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**OCTFME to Sponsor High School Film Competition at the 2016 DC Independent Film Festival**

**Washington, DC** – The DC Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment (OCTFME) is proud to announce the sponsorship of the DCIFF high school film competition program at the 18<sup>th</sup> annual DC Independent Film Festival.

Established in 1999, DCIFF is the oldest independent film festival in Washington, DC. Innovative filmmakers from all over the world will showcase more than 80 narrative, documentary and animated films throughout various locations in Washington DC from March 4 through March 13<sup>th</sup>.

“The Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment is thrilled to partner with the DC Independent Film Festival to support their high school film competition program,” stated OCTFME Director Angie M. Gates. “I’m excited for these talented student filmmakers to have this opportunity to showcase their films.”

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual DCIFF High School Film Competition will screen at the DCIFF on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. Fourteen emerging student filmmakers from the US and as far away as Brazil, China and the UK were selected from more than 160 submissions to showcase their short films at the Navy Memorial Burke Theater.

“We are very honored to have OCTFME come on as a sponsor of our high school film competition,” says DCIFF press director Maria Datdh. “Their involvement helps to give our young filmmakers their own venue to showcase their great work.”



Participating judges for the competition include OCTFME Deputy Director Herbert Niles, Award-winning documentary filmmaker Yi Chen, and Filmthreat.com’s Elias Savada reception and discussion panel titled “Getting Started in Your Media Career” featuring director David Brinkman and Creative Strategies president Dara Padwo-Audick will follow the screenings. The screenings will begin at 11:30am.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <http://dciff-indie.org>.

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## **About OCTFME**

The DC Office of Cable Television, Film, Music & Entertainment (OCTFME) implements, manages, and administrates programs, initiatives, and services that support media industry economic activity, growth and employment in the District of Columbia. OCTFME supports the local creative economy and content creators through its Film DC Economic Incentive Fund Program as well as film permitting, location and production support assistance. Washington, DC’s instantly recognizable landmarks, diverse neighborhoods, cultural amenities, and first-class accommodations are just some of the many features that make the nation’s capital a venue of choice for media production. For more information, contact the OCTFME at (202) 727-6608, visit us on the web at <http://film.dc.gov>, join the DC Film community on <http://www.facebook.com/EntertainDC>, or follow us on [http://twitter.com/Entertain\\_DC](http://twitter.com/Entertain_DC).

## **About DCIFF**

DCIFF was launched in 1999 to nurture independent film. As a competitive festival, all films are Washington DC premieres and many are U.S. and world premieres. As the oldest independent film festival in Washington, the DC Independent Film Festival has a storied history of presenting extraordinary films. DCIFF has showcased cutting edge features, shorts and documentaries on every subject from every country with every



budget and subject imaginable. By exhibiting world premiere screenings, hosting timely seminars and workshops, and even sponsoring discussions with the United States Congress, DCIFF gives independent filmmakers opportunities for their voices to be heard in a way that no other festival can provide. Follow us on twitter @DCIndieFilmFest and on Facebook “DC Independent Film Fest”.