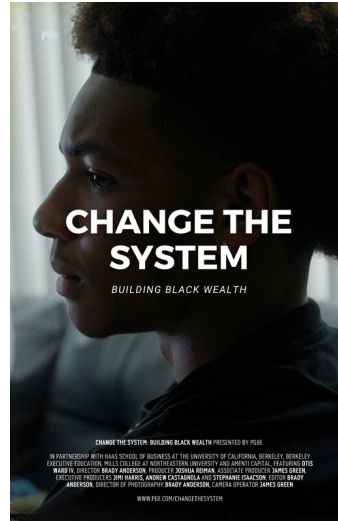
In the cruel dance of time, mothers and fathers who forsake their flesh and blood face a punishment more severe than any earthly retribution. Their children, discarded like seeds in the wind, are left to grow into towering trees, bearing witness to the neglect that shaped their roots. Yet, amidst the shadows of abandonment, do these trees offer solace to the forsaken? Their branches may stretch wide, casting shelter upon the weary and the condemned, whispering a silent plea for redemption. For even in the darkest corners of neglect, the resilience of the human spirit yearns for the embrace of compassion.



**Seenu Ramasamy**

Seenu Ramasamy is an Indian filmmaker, screenwriter, and poet who predominantly works in Tamil cinema. He is known for directing the films *Thenmerku Paruvakaatru* (2010), *Neerparavai* (2012), and *Dharma Durai* (2016). He made his directorial debut with *Koodal Nagar* (2007). He garnered acclaim for *Thenmerku Paruvakaatru*, which won the 3 National Film Awards [Given by GOVT Of India] for Best

**\* Country - India**



**“Change The System”**

Growing up in America, youth do not have equitable access to resources or opportunities. Black youth in particular face historical and systemic disadvantages, leading to disparities in wealth creation later in life. “Change the System: Building Black Wealth” follows Oakland high school senior Otis Ward IV as he participates in a pilot program at UC Berkeley aimed at closing the racial wealth gap, while grappling with the pressures of leaving his hometown and charting his own path.



**Brady Anderson**



**“JANO”**

Jano, a kleptomaniac girl, steals a mobilephone in a party and her friends discover her. Her friends decide to make justice for themselves. As a consequence they take advantage of her and they upload a video in Internet making fun of her.

**Directed by Ana Beyron & Alejandra Beyron**

**\* Country - Spain**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Day 8 - Sept: 19th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will host two screening sessions at The Grand Lake Theater. The first show will consist of two short films: Papa Joe Day and Project 212 and the docu-drama - "A Little Hope For Chicago."**

Part narrative performance film, part documentary, A LITTLE HOPE FOR CHICAGO is a walk through the life of a Chicago hustler, narrowly avoiding the devastating consequences of death and incarceration, as he reflects on the systemic root causes of the violence and trauma that consume youth in urban centers like Chicago.



