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4th One Earth Film Festival, In Partnership With the City of Chicago, Announces a 'Festival Choice' Screening

OAK PARK, IL — Returning for its fourth dynamic year, the One Earth Film Festival, in partnership with the City of Chicago, will screen a "Festival Choice" selection on Earth Day, April 22, at a downtown location to be announced later. This year's Festival takes place the weekend of March 6-8 and will feature 40 screenings and interactive programs throughout the city and surrounding suburbs.

The "Festival Choice" will be a feature-length film shown at this year's fest that audiences deem worthy of wider exposure. Festival attendees can choose — through online voting — one film they think best represents solutions and inspiration for a citywide audience. Voting takes place at OneEarthVote. A jury of professional filmmakers and environmental leaders will screen the top three vote getters and select one to be shown during the City's Earth Day festivities.

"The City of Chicago is excited to be partnering with One Earth Film Festival to facilitate Chicago residents' understanding of climate change, sustainability, and the power of human involvement," said Mayor Emanuel. "I am committed to making Chicago the greenest city of the 21st century, and this event will generate widespread engagement and enthusiasm about sustainability throughout the city."

Ana Garcia Doyle, One Earth Film Festival managing director, added: "We are pleased to partner with the City of Chicago to extend the engagement and enthusiasm from this year's One Earth Film Festival into the City's official Earth Day event with a screening of the *One Earth Festival Choice* winner. Audiences are what drive our festival's momentum and we want them to have a say."

As the Midwest's Premier Environment Film Festival grows and attracts new audiences, its mission continues to gain support throughout the region. Karen Weigert, the City of Chicago's Chief Sustainability Officer, has recognized the festival as a regional leader in sustainability. The 2015 festival promises to inspire action with a broader reach than ever before, and once again will present its Young Filmmakers Contest. Environmental thought leaders with expertise in a variety of topics will lead discussion and programming immediately following each screening.

The majority of One Earth screenings are free, but advanced ticket reservations are recommended. A \$5 donation per film is appreciated. These audience donations as well as sponsors and donors support the festival. Major sponsors for 2015 are Nissan, the Manaaki Foundation and The Nature Conservancy. Tickets information and schedules can be found at oneearthfilmfest.org. The festival's official hashtags are #ONEEARTH and #OEFF2015. The Festival Choice hashtag is #OneEarthDayFilm.

One Earth Film Festival is the Midwest's Premier Environmental Film Festival. It aims to create opportunities for understanding climate change, sustainability and the power of human involvement.