Schedule is subject to change, visit chagrinfilmfest.org for live updates
Welcome to the 12th Annual Chagrin Documentary Film Festival!

We are extremely honored this year to highlight 97 powerful and compelling documentary films from 38 countries. Please join me in congratulating these talented and passionate storytellers.

Since our inaugural Festival in 2010, the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival has presented more than 1,000 documentary films that have inspired, sparked real conversation, broadened perspectives and connected us on a deeper level. I am extremely proud that the Festival has continued to impact so many and that our mission to honor the passion of the documentary filmmaker has continued to thrive.

A special thanks to the Festival sponsors, volunteers, supporters and the entire community for all you have done to bring this special event to life. On behalf of our amazing Festival team and the hundreds of people who have come together to make this Festival a reality…. welcome!

In sincere appreciation,

Mary Ann Quinn Ponce
Founder and Director
Chagrin Documentary Film Festival

The Inspiration . . . “what the human spirit is capable of”

Filmmaker and Chagrin Falls High School alumnus David Ponce wrote this letter about his documentary “The Lost Sparrows of Roodepoort” even as he faced his own battle with leukemia. He succumbed six weeks later at the age of 20. It was David’s drive to share with the world “just what the human spirit is capable of” that inspires us to bring this festival to his hometown.

An excerpt from David’s letter to the director of Sparrow Village, Roodepoort, South Africa…July 27, 2006

“Nothing is as important to me as producing a work that is true to Sparrow and showing those who have not visited, just what the human spirit is capable of when faced with something immensely dark and frightening.

And to this, I forever owe gratitude and have sworn to myself to produce something substantial in propagating the idea of hope and joy in the face of something so ugly.”

This Festival is dedicated to the unique spirit of the talented filmmakers who share their stories with us.

Chagrin Documentary Film Fest has been named “Top 50 Film Fests Worth the Entry Fee” 8 years, by MovieMaker Magazine.
In addition to thought-provoking documentaries, don’t miss these special events all around Chagrin Falls!

**FILM FEST LIGHTS THE FALLS!**  
*Sponsored by Brickhaus Partners*  
**NIGHTLY, TUES, OCTOBER 5 through SUN, OCTOBER 10**  
The 12th Anniversary Festival spotlight is on Chagrin Falls as the upper and lower falls are lit nightly! Join us at dusk on October 5 for a first glimpse of the lights and stroll by to enjoy the hues of our beloved Chagrin “Falls”.

**FILMS BY THE FALLS**  
*Sponsored by the Chagrin Valley Chamber of Commerce*  
**LED Screen in Riverside Park – throughout the Festival**  
Come to Riverside Park during festival week to view a free selection of short films, trailers and activities. Bring your chair or blanket and get a taste of the festival with regularly scheduled family-friendly films. See grid, pgs. 8-12

**FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT**  
*Sponsored by the Cleveland Indians*  
**TUES, OCTOBER 5**  
**CFIS Theatre**  
65 Philomethian St.  
**VIP RECEPTION:** 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM  
$75 Ticket for VIP Reception and Film  
Celebrate the 12th Annual Festival Opening with the world premiere red carpet celebration of *War on the Diamond* with champagne and hors d’oeuvres. Special guests include Cleveland’s own Slider and others!  
**FILM ONLY:** 7:15 PM  
$25 Individual Ticket to World Premiere *War on the Diamond*, Directed by Andy Billman (pg. 29)

**BECOME A PART OF THE STORY BREAKFAST**  
*Sponsored by Peppertree Capital*  
**WED, OCTOBER 6, 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM**  
Chagrin Falls Township Hall  
83 N Main St  
$15 individual ticket – reservations required  
Learn how your story becomes a part of our story! CDFF shares exciting news about the future of the festival and its impact on the community. For those that want to be in the know. Light breakfast, refreshments, lively conversation with some of the CDFF team.

**MEET THE FILMMAKERS HAPPY HOUR**  
**(Festival Members, Filmmakers Only)**  
**Sponsored by Heinen’s**  
**THURS, OCTOBER 7, 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM**  
Take a break from films, grab a glass of wine and hobnob with some of our fantastic filmmakers. Stay for the panel discussion following the Happy Hour.

**FESTIVAL AWARDS CEREMONY**  
*Sponsored by Carnegie Investment Counsel*  
**SAT, OCTOBER 9, 7:00 PM**  
Chagrin Valley Little Theatre  
40 River St.  
The night sparkles with filmmakers and film enthusiasts at the 2021 Festival Awards. $10,000 in prize funds will be presented to winners. Free and open to the public  
Virtual Masters of Ceremonies: Loree Vick and Rick Jackson

**MUSIC IN THE PARK**  
**SAT, OCTOBER 9, 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM**  
Riverside Park  
Join CDFF with the band Radderall for live music by the falls!

**FESTIVAL CLOSING**  
*Sponsored by South Franklin Circle*  
**SUN, OCTOBER 10, 5:30 PM**  
Chagrin Valley Little Theatre  
40 River St.  
Celebrate an unforgettable 12th annual film fest with a special live performance by Garfield Height’s Music Express Show Choir.  
Film: *Full Out: Inside Ohio Show Choir* (pg. 26)
Located at: Chagrin Falls Township Hall, 83 N. Main St., Chagrin Falls
Sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Housing Services Realty- Susan Metallo
New this year! CDFF Live on Main broadcast studio. Stop by to see in person and recorded interviews and panel discussions.
• Watch these panels LIVE by visiting the CDFF website and Youtube page.
• Check the schedule for exclusive member events and open public access.
• Discover our filmmakers and what films you want to see.
• Listen to panel discussion on a number of current issues of our times.

PANEL EVENTS AND DISCUSSIONS

WHAT IS THE TRUE MEANING OF “PURPOSE”?  
Sponsored by John Carroll University, Boler College of Business  
WED, OCTOBER 6, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
A special screening of the film The Edge of Purpose followed by a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Scott Allen with local business leaders who are passionate about their purpose. (pg. 18)

MIXED: One in Two Worlds  
WED, OCT 6, at 12:00 PM  
Following the screening of the documentary Mixed, join Rick Jackson, Brenda Cain and a panel of parents as they share and discuss their perspectives on raising multi-racial families.

FILMMAKER PANEL DISCUSSION  
THURS, OCTOBER 7, 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM  
Meet some of this year’s filmmakers in this lively discussion of how and why they created their films. This members only event is sure to book out so make your reservations today. Kerry Prior moderates this year’s Filmmaker Panel.

BODY BEAUTIFUL: The Climb to Change Our View  
FRI OCTOBER 8, 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM  
Join moderator Trish Sylvia and director of the film Kili Big, Ida Joglar, in a public forum on what it means to be a plus size woman in today’s society and what we can do to change our perspective to live a more complete and stress free way of life. Other panelists include Shauntae Meadows of Curvy in Cleveland. (pg. 22)

SOLVING THE DISTRIBUTION PUZZLE  
Sponsored by Think Media Studios  
SAT, OCTOBER 9, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM  
$15 individual ticket  
Join Think Media Studios, distributor Gravitas Ventures and Shawn Rech of Transition Studios in a discussion of industry inroads and ways to navigate the distribution process in a changing world for documentary film. *NOT streamed live

ANATOMY OF WINGS: Growing Into Womanhood in a Challenging World  
SAT, OCTOBER 9, 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM  
Subjects from Anatomy of Wings discuss their journeys and how their “second family” led them to become the women they are today. (pg. 14)

Inspiring, empowering, illuminating students through documentary film

The Illuminate Student Film Experience invites high school students to experience inspiring documentary films and meet talented filmmakers. Illuminate’s mission is to engage, enrich, and educate high school youth through the art of documentary film and to inspire them to ask the overarching question: “What is the human spirit capable of?”  
For information, email Illuminate@chagrinfilmfest.org
# 2021 Film Festival Sponsors

We wish to thank the following:

## PLATINUM

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<tr>
<th>Chagrin Valley Chamber of Commerce</th>
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*Schedule is subject to change, visit chagrinfilmfest.org for live updates*
Congratulations on 12 Years!

Carnegie Investment Counsel is proud to support the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival and is delighted to play a continuing role in your story. Thank you, CDFF team and congratulations, filmmakers!

Customized financial guidance to help you thrive in life.

- Customized Investment Management
- Wealth & Financial Planning
- Retirement Plan Management

30300 Chagrin Blvd. Pepper Pike, OH 44124
carnegieinvest.com | 800-321-2322
Welcome to the 2021 Chagrin Documentary Film Festival! This overview includes times, film locations and special events.

Schedule is subject to change: Please check the festival website for changes and updates. Detailed film listing begins on page 13.

