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The Destiny City Film Festival to Host Free Virtual Events Open to Public

Tacoma, Wash. - Feb. 18, 2021 - Join the 8th Annual Destiny City Film Festival (DCFF) from Feb. 26 through March 7, 2021 to celebrate the power of cinematic storytelling. DCFF will be hosting three special virtual events curated to provide invaluable insights into the film industry. All events are free and open to the public, and are appropriate for filmmakers and screenwriters of all ages and levels of experience. In addition to the slate of films in this year's program, DCFF looks forward to bringing people together virtually to learn about unique aspects of filmmaking from exceptional leaders in the industry.

"DCFF knows it's vital to bring exposure to various aspects of the filmmaking process and not just sharing the final product on the big - or small - screen. That's why this year, we are shining light on the stories of young filmmakers, discussing how equity and access affect opportunities in the film industry, and the very beginnings of a cinematic story - the logline," said DCFF Founder and Executive Director Emily Nakada-Alm. "Being able to hold our events virtually enables us to reach more folks, and to hopefully encourage them to continue to pursue their film-related dreams. We are dedicated to providing resources to storytellers in Tacoma and beyond, and we can't wait to present this exciting slate of films for our eighth annual festival!"

On Sunday, Feb. 28, DCFF will host [A New Generation of Storytellers, Co-Presented with The National Film Festival for Talented Youth \(NFFTY\)](#). Pre-register to ensure your spot, as space is limited. This live panel will begin at 2 p.m. PST and feature emerging filmmakers from across the nation. Speakers include award-winning writer/director Ciani Rey Walker, filmmaker/ animator Barb Hoffman, Student Academy Award®- finalist Ward Kamel, writer/director Claire Gostin, and writer/director Moira Fett. The Festival will be showcasing their films for free in the [NFFTY 2020 Showcase](#) shorts package. Kara Puerschner, an actress, producer and award-winning screenwriter from Seattle, will moderate.

The second panel [Beyond Inclusion: Equity, Opportunity and Film](#) on March 6 at 1 p.m. PST will feature a conversation about achieving sustainable, transformative and equitable work in the film industry as well as how local leaders are directly involved with offering youth in underserved communities unique opportunities to the film industry and beyond. Participation is free, but space is limited. Speakers include entertainer Abie Ekenezar, actor Obadiah Freeman, Rising Reels Film Camp co-founder Trina Griffin, Hard Out Media, LLC co-founder Ben Leiatua, and Key Tech Labs founder Adam C. Powers.

On March 6 at 4 p.m. PST, DCFF will hold its final free event of the festival, [Foundations of a Screenplay Workshop: The Logline](#), in partnership with Northwest Screenwriters Guild. Pre-register to ensure your spot, as space is limited. Led by longtime screenwriting partners Kate Wharton and Heather Hughes, this workshop focusing on crafting an irresistible logline will

consist of 40 minutes of instruction, 20 minutes of attendee logline building, and 15 minutes of questions. Kate Wharton and Heather Hughes - both graduates of Seattle's TheFilmSchool - have worked with independent filmmakers and major media companies alike, including Disney, Hallmark, and Lifetime. Between them, they are recipients of two Hedgebrook residencies and have been finalists at Austin Film Festival, Sundance Lab, Nashville Film Festival, Slamdance and many more. They are represented by The Nethercott Agency in Los Angeles.

[VIP passes](#) are currently on sale, while students are eligible to receive free passes by applying [here](#). To view the film lineup, purchase passes or register to attend any free events, please visit destinycityfilmfestival.com.

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