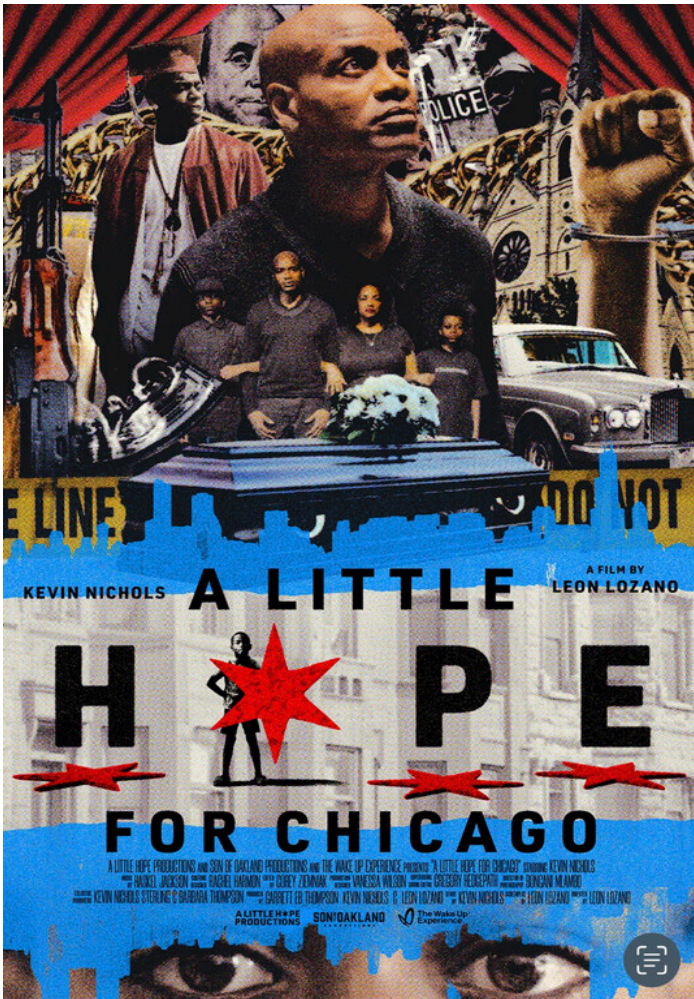
**Leon Lozano**

Leon Lozano is the founder of Son of Oakland Productions. Directing credits include episodes of ALL AMERICAN: HOME-COMING (CW) and TALES ( BET), his co-medic documentary PROM NIGHT FLEX (Netflix), as well as

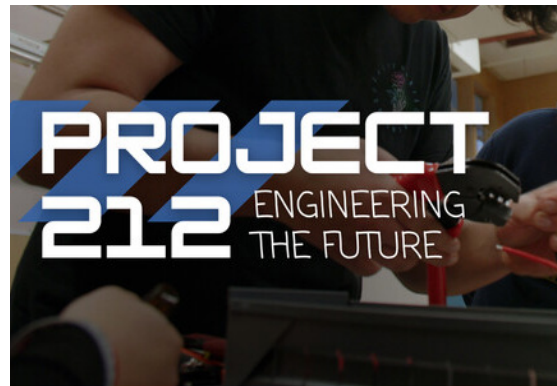
his award winning drama, MY FATHER BELIZE (ALLBLK). Notably, Lozano was a participant in the 2022 Warner Brothers Television Directors Workshop, the 2021 Viacom Viewfinder Emerging Directors Program, the 2023 Netflix Directors on the Rise Masterclass, and the 2023 Rideback Rise Circle.

**Thursday, September 19th**  
 5:30 - PAPA JOE DAY - (RT- 8 : 36 MIN)  
 5:40 - PROJECT 212 - (RT 10 :18 MIN)  
 6:00 - A LITTLE HOPE FOR CHICAGO - (RT-74 MIN)

**LOCATION - THE GRAND LAKE THEATER**



**A Little Hope For Chicago** RUN TIME: 1:14:00



RUN TIME: 10:18



RUN TIME: 8:36

TICKETS AT : OIFF.ORG



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Day 8 - Sept: 19th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will host two screening sessions at The Grand Lake Theater. The second show will feature the short film: "HUEY" directed by Ken Gregory, Dave Mack III and a feature film: "She Wins" directed by Tony Spires.**

**Thursday, September 19th**

8:00 - **HUEY** - (RT - 30 MIN)

8:35 - **SHE WINS** - (RT - 105 MIN)

**Location - THE GRAND LAKE THEATER**



(RT - 105 MIN)

BT Kingsley is an up and coming LA comedian finally looking for a meaningful relationship with the right woman in a city whose streets are infamously paved with the good intentions of those whose champagne dreams didn't quite materialize into reality or the desired outcome. That being said, even after several years of trial and error... and more than his share of frolicking misadventures along the way, BT is still no quitter.



Director of "She Wins"  
**Tony Spires**

Tony Phruishun Spires is a veteran filmmaker, television producer, singer/songwriter/recording artist, poet/spoken word artist, a long-time theater artist and teaching artist.

Tony's feature films include: The romantic comedy, She Wins, the teen thriller, A Hot Night In The Valley, The Pan African Film Festival's Best Feature Film nominated Tears Of A Clown, and the gritty, urban crime drama Two Degrees. His short films include: Joke Thief, The Three-Legged Crow and Marvin Road. He directed the 12-episode romantic web series, Pillow Talk and was the pioneering director of the experimental new media film, Necessary Drama, one of the first live-streamed movies ever filmed and screened simultaneously.



(RT - 30 MIN)

Huey, the short film looks at the final days of Dr. Huey P. Newton's life to try and look at the plausible possibility, "Was Huey P. Newton randomly murdered or was it an orchestrated assassination by the United States government?" By taking public information from government agencies and private sources such as news agencies and media outlets and publications who have interviewed key players as well as Dr. Newton's loved ones and personal friends, this film revisits the days and month leading up to the fateful day he was murdered and the circumstances surrounding his death/execution.