### Tuesday October 5

**Chagrin Falls Intermediate School Theater**

- 5:30 PM  VIP Reception
- 7:15 PM  War on the Diamond (75 mins) pg. 29

### Wednesday October 6

#### Chagrin Valley Little Theatre

- 10:45 AM  Mixed (60 mins)
- 12:30 PM  The Price of Cheap (80 mins)
- 2:30 PM  Home From School: The Children of Carlisle (60 mins)
- 4:15 PM  A Mirror for the Sun (60 mins)
- 6:00 PM  Open Hearts (59 mins)
- 7:45 PM  How to Throw Your Own Goodbye Party (73 mins)

**Chagrin Falls Intermediate School Theater**

- 5:15 PM  The Gig is Up (89 mins)
- 7:30 PM  Tiny Tim: King for a Day (78 mins)

#### Chagrin Falls Township Hall

**CDFF Live on Main**

- 9:00 AM  Breakfast, pg. 4
- 12:00 PM  Mixed: One in Two Worlds, pg. 5*
- 7:00 PM  Film and Panel discussion, pg. 5* The Edge of Purpose (44 mins)

*Reservations required

#### Riverside Park – Films by the Falls

- 12:00 PM  Craving Connection Shorts
  - It’s Rocket Science (5 mins) pg. 33
  - Bryan Zanisnik’s Big Pivot (7 mins) pg. 31
  - Renaissance Man (10 mins) pg. 33
  - Life on Air (12 mins) pg. 34
  - Lost in the Shuffle (14 mins) pg. 33
  - MerBly’s (19 mins) pg. 33
- 7:30 PM  Ohio Homegrown Shorts, pg. 32
  - I Am (5 mins)
  - Shoe Bob (13 mins)
  - We Still Make Things (13 mins)
  - Who Fights For You? (16 mins)
  - The Master Craftsman (32 mins)

- **10 AM**
- **11 AM**
- **12 PM**
- **1 PM**
- **2 PM**
- **3 PM**
- **4 PM**
- **5 PM**
- **6 PM**
- **7 PM**
- **8 PM**
- **9 PM**

### Purchase passes and tickets for CDFF On Demand and In Person Screenings!

During the Fest, tickets sold online or at the Chagrin Valley Little Theatre.

Other Venues Require Advance Purchase.

**Online tickets, passes and membership packages:** chagrinfilmfest.org

**Call the Fest office:** Starting September 8th 440-247-1591

**In-person film – individual ticket:** $12

**Opening night film:** $25 per person

**CDFF on Demand Single film streaming:** $10

**Doc Lover Pass:** $100 includes 5 days of unlimited streaming (no in-person events)

**Discover Pass:** $200 includes 5 days of unlimited streaming and 10 film tickets

Detailed film listings begin on page 13
### Thursday October 7

#### Chagrin Valley Little Theatre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Lost in the Shuffle (14 mins.) pg. 32</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45 PM</td>
<td>The Best Show In Town (42 mins.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15 PM</td>
<td>The Last Horns of Africa (98 mins.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>The Road Most Traveled: Photojournalist Don Bartletti (24 mins.) pg. 32</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>The Accidental President (109 mins.)</td>
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#### Chagrin Falls Intermediate School Theater

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<tr>
<td>5:15 PM</td>
<td>The Real Right Stuff (89 mins.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>The Adventures of Saul Bellow (86 mins.)</td>
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#### Chagrin Falls Township Hall

**CDFF Live on Main**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Become a Part of the Story Breakfast</td>
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<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Live on Main Daily Update</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Filmmaker Panel and broadcast</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Meet the Filmmakers Happy Hour **</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Live on Main Broadcast with Filmmaker Panel Discussion</td>
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#### Riverside Park – Films by the Falls

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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Shop Small Shorts</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Growing Peace in the Middle East (17 mins.) pg. 30</td>
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**Family friendly**

**Not suggested for younger viewers**

**Events for Filmmakers and Members only**

**Reservations required**

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**Membership really does have its privileges!**

CDFF Member receive access to all of these exclusive perks during and after the Fest: visit chagrinfilmfest.org

- Opening Night Celebration: Two tickets to the VIP reception and opening film
- CDFF Live on Main: Members only “Meet the Filmmakers Happy Hour”
- Pre-Awards Party sponsored by Carnegie Investment Counsel
- And many more “Members Only” special invitations and events
- Plus first access to in-person film events

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# Friday

## October 8

### Chagrin Valley Theatre

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Duty Free (73 mins)</td>
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<td>12:20 PM</td>
<td>The Book Keepers (86 mins)</td>
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<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>Enemies of the State (104 mins)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>In the Dark of the Valley (101 mins)</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Memory Project 1956:2021 (52 mins)</td>
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<td>9:15 PM</td>
<td>The Last Out (75 mins)</td>
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### Chagrin Falls Intermediate School Theater

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<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Medicine Man: The Stan Brock Story (96 mins)</td>
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<td>5:20 PM</td>
<td>Kili Big (90 mins)</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>The Conservation Game (107 mins)</td>
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### Chagrin Falls Township Hall

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<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Live on Main Daily Update</td>
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<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Discussion: Body Beautiful pg. 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Happy Hour</td>
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<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Live on Main Broadcast with Filmmaker Discussion</td>
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### Riverside Park – Films by the Falls

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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Ohio Homegrown Shorts, pg. 32</td>
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<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>I Am (5 mins)</td>
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<td>1:15 PM</td>
<td>Shoe Bob (13 mins)</td>
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<td>We Still Make Things (13 mins)</td>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>The Master Craftsman (32 mins)</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Film Shorts</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Roads Most Traveled: Photojournalist Don Bartletti (24 mins) pg. 34</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Understory: A Journey Through the Tongass (39 mins) pg. 32</td>
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### Be sure to visit Heinen’s

Live music! FRI, October 8, 5:30 PM

### Detailed film listings begin on page 13

* **Events for Filmmakers and Members only**
* * Reservations required

Schedule is subject to change, visit chagrinfilmfest.org for live updates

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10 AM: Duty Free (p.18)

11 AM: The Book Keepers (p.16)

12 PM: Enemies of the State (p.18)

1 PM: The Memory Project (p.24)

2 PM: Medicine Man (p.24)

3 PM: In the Dark of the Valley (p.21)

4 PM: Kili Big (p.22)

5 PM: The Conservation Game (p.17)

6 PM: Film Shorts

7 PM: The Last Out (p.23)

8 PM: The Last Out (p.23)

9 PM: The Conservation Game (p.17)

10 PM: Film Shorts

11 PM: Film Shorts

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**Detailed film listings begin on page 13**

**Events for Filmmakers and Members only**

* Reservations required
### Saturday October 9

#### Chagrin Valley Little Theatre
- **10:00 AM** Red Heaven (77 mins)
- **12:00 PM** Anatomy of Wings (85 mins)
- **2:15 PM** Building A Bridge (96 mins)
- **4:30 PM** Selfish and Hello Sunshine (68 mins)
- **7:00 PM** Festival Awards (60 mins)
- **8:45 PM** Alien On Stage (86 mins)

#### Chagrin Falls Intermediate School Theater
- **10:15 AM** Leaving Tracks (91 mins)
- **12:30 PM** Dog Valley (90 mins)
- **2:40 PM** War on the Diamond (75 mins)
- **4:45 PM** Saving Grove Hill and Chagrin Falls the Early Years (58 mins)
- **6:45 PM** The Rescue (109 mins)

#### Chagrin Falls Township Hall
**CDFF Live on Main Public Day**
- **10:00 am** Live on Main Daily Update
- **11:30 am** Solving the Distribution Puzzle *
- **1:30 pm** Anatomy of Wings Panel

Seating is limited at CDFF Live on Main
* Ticketed for Public
** Members Only Reservations Required

#### Riverside Park – Films by the Falls
- **12:00 PM** Shop Small Shorts
  - Shoe Bob (13 mins) pg.32
  - Slim Pickins (15 mins) pg.34
  - The Little Tea Shop (16 mins) pg.31
  - One All the Way (24 mins) pg.31

- **4:00 PM** Craving Connection Shorts
  - It's Rocket Science (5 mins) pg.33
  - Bryan Zanisnik's Big Pivot (7 mins) pg.31
  - Renaissance Man (10 mins) pg.33
  - Life on Air (12 mins) pg.34
  - Lost in the Shuffle (14 mins) pg.33
  - MerBy's (19 mins) pg.33

- **8:30 PM** Music in the Park

**Family friendly**
**M** Not suggested for younger viewers

**Events for Filmmakers and Members only**
* Reservations required

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10 AM</td>
<td>Red Heaven (p.27)</td>
<td>Leaving Tracks (p.23)</td>
<td>Festival Awards (p.5)</td>
<td>Live on Main Daily Broadcast</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 AM</td>
<td>Anatomy of Wings (p.14)</td>
<td>Dog Valley (p.17)</td>
<td>Solving the Distribution Puzzle (p.5) *</td>
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<td>War on the Diamond (p.29)</td>
<td>Live on Main Broadcast Anatomy of Wings (p.5) *</td>
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<td>Selfish and Hello Sunshine (p.27)</td>
<td>Saving Grove Hill (p.30)</td>
<td>Live on Main Broadcast Anatomy of Wings (p.5) *</td>
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<td>Festival Awards (p.5)</td>
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October 5-10, 2021 • CHAGRIN DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL
Sunday
October 10

