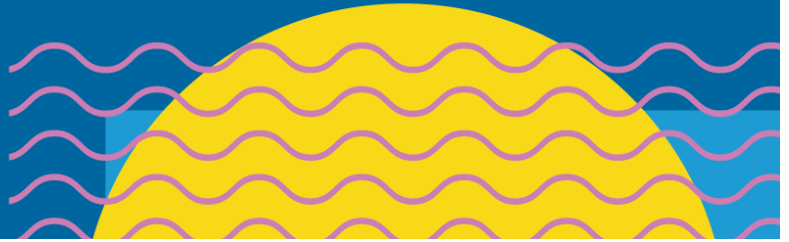


JULY 25-29 2018

GIMLI FILM FESTIVAL



Gimli Film Festival pledges 40 - 60% of all films screened at 2018 festival will be directed or written by women

GIMLI, MANITOBA – MAY 24, 2018 – In an effort to increase gender parity at Manitoba's largest film festival, the Gimli Film Festival (GFF) will launch a series of new initiatives this year that are geared towards bolstering female-driven cinema. This year's program will include 40 – 60 % women-directed or women-written films. To achieve strong female representation in the 2018 Festival Program, GFF is excited to present The Future is Female* Film Series, which highlights brand new feature films by up-and-coming woman-identified directors from across Canada and the world. This important new series has been made possible by a collaborative sponsorship from Manitoba's film production companies, including [Original Pictures](#), [Inferno Pictures](#), [Black Watch Entertainment](#), [Buffalo Gal Pictures](#), [Canadian Media Producers Association](#), [Farpoint Films](#), [Frantic Films](#), [Media RendezVous](#) and [Rebecca Gibson](#).

"Programs like The Future is Female* are essential in empowering women to pick up a camera and put together a film crew. Too few women are represented in the film industry today," says Vivian Belik, GFF Film Programmer. "By creating opportunities such as these, the Gimli Film Festival is opening doors for more women to tell their stories on screen."

GFF is also pleased to announce a new emerging female filmmaker outreach project, called the Future is Female* Mentorship Program. This brand-new program is completely free and will bring over 40 emerging women directors, actors, producers, writers and media artists to GFF for an entire day of woman-driven cinema and learning opportunities.

GFF Board Member and filmmaker Rebecca Gibson was the driving force behind this new program. "I have wanted to be a filmmaker from a very early age, and I have been strongly

supported by some powerful women in our community and around the world,” says Gibson. “I want to do the same for other women. The more diversity in our industry, the more the diversity of our world is reflected, and the better we can all understand our world, each other, and ourselves.”

Any woman-identifying persons that are interested and available to attend the festival on Friday, July 27, 2018 are encouraged to apply through the [GFF Website](#). This program was sponsored in part by the Canadian women-in-media advocacy organization [Women in View](#), alongside [Vital Transit](#) and [On Screen Manitoba](#).

GFF believes in creating a film festival that is respectful of all artists, pays proper artist fees to filmmakers and presents diverse and inclusive programming. Join us for the release of the full 2018 Festival Program on Thursday, June 21 at Manitoba Theatre for Young People (MTYP). Festival passes will be on sale starting June 1 at [gimlifilm.com](#)

Quick Facts:

- **40 – 60 %** of the 2018 GFF Program will be films written or directed by women
- A new films series titled **The Future is Female* Film Series** will showcase brand new feature films by up-and-coming female directors from across Canada and the world (sponsored by Original Pictures, Inferno Pictures, Black Watch Entertainment, Buffalo Gal Pictures, Canadian Media Producers Association, Farpoint Films, Frantic Films, Media RendezVous and Rebecca Gibson)
- **The Future is Female* Mentorship Program** is a new emerging female filmmaker outreach program that will ensure more women will have opportunities and resources to produce their films. (sponsored by Women in View, Vital Transport & On Screen Manitoba)
- To find out more about GFF’s new initiatives, check out their [recent post on their website](#)

Canadian filmmakers and an exceptional selection of feature films and documentaries from around the world! Join us this year Wednesday, July 25 to Sunday, July 29!

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Thanks to our 2018 sponsors!

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Festival Friend Hospitality: Flatland Coffee Roasters, Lifa Home

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