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One Earth Film Festival declares, 'This is the Moment'

Environmental festival makes urgent action for the planet its 2018 theme

OAK PARK—One Earth Film Festival is pleased to announce "This Is the Moment" as its 2018 theme and the release of its <u>seventh annual schedule</u>. Running March 2-11, the festival will screen films throughout the Chicago region, including in Whiting, Ind., for the first time.

"This is the Moment" underscores the urgency for awareness and action as the effects of climate change intensify across the planet. As part of its programs, One Earth Film Festival will encourage attendees to support or sign up for concrete actions they can take to ensure a healthy planet. Festival programs will offer multiple solutions-based opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds.

"Films tell us stories about our times and who we are," festival director Ana Garcia Doyle said. "At the festival's core is the mission to share stories not only about environmental challenges but also the inspiring stories of human resilience and creativity in confronting them. We see this is as a clear moment to step up in a real and loving way to commit ourselves to being kinder stewards of our one and only Earth."

One Earth Film Festival continues to bring the highest quality environmental documentaries and solution-oriented programs to it audiences. This year's festival will present 33 films in 53 screenings at 47 venues. Selected films this year include: "An Inconvenient Sequel," "Chasing Coral," "Wasted," "Happening: A Clean Energy Revolution," "Jane," "Dolores," and "Rancher, Farmer, Fisherman." The festival will announce in February a list of filmmakers who will attend.

Through its programming, OEFF addresses issues surrounding water, energy, transportation, food, waste and recycling, environmental advocacy, social justice and climate change. Programs are built around full-feature or a mix of short films, followed by action-oriented discussions led by many of the most highly regarded environmental experts and advocates in the Chicago region.

The Green Carpet Gala, the festival's signature opening event, is 6:30 to 9 p.m. March 2 at the beautiful Gratz Center of Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago, 115. E. Delaware Place, in the Magnificent Mile neighborhood. The evening will feature food, drink, networking, entertainment and a brief robust program focused on this year's theme, "This Is the Moment."

Screenings are held in museums, churches, schools and universities, libraries, conservatories, cultural centers and other easily accessible public spaces. Advance tickets to the Green Carpet Gala are \$75, \$80 at the door. Most screenings are free with a suggested \$7 donation. Reservations are required for all events.

One Earth Film Festival is the Midwest's Premier Environmental Film Festival.

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