Chagrin Valley Little Theatre
10:30 AM Fireboys (82 mins)
12:40 PM The Conservation Game (107 mins)
3:10 PM The Rescue (109 mins)
5:00 PM The Last Out (75 mins)

Chagrin Falls Intermediate School Theater
10:45 AM Fireflies of Patagonia (58 mins)
Ribari (20 mins) p.30
12:45 PM Eternal Harvest (71 mins)
2:45 PM Becoming Cousteau (93 mins)
5:30 PM Full Out: Inside Ohio Show Choir

Riverside Park – Films by the Falls
12:00 PM Film Shorts
Roads Most Traveled: Photojournalist Don Bartletti (24 mins) pg. 34
Understory: A Journey Through the Tongass (39 mins) pg. 32

Family friendly
Not suggested for younger viewers
** Events for Filmmakers and Members only
* Reservations required

Detailed film listings begin on page 13

Film Festival Venues

1 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre
40 River St.
Phone: (440) 247-8955

2 Chagrin Falls Township Hall
83 N. Main St.
Phone: (440) 247-8422

3 CFIS Theater
77 E. Washington St.
Phone: (440) 893-7690

4 Riverside Park
N. Main St.

5 Valley Art Center
155 Bell St.
Phone: (440) 247-7507

Schedule is subject to change, visit chagrinfilmfest.org for live updates
2021 Films  EVERYONE HAS A STORY
All films available on CDFF on Demand beginning Oct. 5 – chagrinfilmfest.org

The Accidental President  Ohio Premiere
SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by James Fletcher
United States, 109 minutes
Featuring an incredible roster of journalists, campaign managers and publicists, filmmaker James Fletcher embarks on a quest to uncover a play-by-play of the 2016 U.S. presidential election, and the factors in this country that led to its surprising results. Take another look at what could be the most controversial and impactful election in modern history.
Thu 10/7 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 5:30 PM

The Adventures of Saul Bellow
Midwest Premiere
ILLUMINATING JEWISH STORIES/ PORTRAIT DOC
Directed by Asaf Galay
Israel, United States, 86 minutes
An insightful look into the rise of the fascinating novelist Saul Bellow. A complex man, Bellow embodied many identities: a reluctant public intellectual, a ‘serial husband’, a father, a Chicagoan, a Jew, and a trailblazing American. Featuring interviews with family and friends, this film sheds new light on Bellow’s personality and the way he transformed life into art.
Thu 10/7 CFIS Theater, 7:30 PM
Sponsored by: Jewish Federation of Cleveland Israel Arts Connection

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October 5-10, 2021 • CHAGRIN DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL
**Alien On Stage**  Midwest Premiere

**INTERNATIONAL/ SHOW TIME!**

**Directed by Lucy Harvey, Danielle Kummer**

United Kingdom, 86 minutes

Led by an eclectic mix of bus drivers from Dorset, England, an amateur dramatics group decides to spend a year creating a stage adaptation of the sci-fi, horror film, *Alien*. After a less than successful village-hall show, fate gives the ambitious group a second chance to perform in a glamorous West End theatre. Experience the flubbed lines and homemade special effects, as this very green theater group trains for a once in a lifetime stage performance.

**Sat 10/9 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 8:45 PM**

*Community Partner: Great Lakes Theater*

**Anatomy of Wings**

**HUMAN SPIRIT/ RACE RELATIONS**

**Directed by Nikkiea Redmond, Kirsten D’Andrea Hollander**

United States, 85 minutes

First gathering together to create an after-school film project, ten Black middle school girls return each week to collaborate with mentors in this coming-of-age documentary. Weeks turn into months, months turn into years, and eventually the girls set off on separate journeys of their own. As the girls grow into women, their self-defined ‘second family’ is left to question if their solidarity will survive.

**Sat 10/9 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 12:00 PM**

*Sponsored by: Greater Cleveland Urban Film Festival*

*Community Partner: 3rd Space Action Lab*

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**The Rotary Club of Chagrin Valley**

The sponsors of the “Service Above Self” award salute the Twelfth Annual *Chagrin Documentary Film Fest* and the filmmakers who tell the stories that move us.

[www.chagrinvalleyrotary.com](http://www.chagrinvalleyrotary.com)

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Peppertree Capital Management, Inc.

Proudly sponsoring the Twelfth Annual Chagrin Documentary Film Festival

**PeppertreeCapital.com • Chagrin Falls, Ohio**
**Becoming Cousteau**  **Midwest Premiere**

ENVIRONMENTAL/ INTERNATIONAL/ PORTRAIT DOC  
Directed by Liz Garbus  
France, 93 minutes  
Discover the fascinating life of Jacques Cousteau, the ocean explorer who spanned the globe with a misfit crew of divers and filmmakers. Cousteau’s trailblazing underwater cinematography and high sea adventures aboard the Calypso introduced generations to the wonders of the seas, while sounding the alarm on the degradation of these seemingly limitless oceans.  
**Sun 10/10 CFIS Theater, 2:45 PM**  
Community Partner: Greater Cleveland Aquarium

**Behind the Strings**

HUMAN SPIRIT/ INTERNATIONAL/ SHOW TIME!  
Directed by Hal Rifken  
United States, China, France, Mexico, 75 minutes  
When Mao’s Cultural Revolution ended, China’s door cracked open, and four young classically trained musicians seized the opportunity to flee to the West. The Shanghai String Quartet has performed for 36 years in the U.S. and around the world and now China is inviting them back to perform their previously banned classical music.  
**CDFF on Demand Streaming**

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**Judson**

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**Not sure what’s happening at the festival daily?**

Check out our daily update segment for Live on Main the must see festival happenings.

October 5-10, 2021 • CHAGRIN DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL 15
The Best Show in Town   Midwest Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER / HUMAN SPIRIT/ SHOW TIME!
Directed by Amity Hoffman
United States, 42 minutes
Over the course of nine months, a theater troupe of 50+ actors, all with special challenges and abilities work to put together one of the most engaging theater performances you will ever see. Witness the transformation of these passionate actors as they gain confidence through the stage, and give a new perspective to what it means to live with a disability.
Thu 10/7 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 11:00 AM
Screens with Lost in the Shuffle pg. 33 (14 minutes)
Sponsored by: The Chagrin Valley Little Theatre
Dedicated to Horvitz YouthAbility

The Book Keepers   Midwest Premiere
HUMAN SPIRIT
Directed by Phil Wall
United States, 86 minutes
Determined to keep his late wife’s dream alive, Dick Wall becomes the unlikely spokesperson for her debut memoir, and embarks on an unexpected cross-country promotional tour with his filmmaker son. Setting off together on this powerful road trip experience, the pair will explore loss, grief, relationships, and the healing power of sharing stories.
Fri 10/8 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 12:20 PM
Sponsored by: The Worley Heater Team – Laurel Heater

THE CLEVELAND INDIANS ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE CHAGRIN FILM FEST
Building a Bridge  Ohio Premiere

LGBTQ HIGHLIGHT / PORTRAIT DOC / SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by Evan Mascagni, Shannon Post
United States, 96 minutes

This illuminating portrait follows the outspoken, good-humored Father James Martin, after the controversy surrounding his book, Building a Bridge, makes him a press circuit regular. Advocating for a welcoming approach by the Catholic Church towards the LGBTQ community, Martin speaks to packed houses and begs the question, “What would Jesus do?”

Sat 10/9 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 2:15 PM
Community Partners: Geauga SOGI Support Network, Plexus
Sponsored by: Deb Dockery – Center for Inner Peace

The Conductor  Ohio Premiere

PORTRAIT DOC / SHOW TIME!
Directed by Bernadette Wegenstein
United States, 90 minutes

After seeing the legendary Leonard Bernstein when she was nine years old, Marin Alsop knew what she wanted to be in life: a conductor. Told that girls can’t lead an orchestra, Marin struggled against enormous prejudices, massive odds, and institutional obstacles for decades, to become one of the world’s most renowned classical music conductors.

Thu 10/7 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 8:00 PM
Sponsored by: Peppertree Capital
Community partner: The Cleveland Orchestra

The Conservation Game  Ohio Premiere

LOCAL CONNECTION / ENVIRONMENTAL / HUMAN SPIRIT
Directed by Michael Webber
United States, 107 minutes

Immerse yourself in a world of lies, deception, and coverups. Retired cop, Tim Harrison, is on a mission to expose some of the darkest secrets of the underground big cat trade. While conducting an undercover investigation at an exotic animal auction, Tim makes a bombshell discovery that implicates America’s top television celebrity conservationists.

