



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 1, 2018

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## **BETHESDA FILM FEST TO SHOWCASE DOCUMENTARY SHORTS**

*Film topics cover family, art, race, community and technology*

**February 1, 2018 (Bethesda, MD)** – The 6<sup>th</sup> annual **Bethesda Film Fest** will feature five short documentaries made by local filmmakers on **Friday and Saturday, April 6-7, 2018**. Screenings will be held at 7pm on April 6<sup>th</sup> and at 6pm and 8:30pm on April 7<sup>th</sup> at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave. in downtown Bethesda. The Bethesda Film Fest is produced by the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District.

The films selected for the screening include:

***Aiven*** – by Enrique Huaiquil, Silver Spring, MD

***Mama Rwanda*** – by Laura Waters Hinson, Washington, D.C.

***Pot of Gold: The Origin of Japanese Bidet*** – by Daiei Onoguchi, Bethesda, MD

***Sisterly*** – by Nina Vallado, Silver Spring, MD

***Two Steps Back*** – by R. Kayeen Thomas, Washington, D.C.

The evening will include a discussion with the filmmakers after each screening. Tickets are available at [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) for \$10. Remaining tickets will be sold at the door.

Films were chosen by the Bethesda Film Fest selection panel, consisting of award-winning documentary filmmakers **Larry Engel**, Associate Professor and Associate Director of the Center for Environmental Filmmaking at American University; **Ben Steger**, Assistant Professor and Concentration Head for the Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies in Film and Video at George Mason University and **Katherine Wilkins De Francis**, an independent filmmaker/visual media producer and Executive Vice President of Women in Film and Video DC.

Bethesda Film Fest is supported by The Bernard Family Foundation, Creative Parties, The Donohoe Companies, EagleBank, The Jane Fairweather Team, Suzanne Firstenberg, Judy Gilbert Levey, HomeAdvisor, Imagination Stage, JBG Smith, Kramer Architects, Leslie Lane, Lerch, Early & Brewer, Jerry Morenoff, Oxman Studios, Revere Bank and Union Hardware.

For more information, please visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) or call 301/215-6660.

From award-winning theatre to independent films, downtown Bethesda's Arts & Entertainment District is filled with inspiring artists and art venues. The Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District is managed by the Bethesda Urban Partnership, Inc., and is the producer of The Trawick Prize: Bethesda Contemporary Art Awards, Bethesda Painting Awards, Bethesda Fine Arts Festival, Play In A Day and the Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards.

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