Directors of "HUEY"  
**Ken Gregory, Dave Mack III**

**TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

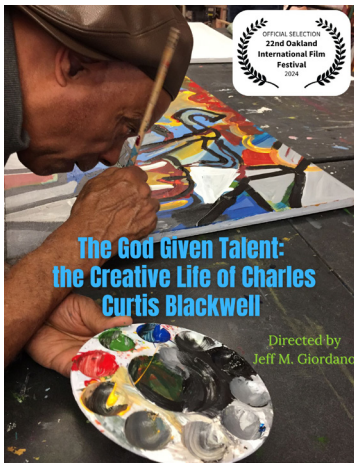
Day 9 - Sept: 20th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will host two screening sessions . The first session will feature a documentary about the artist Charles Curtis Blackwell - "God Given Talent" and A SHORT SC-FI film KNEAD

Friday, September 20th

6:00 - KNEAD- (RT- 11 : 22 MIN)

6:15 - GOD - GIVEN TALENT - (RT- 70 MIN)

Location; Mills College at Northeastern University  
5000 MacArthur Blvd



The God Given Talent: the Creative Life of Charles Curtis Blackwell

Charles Curtis Blackwell: the Oakland poet, painter, playwright and teacher -- takes us on an intimate journey into his past and present. From his challenging upbringing in both California and Mississippi, to his current creative life, we follow as he discusses loss, love, pain, and redemption -- all through the prism of his artistic endeavors.

Runtime

01:10:00

TICKETS - OIFF.ORG



Knead

When an alien landing mysteriously drives people around the world to achieve their deepest dreams, an aspiring baker in an unhappy marriage wonders why she hasn't been affected at all—forcing her to take matters into her own hands.



Directed by Timothy Michael Cooper

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Day 9 - Sept: 20th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will feature Alex Zajicek's "SORRY WERE DEAD" and the short film - "BOTTLED SPIRITS"**

**Friday, September 20th**

**8:00 - BOTTLED SPIRITS - (RT -34:15 MIN)**

**8:40 - SORRY, WERE DEAD - (RT -86 MIN)**

**Location - Mills College at Northeastern University**



**SORRY WE'RE DEAD** Runtime : 01:25:44

Cinema and reality blur with comic deconstruction when Lana's movie falls through the ceiling into her life.

Directed by  
Alex Zajicek

**TICKETS - OIFF.ORG**



Alex Zajicek, born and based in the San Francisco Bay Area, has always been interested in telling stories. Ever since he got his first video camera, he has been making short films, and when he got his first computer, he quickly taught himself to animate. He attended California College of the Arts to learn about filmmaking. Shortly thereafter, he began his career as a freelance filmmaker in the SF Bay Area film industry, and that's where he has been ever since. As a filmmaker, he loves both animation and film, and tries to play with and poke the edges of both mediums in his work. projection of what would happen to me if I got stuck doing for too long. Ultimately, my films are about having fun with the medium, with a bit of satire peppered in along the way.



50-something Louise is a native of West Oakland, California; a community once known as the Harlem of the West, and which gave birth to the Black Panther Party. Gentrification has turned her beloved community into unfriendly and unrecognizable territory and the weight of being Black in America now threatens to crush her. She straps on the daily armor of alcohol, cigarettes and a sharp tongue to block out the constant ache of losing everything that ever mattered. On this day however, a door she has been banging on for years magically opens, an ancestor arrives to help and Louise battles her demons - and herself - in a desperate attempt to find the courage to walk the difficult path toward redemption.





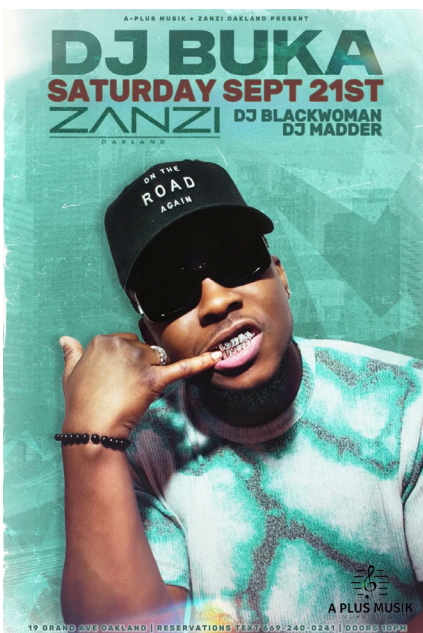
## AWARDS NIGHT

Date: September 21st

Location: Zanzi

Time : 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

After -Party - DJ BUKA



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