Fri 10/8 CFIS Theater, 7:30 PM
Sun 10/10 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 12:40 PM

Dog Valley

LGBTQ HIGHLIGHT / TRIME CRIME
Directed by Dave Lindsay
United States, 90 minutes

More than a decade before the murder of Mathew Shepherd, a rural Mormon community in Utah was shaken by the kidnapping and murder of gay college student, Gordon Church. Taking a multifaceted approach, DOG VALLEY explores the brutality of his tragic death, and delves into the twisted minds of his killers to determine what really happened.

Sat 10/9 CFIS Theater, 12:30 PM
Duty Free  Festival Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER
Directed by Sian-Pierre Regis
United States, 73 minutes
After a 75-year-old immigrant mother gets fired from her job, her filmmaker son takes her on a bucket list adventure to inspire her to live her best life. As she struggles to find work, Sian-Pierre Regis shares his mother’s intimate journey, uncovering the betrayals plaguing her past, and the economic insecurity shaping not only her future, but that of an entire generation.
Fri 10/8 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 10:30 AM

The Edge of Purpose  Midwest Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER
Directed by Winslow Perry  (Family Friendly)
United States, 44 minutes
THE EDGE OF PURPOSE profiles nine individuals who have built unique routes to success by following their passions in relentless pursuit of finding meaning in life. Capturing the essence of the human experience, this deeply moving film is a unique exploration of what it means to have a purpose.
Wed 10/6 Chagrin Falls Township Hall, 7:00 PM
Sponsored by: John Carroll University, Boler College of Business

Edward & Jo Hopper, the Violence of Silence  U.S. Premiere
PORTRAIT DOC/ INTERNATIONAL
Directed by Aventurier Catherine
France, 53 minutes
The story of iconic American Painter, Edward Hopper, is explored through the unique lens of his wife, Jo Hopper, who played a much larger role in his success than many ever knew. This film explores the couple’s tumultuous relationship while illustrating how the pair inspired each other to create incredible works of art.

CDFF on Demand Streaming
Community Partner: Chagrin Arts

Enemies of the State  TRUE CRIME/ U.S. DOCUMENTARY
Directed by Sonia Kennebeck
United States, Canada, Mexico, 104 minutes
In this bizarre story of secrets and lies, an American family seeks refuge in Canada after their hacker son is targeted by the US government. Unfolding like an espionage mystery, unforeseen twists drop one after another. This dogged investigation will keep you second-guessing until the very end.
Fri 10/8 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 2:30 PM

BUY TICKETS  Online: chagrinfilmfest.org
Or call the Fest office: (440) 247-1591
All films available on CDFF on Demand beginning Oct. 5
Eternal Harvest  World Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER/ SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by Karen Coates, Jerry Redfern
United States, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, 71 minutes
50 years after the Vietnam War, an estimated 80 million unexploded bombs remain in Laos, having killed or gravely injured more than 20,000 civilians. While the U.S. spent $50 billion to bomb the country, only $300 million has been spent to clean up this deadly mess. ETERNAL HARVEST traces the failures of policy, and underscores the urgent need for more funding.
Sun 10/10 CFIS Theater, 12:45 PM

Fireboys  Ohio Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER/ HUMAN SPIRIT
Directed by Jakob Hochendoner, Drew Dickler
United States, 82 minutes
Witness the untold story of the young men incarcerated in a facility that aims to rehabilitate by training them to fight wildfires. Immersive and personal, this coming-of-age story is told from the perspective of these firefighters in training as they summon the courage to fight fires and to confront their complex pasts.
Sun 10/10 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 10:30 AM
Virginia Schoelch in loving memory of Jim Knight

Fireflies Patagonia – A Handful of Dust  World Premiere
HUMAN SPIRIT/ INTERNATIONAL
Directed by Jay Creagh
United Kingdom, Argentina, Chile, 58 minutes
In March 2020, twenty cyclists took on Fireflies Patagonia, the most grueling multi-day bike ride in the world, to raise money for two incredible organizations that fight blood cancer. Through their 1,000 km cycle journey across the harsh terrains of Chile and Argentina, these brave riders share their strengths, motivations, and even some of their own battles with cancer.
Sun 10/10 CFIS Theater, 10:45 AM
Screens with Ribari: The People of the Leopard pg. 30 (20 minutes)
Sponsored by: Lowes Greenhouse

The First Wave  Midwest Premiere
HUMAN SPIRIT
Directed by Matthew Heineman
United States, 93 minutes
At the epicenter of the “first wave” of the COVID-19 pandemic in New York City, filmmaker Matthew Heineman documents the harrowing first four months of the outbreak. With incredible access to doctors, nurses, and patients, each storyline serves as a microcosm through which we can view the impacts of the pandemic, while witnessing the strength of the human spirit.
CDFF on Demand Streaming

October 5-10, 2021 • CHAGRIN DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL 19
Franklin Manor   Ohio Premiere
LOCAL CONNECTION/ SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by Richard Sherman, John Beale
United States, 50 minutes
Hidden in plain sight, along one of the busiest streets in State College, Pennsylvania, sat the deteriorating Franklin Manor mobile home park. After the park was unceremoniously shut down in 2014, and its residents evicted to make room for commercial redevelopment, the filmmakers documented the lives of the displaced residents in the years that followed.

CDFF on Demand Streaming
Community Partner: LifeAct

Full Out: Inside Ohio Show Choir   World Premiere
STUDENT FILM / SHOW TIME!
Directed by Audrey Leach
United States, 77 minutes
The world of Ohio High School Show Choir is intense, to say the least. Every year, hopeful show choirs from across the state come together to compete for the first place... but there can only be one winning group. Filled with the excitement and chaos of an opening night, experience four competitive high school show choirs as they work to win, grow, and elevate the success of their choir.

Sun 10/10 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 5:30 PM
Sponsored by: South Franklin Circle
In Loving Memory of Jennifer Zuber

The Gig is Up   SOCIAL AWARENESS/ INTERNATIONAL
Directed by Shannon Walsh
Canada, 89 minutes
Who are the people in the shadow workforce of the $5 trillion gig economy? Lured by the promise of flexible work hours, independence, and control over their time and money, millions of people from around the world are working in the rapidly expanding job market. THE GIG IS UP uncovers how the magic of convenience and technology might not be magic at all.

Wed 10/6 CFIS Theater, 5:15 PM
Community Partner: Cleveland Jobs with Justice

Home From School: The Children of Carlisle   Midwest Premiere
SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by Geoff O’Gara
United States, 60 minutes
In the 1880’s, boarding schools imposed brutal assimilation tactics on young tribal children, who had been ripped away from their families. Decades later, it has been discovered that a shocking amount of these children never returned home. This powerful film documents the incredible spirit of the Northern Arapaho Tribe who, after decades of red tape and generational trauma, finally bring their loved ones home.

Wed 10/6 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 2:30 PM
Community Partner: Cleveland American Indian Movement
How to Throw Your Own Goodbye Party
World Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER/ SHOW TIME!
Directed by Lauren Coleman
United States, 73 minutes
With great tenacity, an abstract-minded dreamer is driven to pull off a large scale music festival while dealing with a variety of massive hurdles, including his own failing health. While the festival comes close to epic failure on several different occasions throughout the planning process, the outcome is incredible. Witness the story of an inspiring man who elevated others through vision, love, and music.
Wed 10/6 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 7:45 PM
Sponsored by: Chagrin Valley Jaycees

In the Dark of the Valley
EMERGING FILMMAKER/ ENVIRONMENTAL/ HUMAN SPIRIT
Directed by Nicholas Mihm
United States, 101 minutes
In 1959, the Santa Susana Field Laboratory experienced an unconfined partial meltdown. Swept under the rug for decades, the meltdown is now considered to be the worst nuclear disaster in United States history. With surrounding communities seeing a 60% increase in cancer rates, residents, including Melissa Bumstead, whose young daughter has been suffering from a rare cancer for years, are demanding a full cleanup of the site.
Fri 10/8 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 5:00 PM
Indian Space Dreams  Ohio Premiere
INTERNATIONAL / HUMAN SPIRIT / SPACE RACE
Directed by Sue Sudbury
United Kingdom, India, 77 minutes
The scientists at Mumbai’s Tata Institute of Fundamental Research have taken on an enormous task. Driven by wonder, and their dreams of exploration, these incredible men and women are creating technology that will allow astronomers to study black holes as never before all while inspiring young Indians to dream of a better life, and a future full of possibilities.
CDFF on Demand Streaming

The Irritable Heart  Midwest Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER/ TRUE CRIME
Directed by Richard Poller
United States, 62 minutes
After five tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, decorated marine Travis Twiggs and his older brother Willard left their homes for one last mysterious journey through the American West. Telling Twigg’s compelling and devastating story of service and sacrifice, THE IRRITABLE HEART explores the unrecognized effects of post-traumatic stress disorder, and the bonds of brotherhood, culminating in a surreal tragedy that left friends and family wondering what they could have done to stop it.

