



THE 19TH ANNUAL REGENT PARK FILM FESTIVAL ONLINE ANNOUNCES ITS 2021 LINEUP

FESTIVAL RUNS NOVEMBER 25TH - DECEMBER 2ND 2021

CANADA WIDE - November 18, 2021 — From November 25th - December 2nd 2021, Regent Park Film Festival (RPFF) attendees can stream films and industry programming in our festival lineup, all of which is FREE! In addition to our online content, we're hosting an In-Person Outdoor Screening in Regent Park, with family-friendly films, free hot chocolate and art kits to attendees. At 19 years, RPFF has been Toronto's longest-running free community film festival.

Throughout the pandemic, RPFF has pivoted its programming to an online space, while continuing to provide free and accessible programming that features the stories of BIPOC communities, prioritizing under-represented stories.

The films in this year's festival explore the relationships we have with ourselves, our communities and others. Our industry programming challenges our working relationships and the standards for diversity in the film and television sector.

"As the world continues to heal from the COVID -19 pandemic, we would be remiss to overlook its lasting effects, not just from a healthcare or economic perspective, but from a human one. This year's program gives audiences an opportunity to reflect on the significant people and connections in their lives, while navigating the ebb and flow of daily life. We were inspired to explore how we as BIPOC people, with all our intersections and lived experiences, show up not only for others, but for ourselves as well." — **Aashna Thakkar, Manager of Programming**

Explore the [RPFF 2021 Digital Program Guide](#), Watch the [2021 Festival Trailer](#), Check out the full lineup and subscribe for free access at www.RPFF.ca/2021.

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#): @RegentParkFilm | #RPFF2021 | Website: www.RPFF.ca/2021

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About RPFF

RPFF has been making films accessible to communities across Toronto since 2003. We are a non-profit cultural and educational media arts organization and the sole community film festival in Canada's largest and oldest public housing neighbourhood. RPFF is a staple in the community. In addition to our annual festival in November, we offer year-round screenings, our annual School Program, workshops and community events at no cost. The key communities we serve are Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) communities, people with low-income, people who live in public housing, and Regent Park residents. The films we present break stereotypes and show that no one place or person has just one story.



FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

In-Person Family Day

Saturday November 27, 5 pm - 8pm, Daniels Spectrum courtyard (585 Dundas St. East, Toronto)

Our only in-person screening features a mix of family friendly short films from our main Festival program and video profiles of Regent Park by the [Toronto Ward Museum](#). Drop in at any time from 5-8pm to enjoy some films alongside heated lamps, free hot chocolate and free art kits to provide a cozy and COVID-safe viewing experience! In case of bad weather, find us inside Daniels Spectrum.

Featured Films

Kamayan | Dir. Minerva Navasca

Rejoice Resistance | Dir. Elisha Smith-Leverock

Heroes | Dir. Andy Nguyen

Rules to be a Rebel by a Cockney Sikh | Dir. Estefani Gonzalez

Tha Magik Change | Dir. Monami Roy

Block by Block Regent Park Stories

The Toronto Ward Museum's Block by Block program is proud to share a series of video stories titled, Heyday. These stories feature members of the Regent Park community, old and new - their experiences of change and their unrelenting advocacy for the future. Personal shifts within the lives of each community member parallel a rapidly evolving landscape as the revitalization takes root. Each storyteller describes moments of arrival, movement, and settlement in Regent Park along with the character of the Regent community, which they hope will survive the redevelopment.

Presented by: Daniels, Toronto Community Housing, Toronto Ward Museum and ArtHeart

The below will be available online at Watch.RegentParkFilmFestival.com.

Featured Films

One of Ours | Dir. Yasmine Mathurin (2021)

One of Ours is a poetic observational look at reconciliation and belonging through the eyes of a young Haitian-born Indigenous adoptee in Canada.

Canadian Feature

Presented by: Canadian Race Relations Foundation

Beans | Dir. Tracey Deer (2020)

Inspired by true events, Beans is about a Mohawk girl on the cusp of adolescence who must grow up fast and become her own kind of warrior during the armed stand-off known as the 1990 Oka Crisis.

Canadian, Indigenous Feature Film

Short Films

Defund | Dir. Khadijah Roberts-Abdullah and Araya Mengesha (2021)

Brother and Sister are millennial twins trying to navigate their own, and each other's, complex responses to both the lockdown and the fight for racial justice during the long hot summer of 2020.

Canadian Short Film



Ruby | Dir. Momo Daud (2021)

Ruby follows the ruminative and nostalgic day of Pakistani woman, Ruby, who's recently immigrated to Canada. The fatigue of her journey gives way to a melancholic anticipation as she waits for her husband and son to come home.

Canadian Short Film

Industry Programming

Emerging Directors' Spotlight & Pitch Competition

This exciting platform highlights the best of Canada's emerging talent, who pitch their next project to a jury of industry experts from CBC Programming. Filmmakers submit under one of two categories of pitches: SCRIPTED and UNSCRIPTED projects. One winner in each category will receive a **development deal from CBC and \$1000 from RBC!** Watch the spotlighted short films from the finalists and their pitches at any point throughout the Festival, as host Jason D'Souza of CBC's *Fresh Air*, announces the winners!

Spotlighted Films and Directors Making a Pitch

The Goddard Kit | Dir. Alice Wang | *Scripted*

Promotion | Dir. Mike Regis | *Scripted*

2035 | Dir. Tannaz Keshavarz | *Scripted*

Worst Student Ever | Dir. Danica 'Dizzy' Ricamara | *Unscripted*

Manuela | Dir. Norma Garcia | *Unscripted*

RPFV gratefully acknowledges the support of RBC as its 2020 Festival Premier Sponsor, CBC Toronto as its media sponsor, and CBC Programming as a Festival Supporter.

Tracking Progress: The role of race-based Data in Film & TV

Join our industry panel, hosted by the [REMC](#) (Racial Equity Media Collective) as they discuss the findings of their first-ever report on race-based data collection in the screen sector. REMC will discuss the current state of data collection, and discuss where the industry must go if our collective equity goals are to be met.

Date: Monday November 29 2021

Time: 4 – 5 pm

Location: Zoom Limited spots available. [REGISTER HERE](#).

Moderator: Rad Simonpillai (NOW)

Panelists: Nikitha Gopal (Nordicity) and Amar Wala (REMC)

Presented by: REMC