

Contact: Cheryl Crooks, Executive Director 360-543-0149
Cheryl@cascadiafilmfest.org
www.cascadiafilmfest.org

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CASCADIA Film Festival Delivers A World Of Women's Stories

5th annual festival will be online May 13-22!

BELLINGHAM, **WA**, **March 1**, **2021**—CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival is gearing up for its 5th year of bringing exceptional films directed by women all over the world to viewers in Bellingham and beyond. The festival, which usually takes place in downtown Bellingham each spring was "re-envisioned" following 2020's COVID shutdown and will again be shown online this year May 13 through 22. Festival passes will go on sale May 1. Organizers say they expect this year's online festival to be "almost like being there."

Audiences will be able to stream films from women directors all over the world on their home computer, television or device as well as meet and talk with directors, and go behind the scenes of filmmaking, such as with the festival's popular Script Studio workshop. All from the comfort of their own home or mobile device.

Executive Director Cheryl Crooks said this year's festival includes 27 films from 14 different countries. This year's films include narrative features, short films, animated shorts, and documentary features and shorts. Films by students, emerging directors and Indigenous women are also in the mix. A complete line-up of films officially selected will be announced in early April.

Crooks said the goal of this year's festival is to entertain, engage and connect film lovers by creating a platform to showcase and celebrate the talent and stories women filmmakers have to offer. All the films are exclusively directed by women, Crooks adds, making CASCADIA one of only a few festivals in the United States to do so.

"CASCADIA is films but it's also so much more," Crooks said. "It's sharing stories, meeting filmmakers, making new friends, exchanging ideas and going behind the scenes."

Festival passes will go on sale May 1. More information will be available on the CASCADIA <u>website</u> at www.cascadiafilmfest.org.

CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and showcasing the work of women filmmakers, was formed in Bellingham, Washington, in 2015. The organization also works year-round to provide film production, exhibition, and distribution education. More information about CASCADIA may be found on their website at www.cascadiafilmfest.org.