Kili Big  Midwest Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER / HUMAN SPIRIT
Directed by Ida Joglar
United States, 90 minutes
Who climbs mountains? In KILI BIG, twenty plus-sized women come together from around the world to train and conquer Mount Kilimanjaro as a group, empowering each other to embrace body positivity and strength. While their climb is filled with challenges and obstacles, this journey is one of inspiration, perseverance, joy, and self love.
Fri 10/8 CFIS Theater, 5:20 PM
Sponsored by: CIBC

The Last Horns of Africa
EMERGING FILMMAKER / ENVIRONMENTAL / INTERNATIONAL
Directed by Garth de Bruno Austin
South Africa, 98 minutes
With unprecedented access to the rhino protection efforts in Kruger National Park, this film takes viewers into the world’s largest rhino orphanage, whose location must be kept secret to protect both the animals and human caretakers. Featuring never before seen footage, explore the complex moral debates of contemporary conservation.
M Thurs 10/7 Chagrin Valley Little Theater, 12:45 PM

BUY TICKETS  Online: chagrinfilmfest.org
Or call the Fest office: (440) 247-1591

Schedule is subject to change, visit chagrinfilmfest.org for live updates
The Last Out  Midwest Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER/ HUMAN SPIRIT/ SPORTS IN MOTION
Directed by Sami Khan, Michael Gassert
United States, Costa Rica, Mexico, 75 minutes
This gripping documentary follows the shadowy nexus between the migrant trail and the Major Leagues. Three Cuban baseball players leave their families and risk exile to train in Central America, and chase their dreams of getting an offer to play professional baseball. As the film takes an unexpected turn, the cameras follow these passionate players as they enter uncharted territory.
Fri 10/8 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 9:15 PM
Sun 10/10 CFIS Theater, 5:00 PM
Sponsored by: Elite Sotheby’s International Realty
Community Partner: Global Cleveland

Leaving Tracks  Midwest Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER/ LOCAL CONNECTIONS/ PORTRAIT DOC
Directed by Nick Davis
United States, 91 minutes
The intimate and compelling story of Cleveland native Bobby Haas, the founder of the Haas Moto Museum. Behind his success as a financier and photographer for National Geographic, Haas has grappled with a lifetime of trauma in his quest to create a museum like no other. Peer into a world where new relationships are forged with those united by their shared chase for perfection.
Sat 10/9 CFIS Theater, 10:15 AM
Sponsored by: Junction Auto Family
The Long Journey  World Premiere
INTERNATIONAL/ SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by Robert Herbolich
United States, Rwanda, 45 minutes
The atrocities of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda will not soon be forgotten. Resilience plays a significant role as THE LONG JOURNEY explores one extended family’s stories and memories of their beloved country. Through sharing their tales of hardship, these survivors strive to shed light on a history that will hopefully never be repeated.
CDFF on Demand Streaming

Medicine Man: The Stan Brock Story
EMERGING FILMMAKER / HUMAN SPIRIT/ SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by Paul Michael Angell
United Kingdom, 96 minutes
Sacrificing everything to bring free healthcare to those in need, British born Amazonian cowboy turned television star, Stan Brock is truly one of a kind. Seeking to revolutionize the modern healthcare system, Brock has created thousands of temporary, free health clinics in an attempt to resolve one of the biggest social issues of our time: the United States’ healthcare crisis.
Fri 10/8 CFIS Theater, 3:00 PM
Sponsored by: Watterson and Associates
Community Partner: Medworks

Memory Project 1956:2021  World Premiere
Directed by Réka Pigniczky
United States, 52 minutes
65 years after the Hungarian Revolution, eyewitnesses to the most significant uprising against the tyranny of the Soviet Union tell their personal stories of survival and resilience. Spanning 10 countries and 3 continents, the online archive currently houses over 150 interviews. MEMORY PROJECT is a compilation of compelling storytelling by those who fled to the West in 1956.
Fri 10/8 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 7:30 PM
Sponsored by: The Northeast Ohio Hungarian Community
In honor of George Pogan

Miracle Fishing: Kidnapped Abroad
TRUE CRIME
Directed by Miles Hargrove, Christopher Birge
United States, 107 minutes
In 1994, Miles Hargrove’s father was kidnapped in Cali, Colombia, by the FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia). In an instant, the Hargrove family finds itself in the midst of a Colombian epidemic – the kidnap and ransom trade. Told through incredible home videos, the family teams up with an FBI agent and a teenage neighbor in an attempt to secure their father’s release.
CDFF on Demand Streaming

“Our of all the world festivals we’ve attended, the most enthusiastic crowds came from a tiny village some 23 miles outside of Cleveland, Ohio called Chagrin Falls.” — Kevin Foster
A Mirror for the Sun   Ohio Premiere
EMERGING/ HUMAN SPIRIT/ PORTRAIT DOC
Directed by Neta Ariel
Israel, 60 minutes
After encountering an unexpected snowstorm while hiking in Nepal with a group of hikers, Captain Tamar Ariel saved a number of lives before succumbing to hyperthermia herself. A MIRROR FOR THE SUN is the story of their climb through the Thorong La Pass in increasingly grueling and desperate conditions. This story celebrates the life of an exceptional young woman – her abilities, her dreams, and her determination to be the first orthodox woman combat navigator in Israeli history.
Wed 10/6 Chagrin Valley Little Theater, 4:15 PM
Sponsored by: Jewish Federation of Cleveland Israel Arts Connection

Missing in Brooks County
SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by Lisa Molomot, Jeff Bemiss
United States, 80 minutes
Over the last decade, thousands have gone missing in Brooks County, Texas, just north of the Mexican border. In an attempt to circumvent the state’s busiest immigration checkpoint, countless migrants have ventured into the vast ranch lands that surround the area... and many have never been seen again. An illuminating and harrowing documentary, MISSING IN BROOKS COUNTY follows two families as they search for answers.
CDFF on Demand Streaming

Mixed
RACE RELATIONS/ SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by Leena Jayaswal and Cathy Borum Chattoo
United States, 60 minutes
50 years after the landmark Supreme Court case that ended legal persecution of interracial marriage in America, two mothers set off on a journey to explore what it means to be a bi-racial child in so-called “post-racial America.” Shedding light on the perspectives of their own families and others, MIXED explores America’s deep cultural ambivalence.
Wed 10/6 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 10:45 AM
Sponsored by: Greater Cleveland Film Commission

The Neurosurgeon   Ohio Premiere
EMERGING FILMMAKER/ INTERNATIONAL/ PORTRAIT DOC
Directed by Magdalena Zagała
Poland, 81 minutes
World famous surgeon Mirosław Zabek is the director of the Gamma Knife Centre in Warsaw, and the preeminent pioneer of neurosurgery in the world. In this astounding portrait documentary, we follow his creation of innovative therapies for Parkinson’s disease, severe congenital metabolic defects, and many other neurological disorders. Zabek’s groundbreaking work has been shared with others from around the world,
CDFF on Demand Streaming
**Open Hearts**  
EMERGING FILMMAKER/ LOCAL CONNECTIONS  
Directed by Travis Pollert, Jacob Kostelli  
United States, Haiti, 59 minutes  
This intense “week in the life” follows a medical mission in Haiti where doctors from around the world have come together to heal 12 Haitian children through pediatric heart surgery. These unprecedented efforts, spearheaded by Gift of Life and the Rotary Club, represent the only collaboration of charities providing heart surgery in Haiti. This film will inspire and challenge your idea of what it means to serve others.  
**Wed 10/6 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 6:00 PM**  
Sponsored by: Rotary Club of the Chagrin Valley

**The Price of Cheap**  
INTERNATIONAL/ HUMAN SPIRIT/ SOCIAL AWARENESS  
Directed by Barry Stevens  
Canada, India, 80 minutes  
THE PRICE OF CHEAP tells the stories of modern slaves in textiles manufacturing supply chains, and the brave individuals fighting on the ground to help free them. The film follows Joseph Raj, a leader in the fight against these grave injustices, as he goes on raids to rescue underage children from unsafe labour intensive factories. Some of these survivors share their horrific experiences, and their desire for education and change.  
**Wed 10/6 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 12:30 PM**

**Raise Your Voice**  
SOCIAL AWARENESS  
Directed by Maribeth Romslo  
United States, 45 minutes  
As mass shootings in schools sadly become more common, RAISE YOUR VOICE turns tragedy into a story of inspiration. After their own devastating experience, student journalists at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL explore free speech in America, and unite their young voices and their power through social movement. Meet some of the journalists of the future in this uplifting and hopeful film.  
**CDFF on Demand Streaming**  
Community Partners: Chagrin Valley Times, Chagrin Falls Middle School “Tiger Tales”

**The Real Right Stuff**  
SPACE RACE  
Directed by Tom Jennings  
United States, 89 minutes  
THE REAL RIGHT STUFF shares the remarkable true story of our nation’s first astronauts, the original Mercury 7, and NASA’s Project Mercury program, which revolutionized America’s role in human space exploration. Told entirely through archival footage, original radio broadcasts, interviews, and home movies, this film is a full transportation back to the late 1950’s in America. A must watch for space enthusiasts young and old.  
**Thu 10/7 CFIS Theater, 5:15 PM**  
Sponsored by: SkyQuest

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Schedule is subject to change, visit chagrinfilmfest.org for live updates
**Red Heaven**  Ohio Premiere

**SPACE RACE**

**Directed by Lauren DeFilippo, Katherine Gorringe**

United States, 77 minutes

What do you get when you confine four scientists, an engineer, and an architect in one enclosed habitat on an active volcano for one year? RED HEAVEN. In preparation for the first human mission to Mars, six volunteers equipped with their own cameras, take part in the ultimate dress rehearsal to understand the psychological effects of isolation on the human mind.

**Sat 10/9 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 10:00 AM**

Sponsored by: Chagrin Falls Popcorn Shop

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**The Rescue**  Midwest Premiere

**HUMAN SPIRIT**

**Directed by E. Chai Vasarhelyi and Jimmy Chin**

United States, Thailand, 109 minutes

For two weeks in 2018, the entire world was captivated with the heroic efforts to rescue 12 young Thai soccer players and their coach from a flooded system of caves. This is the riveting “behind the scenes” story of what it took for a team of daring cave divers to bring out these children alive. THE RESCUE tells a story of determination and teamwork during this heroic edge-of-your-seat mission with life-or-death stakes.

**Sat 10/9 CFIS Theater, 6:45 PM**

**Sun 10/10 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 3:10 PM**

Sponsored by: Elk and Elk

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**Salaryman**  Midwest Premiere

**INTERNATIONAL/ SOCIAL AWARENESS**

**Directed by Allegra Pacheco**

Costa Rica, Japan, 79 minutes

In Japan, a “Salaryman” is a white collar worker who devotes his life to his employer. Their relentless work ethic helped build the country into the global superpower it is today... but it has come at a dark cost. Taking us on a socio-historical journey investigating the strange phenomenon of the Salaryman, this film comes during a crucial time when people around the world are rethinking their work/life balance.

**M CDFF on Demand Streaming**

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**Selfish**

**HUMAN SPIRIT/ SOCIAL AWARENESS**

**Directed by Geraldine Andre, Stephane Santini, Laurence Hoenig, Pierre-Yves Bernard**

Switzerland, Belgium, Cameroon, France, Switzerland, Tanzania, Lebanon, South Sudan, 55 minutes

Humanitarians rarely have the opportunity to open up about their personal feelings, often feeling a sense of powerlessness as they sit on the front lines of some of the most trying missions on the planet. In this documentary, 40 humanitarians and their loved ones talk openly about their work and interior battles. In giving so much, sometimes it’s fine to be a little selfish.

**Sat 10/9 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 4:30 PM**

Screens with Hello Sunshine pg. 33 (13 minutes)
Surviving Sex Trafficking  
*Midwest Premiere*  
**SOCIAL AWARENESS**  
**Directed by Sadhvi Siddhali Shree**  
United States, Ethiopia, Hungary, India, Philippines, 72 minutes  
Sex trafficking survivors from around the world share their struggles to break free from their past and find hope for the future. By highlighting these powerful stories, SURVIVING SEX TRAFFICKING aims to shed a light on a horrific epidemic, while examining the ongoing struggles of the women who escaped as they fight to heal their bodies and minds and pave a new path forward.  
**Cdff on Demand Streaming**  
Community Partner: Cleveland Rape Crisis Center

Sweet Home Monteverde  
*Midwest Premiere*  
**ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTARY/ HUMAN SPIRIT**  
**Directed by Robin Truesdale**  
United States, Costa Rica, 57 minutes  
How far would you go for your beliefs? Take a spiritual and geographical journey with nine Quaker families as they travel from rural Alabama to a Costa Rican mountaintop village in order to create their own utopia: a life of pacifism. This documentary explores this group’s pioneering work for environmental protection, ecotourism, and climate change. The enduring legacy of their values is passed down to succeeding generations and continues to this day.  
**Cdff on Demand Streaming**

Theirs is the Kingdom  
*Midwest Premiere*  
**EMERGING FILMMAKER/ HUMAN SPIRIT**  
**Directed by Christopher Zaluski**  
United States, 60 minutes  
No need to travel the world to see beautiful Fresco murals... they can be found in Asheville NC! From the first sketch to final unveiling, experience the difficulties of this ancient artistic technique first hand, while meeting an ensemble cast of complex characters battling homelessness, addiction, and mental illness. THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM is a touching story about community, connection, and coming together through art.  
**Thu 10/7 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 3:15 PM**  
Screens with *The Roads Most Traveled: Photojournalist Don Bartletti* pg. 34 (25 minutes)  
**Sponsored by: Hotel Indigo**

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Please check the CDFF Website and social media for updates and any impact on scheduled events

The Chagrin Documentary Film Festival wants to keep all of our filmmakers, members, staff, volunteers and patrons safe. We will abide by State of Ohio guidelines as they become available. Cancellation of events and screenings due to changes in guidelines and the resulting losses will be refundable at the ticketholder’s request. The Chagrin Documentary Film Festival cannot be held liable for any damages or losses that are incurred.
Tiny Tim: King for a Day
PORTRAIT DOC
Directed by Johan von Sydow
Croatia, Norway, Sweden, and United States, 78 minutes
Considered by many to be either a freak or a genius, musician Herbert Khaury’s rise to stardom as Tiny Tim is the ultimate fairytale... until his tragic downfall. Through exclusive access to Tiny Tim’s diaries, and interviews with his family and friends, we discover the life story of one of the oddest stars the world has ever seen.
Wed 10/6 CFIS Theater, 7:30 PM
Sponsored by: Hamlet Village

War on the Diamond    World Premiere
LOCAL CONNECTION/ SPORTS IN MOTION
Directed by Andy Billman
United States, 75 minutes
During a 1920’s game between the Cleveland Indians and the New York Yankees, Carl Mays threw an infamous “submarine” pitch that hit shortstop Ray Chapman directly in the head. Chapman collapsed at the plate and passed away the next day, making history as the only baseball player to die from an injury during a game. This film explores the subsequent rivalry that would last a centennial.
Tue 10/5 CFIS Theater, 7:15 PM   Opening Film
Sat, 10/9 CFIS Theater, 2:40 PM
Sponsored by: The Cleveland Indians

The Wikipedia Promise   Midwest Premiere
INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY/ SOCIAL AWARENESS
Directed by Lorenza Castella, Jascha Hannover
Germany, 52 minutes
Is Wikipedia, the world’s encyclopedia, unbiased? Twenty years after the founding of this universal source of knowledge, THE WIKIPEDIA PROMISE takes a deep dive into the hopeful origins of Wikipedia, its complexities, and downfalls. Was the site’s utopic attempt to democratize the production and distribution of knowledge successful? Will it ever be?
CDFF on Demand Streaming

Writing With Fire
INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY/ HUMAN SPIRIT
Directed by Rintu Thomas , Sushmit Ghosh
India, 91 minutes
In a cluttered news landscape dominated by men, it is rare for women’s voices to be heard. Armed with smartphones, chief reporter Meera and her journalists come together to form India’s only newspaper run by Dalit women, the lowest caste in India. Together they work to enact change, speak for the vulnerable, and redefine what it means to be powerful.
CDFF on Demand Streaming
Community Partners: Chagrin Valley Times
SHORT DOCUMENTARIES
All shorts streaming on CDFF On Demand

BRINGING THE WORLD: GLOBAL FOCUS FILMS

Growing Peace in the Middle East
Midwest Premiere
Student Film Directed by Steven Hoffen
United States, 18 minutes
Viewers are introduced to the new hydroponics project in Sindyanna, Israel, which strives to create economic opportunities for Arab women. Riverside Park, Thur 10/7 7:30 PM

The Linesman: Both Sides Matter
Directed by Dominic Gill
United States and Myanmar, 26 minutes
Explore conservation efforts of communities in Myanmar as they work to restore peace and balance between these two vital communities.

Love Reaches Everywhere
Midwest Premiere
Directed by Sean Bloomfield
United States, 35 minutes
Scottish actor Gerard Butler embarks on a life-changing journey to see how his mother’s favorite non-profit organization transforms the lives of children in some of the world’s poorest countries. Riverside Park, Thur 10/7 7:30 PM

Rabari: The People of the Leopard
Midwest Premiere
Directed by Ashwin Gokhale
United States, 20 minutes
A look into the lives of Rabaris in India, their relationship with the leopard and the cost of industrialization. Screens with Fireflies of Patagonia (pg. 19) CFIS, Sunday 10/10, 10:45 AM

CHAGRIN FALLS SPOTLIGHT
CFIS Sat 10/9 4:45PM

Chagrin Falls – The Early Years
World Premiere
Directed by John Bourisseau, Skip Church
United States, 17 minutes
The early years of Chagrin Falls is recounted through the perspective of one of the settling families: the Churches.

Sponsored by: Chagrin Falls Historical Society

Saving Grove Hill
World Premiere
Directed by John Bourisseau
United States, 42 minutes
Chagrin Valley residents rally to save a landmark property and home. This historic look back reveals the community spirit that makes this village a great place to live.

Chagrin Falls – The Early Years

“The trajectory of my film has been forever changed by being a part of The Chagrin Documentary Film Festival. It is an event that is held in high regard by filmmakers because EVERYTHING associated with it is designed to make you feel special and help your film succeed.” — John Gomez

Schedule is subject to change, visit chagrinfilmfest.org for live updates
SHORT DOCUMENTARIES

CULINARY JOURNEYS

The Little Tea Shop
Everyone’s a Critic Choice
Directed by Matteo Servente, Molly J. Wexler
United States, 17 minutes
A charming icon of community, The Little Tea Shop has sat in the heart of Memphis since 1918, and continues to be a melting pot of culture, conversation, and delicious cuisine today.
Riverside Park, Thur 10/7 12:00 PM, Sat 10/9 12:00 PM

One All the Way
Ohio Premiere
Everyone’s a Critic Choice
Directed by David Baram
United States, 25 minutes
A tale of love, friendship, grief and... hot dogs! Searching for the world’s greatest Hot Texas Weiner, three elderly men embark on a poignant, unforgettable journey.
Riverside Park, Thur 10/7 12:00 PM, Sun 10/10 12:00 PM

Tanagokoro: A Culinary Portrait
Ohio Premiere
Directed by Victoria Fistes, Masashi Nozaki
United Kingdom, Japan, Portugal, 32 minutes
Japanese chef Yoshinori Ishii is dismayed by the quality of fish in London and takes it upon himself to investigate. His passion sparks a fish revolution in the U.K.

Riverside Park, Thur 10/7 12:00 PM, Sat 10/9 12:00 PM

INSPIRATION OF ART

Apollo Road Presents: Maude Andrade
Ohio Premiere
Directed by Alex Velasquez
United States, 13 minutes
An intimate look into mixed media artist Maude Andrade’s process, philosophies and techniques as she creates in her Albuquerque, NM studio.

Michael Murrell: Art, Nature and Catawampus
Midwest Premiere
Directed by Hal Jacobs
United States, 25 minutes
A look into the world of installation artist and sculptor, Michal Murrell. Explore his artistic process, creations and the former cotton mill that houses five decades of his artwork.
Valley Art Center, Thur 10/7 6:00 PM

Miss Alma Thomas: A Life in Color
Ohio Premiere
Directed by Cheri Gaulke
United States, 20 minutes
Explore Alma W. Thomas’ incredible life of firsts through the lens of curators, scholars and her family.

Naya: David Kim
Midwest Premiere
Directed by AJ Valente, Janice Chung
United States, 12 minutes
Under intense, motherly supervision, child prodigy David Kim navigates the challenges of his artistic career, marriage, parenthood, and journey to becoming the concertmaster of the Philadelphia orchestra.

Persian Blue
U.S. Premiere
Directed by Sam Mohseni
Canada, 12 minutes
Samira Messchian, an Iranian-Canadian textile artist, finds solace in creating Persian Carpets while reflecting on her nostalgic memories of Iran.

Bryan Zanisnik’s Big Pivot
Directed by Nick Ravich
United States, 8 minutes
Artist and storyteller Bryan Zanisnik takes us on a playful, tragic-comic journey through his transition from NYC to Sweden in a quest to find joy, stillness, and fulfillment.
Riverside Park, Wed 10/6 12:00 PM, Sat 10/9 4:00 PM

BUY TICKETS
Online: chagrinfilmfest.org
Or call the Fest office: (440) 247-1591
**SHORT DOCUMENTARIES**

**OHIO HOMEGROWN**
Screened together at Riverside Park Wed, Oct 6, 7:30 PM, Fri, 10/8, 12:00 PM

**I Am**  
**Ohio Premiere**  
**Directed by Hana LeBrew**  
United States, 6 minutes  
Body consciousness, positivity, and acceptance are showcased in this personal story about a woman’s journey into self appreciation, love, and understanding.

**The Master Craftsman**  
**Directed by Phillip Sieb**  
United States, 32 minutes  
A personal look into master carpenter Richard Grell's woodworking skills and techniques, as he crafts traditional Windsor Chairs from trees grown on his family farm - a labor of love for over 50 years.

**Shoe Bob**  
**Ohio Premiere**  
**Directed by Angela Xayavong**  
United States, 13 minutes  
Known for his infamous, playful, and often political window displays, local shoe repairman, Bob, takes us into the inner workings of his shop.

**We Still Make Things**  
**Directed by Ian Cook**  
United States, 13 minutes  
Determined to protect their frontline medical staff, leadership at a Dayton, Ohio hospital lean into the city’s roots to form an unlikely team crafting personal protective equipment (PPE) at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Who Fights for You?**  
**Directed by Maddie Stambler**  
United States, 16 minutes  
A young African American man with cerebral palsy questions ableism in society today, what independence means to him, and his ability to fulfill his call from God: to become a pastor.

**OUR SHARED PLANET**

**Aguilucho: Dance of the Harpy Eagle**  
**Ohio Premiere**  
**Directed by Daniel Byers**  
United States, 22 minutes  
Following the renewed relationship between the Embera Tribe in Panama and the great Harpy Eagle, this documentary follows the revival of the ancient Eagle Dance, and a model for conserving both the culture and the rainforest.

**Saving Juliette**  
**Directed by Evey Wilson Wetherbee**  
United States, 40 minutes  
Follow the residents of Juliette, Georgia as they reveal the underbelly of the town’s mysterious fatalities and cancer cases.

**Understory: A Journey into the Tongass**  
**Directed by Colin Arisman**  
United States, 40 minutes  
Three women set sail on a 350 mile expedition through Alaska’s Tongass National Forest, to explore how clearcut logging could affect wildlife, local communities, and our planet’s climate.  
Riverside Park, Fri 10/8 7:30 PM, Sun 10/10 12:00 PM

**The Unisexuals**  
**Midwest Premiere**  
**Directed by Katie Garrett**  
United States, 8 minutes  
It’s not what you think! Explore evolution and genetic adaptation along with some intriguing facts about female salamanders’ curious ability to mate.

**Wild Winds: Spirit of the Bison**  
**Directed by Sawyer Pasma**  
United States, 10 minutes  
Human caretakers from a buffalo preserve in northern Indiana share their passion for the United States’ national animal, the wild bison, and its importance to our nation’s history and future.
SHORT DOCUMENTARIES

PEOPLE YOU NEED TO MEET

**We are like Waves**  
*Ohio Premiere*  
**Directed by Jordyn Romero**  
United States, Sri Lanka, 13 minutes  
In Sri Lanka, young girls are expected to follow certain standards. We follow Sanu as she breaks stereotypes to become a female Sri Lankan surfer.

**Charlie Surfer**  
*Ohio Premiere*  
**Directed by Pia Strømme**  
Norway, Ireland, 18 minutes  
This light-hearted documentary follows Charlie, a 10-year-old from the UK, as he navigates his individuality, living with Aspergers, and feeling different from his peers.

**It’s Rocket Science**  
**Directed by Rachel Knoll**  
United States, 5 minutes  
Ky Michaelson has made more rockets than anyone else on the planet. This creative portrait takes a closer look at “Rocketman’s” achievements, struggles with dyslexia, and unique future.  
Riverside Park, Wed 10/6 12:00 PM, Sat 10/9 4:00 PM

**Lost in the Shuffle**  
*World Premiere*  
**Directed by Sophia Nino**  
United States, 14 minutes  
In the difficult journey of grief, we often develop attachments to the objects a loved one has left behind. In this moving short film, Sean is on a mission to recover a lost iPod shuffle, the last gift from his brother before his untimely passing.  
Riverside Park, Wed 10/6 12:00 PM, Sat 10/9 7:30 PM

**MerBy’s**  
**Directed by Jamie Miller**  
Canada, 19 minutes  
Battling long held masculine norms, several Newfoundlanders come together in sparkly mermaid tails to create the 2020 “Merby’s Calendar,” a project that creates space for men to be their authentic selves.  
Riverside Park, Wed 10/6 12:00 PM, Sat 10/9 4:00 PM

**Renaissance Man**  
*Ohio Premiere*  
**Directed by Carson Hunt**  
United States, 11 minutes  
William, a 60-year-old former Army tank driver, who lives in the middle of nowhere with his cats, auditions for a Medieval Faire on a whim. The experience might give him the one thing he’s been missing his entire life… a family.  
Riverside Park, Wed 10/6 12:00 PM, Sat 10/9 4:00 PM

SOCIAL AWARENESS SHORTS

**Hello Sunshine**  
*Ohio Premiere*  
**Directed by Joe Quint**  
United States, 13 minutes  
Roz Pichardo transforms her personal trauma from domestic violence into a power for good. In following a call to serve others, Roz finds the source of her own healing.  
Chagrin Valley Little Theatre – screens with *Selfish*, Sat, 10/9 4:30 PM

**Life, Again**  
**Directed by Anna Maité Kaplan, Orion Huang**  
United States, 18 minutes  
An intimate portrait about Wes

**RIP Seni**  
*Ohio Premiere*  
**Directed by Daisy Ifama**  
United Kingdom, 20 minutes  
Exploring mental health, public art, and injustice, RIP SENI follows the story behind a piece of graffiti that emerged overnight outside Bethlem Royal Hospital, in the heart of the BLM movement, and the devastating story behind its markings.

**Training for Freedom**  
*Festival Premiere*  
**Directed by Kathy Conkwright**  
United States, 40 minutes  
A transformational story of how idealistic college students and Black activist teachers came together in the small midwestern town of Oxford, Ohio to find their humanity, and the common ground to fight as one in the struggle for freedom.  
Sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women Cleveland
SHORT DOCUMENTARIES

STORIES OF COURAGE

Fraser Syndrome & Me  Ohio Premiere
Everyone’s a Critic Choice
Directed by Kyle Anne Grendys
United States, 20 minutes
Having always felt alone in the world with her unique disability, filmmaker Kyle Anne Grendy sets on a journey to find other individuals with Fraser Syndrome, a rare recessive gene disorder with less than 100 cases worldwide.

Out of the Dark: Hannah
Out of the Dark: Hannah
Full Picture  Ohio Premiere
Everyone’s a Critic Choice
Directed by Jacob Reed
United States, 12 minutes
With meetings happening virtually due to the pandemic, Santina is experiencing something new: whether or not to disclose her disability onscreen.

Out of the Dark: Hannah  Midwest Premiere
Directed by Sarah Klein, Tom Mason
United States, 5 minutes
Facing the greatest challenge of her life, a young woman embarks on a mission to create an app that provides emergency mental health care.

UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEYS

Life on Air  U.S. Premiere
Directed by Louis Leblique
United States, United Kingdom, 13 minutes
Combining interviews, animation, and archival footage, this engaging documentary explores the UK’s forgotten CB radio subculture and our ongoing, universal desire to connect.

Riverside Park, Wed 10/6 12:00 PM,
Sat 10/9 4:00 PM

The Roads Most Traveled: Photojournalist Don Bartletti  Ohio Premiere
Directed by Bill Wisneski
United States, 25 minutes
Pulitzer prize-winning photojournalist Don Bartletti shares heart wrenching stories from his lengthy career documenting migrants as they travel from Central America to the United States.

Riverside Park, Fri 10/8 7:30 PM,
Sun 10/10 12:00 PM

Jude  Ohio Premiere
Directed by Amos Menin
United Kingdom, 10 minutes
A personal memoir documenting a seven year old boy’s escape from Nazi Germany as told through family photos, archival, and contemporary footage.

Slim Pickins  Ohio Premiere
Everyone’s a Critic Choice
Directed by Justin Jeffers
United States, 15 minutes
Meet the first black-owned outfitters shop in the country, as they strive to create a more racially inclusive space in outdoor recreation.

Riverside Park, Thur 10/7 12:00 PM,
Sat 10/9 12:00 PM

Out of the Dark: Hannah
Jude

FUNDING PROVIDED BY

Ohio Arts Council  The Banks-Baldwin Foundation  Emily Waters Foundation

Schedule is subject to change, visit chagrinfilmfest.org for live updates
Thanks to so many who make the CDFF possible

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Mary Ann Ponce, Director
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Engelina Koberna, Tech Director
Grace Sullivan, Operations Manager
Suzanne Luecke, Development
Nina DiSalvo, Marketing and Programming Assistant
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Mary Lynn Griff and Vince Shuster, Operations logistics and Cash Control
Steve Heitzel, Special Operations

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Events Chair: Nancy Haag
Homestay Program: Heidi Sanford
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Program Cover/Poster Art: Maddy Sopko
Program Design and Print: Amanda Petkiewicz and Harold K. Douthit, III, Chagrin Valley Times
Award Ceremony Hosts: Loree Vick and Rick Jackson
Awards Ceremony Video: R43 Ltd.
Award Ceremony: Chagrin Valley Little Theatre and Nancy Rogoff
CDFF Lounge Furniture: Fellowship Bible Church
CDFF Lounge Decor: Katy O’Neil

Sincere gratitude to our film selection team, award judges, Festival volunteers...and to so many who have joined us in making the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival a success.

BUY TICKETS Online: chagrinfilmfest.org
Or call the Fest office: (440) 247-1591
EVERYONE’S A CRITIC

Special Thanks to the “Everyone’s a Critic” Teams!
These 15 teams gathered in the spring to help CDFF select some amazing short documentaries for the 2021 Festival! Thank you to all of the “critics” who participated…

Cocktail Critics – Katy O’Neil
A Cup of Critique – CVLT
The Directors Guild – Julie Kindred
Documentary Review Committee (DRC) – Robin Harbage
Fun Between the Pages – Pam Spremulli
Judson Manor Movie Mavens
Judson Park Producers
The Reel Deal – Joe and Joyce Marquette
R Px – Ricki Bunkin
Sanibel Screeners – Trish Sylvia and Chad Salashour
Siskel and Scharpf – Tanya Scharpf
Solon Road Circle – Jim Martin and Linda Harper
South Franklin Circle Critics
Team Bring it On! – Jennifer Levine
Team Stella – Diane Farr

Check to see which short film these teams selected!

AWARD WINNER

2021 AWARDS

The CDFF award winning films will be announced on Saturday, October 9 at 7:15 pm during the Festival Awards Ceremony at the Chagrin Valley Little Theatre. The awards include $10,000 in cash prizes and distribution contracts for two winning films with Gravitas Ventures. The awards ceremony is free and open to the public. (pg. 4)

David Ponce Best of the Festival
Emerging Filmmaker Award
Best U.S. Documentary Award
John A. Hellman International Documentary Award
Best Human Spirit Documentary Award
Best Short Documentary
Best Local Documentary
Best Student Documentary
Rotary of the Chagrin Valley “Service Above Self” Award

10 YEARS OF CELEBRATING BLACK FILM, LIFE & CULTURE

We’re proud to support the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival!

“CDFF is a wonderful reminder that hard work, dedication, and a whole lot of love pays off.”
— Kayla Borkovec

36 Schedule is subject to change, visit chagrinfilmfest.org for live updates
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In loving memory of John Hellman

The Chagrin Documentary Film Festival is a program of Fevered Dreams Productions, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to educating audiences and empowering filmmakers to tell their unique stories.

BUY TICKETS
Online: chagrinfilmfest.org
Or call the Fest office: (440) 247-1591
THANK YOU TO ALL CDFF VOLUNTEERS!

Sign up to be a volunteer at chagrinfilmfest.org
CDFF ON DEMAND VIEWING GUIDE

Individual streaming tickets

1. Go to boxoffice.chagrinfilmfest.org to view the event guide and select films.
2. Purchase individual film tickets
3. Receive order confirmation by email

WATCH

1. Your virtual access will be sent one hour before the event or when the film is able to be watched.
   Check your email on October 5, 2021!
2. Click the View button found in the email to watch your film
3. or open the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival app on ROKU or Apple TV and submit your unique Ticket Voucher Code if prompted

2TSustainAbility proudly supports the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival and wishes its filmmakers and organizers the greatest of successes in its 12th year!

Who we are:
2TSustainAbility- A global network of professional consultants and specialists who can assist your business by delivering value add solutions and support.

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Sustainable Developmentl
Business Risk
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For more information: www.2tsustainability.com  atien@me.com
Home to over 75 independent shops and restaurants, Chagrin Falls has been delivering Main Street charm for over 100 years. Why settle for substitutes?

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CHAGRINFALLSMECHANTASSOCIATION.ORG
AND
DOWNTOWNCHAGRINFALLS.COM
THE VISION

We are INSPIRED to create a world-class destination film festival in the Village of Chagrin Falls.

CHAGRIN Documentary FILM FEST

BECOME A DONOR

Your support will ensure CDFF has a place in the community for long-lasting impact.

To donate visit chagrinfilmfest.org or contact Morgan Crawford at advancement@chagrinfilmfest.org
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