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ENTRIES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR SECOND ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL, MARCH 9-11, 2018

OCEAN CITY, MD — *October 10, 2017* — After a successful inaugural year, the Ocean City Film Festival is returning to the resort March 9-11, 2018, and the festival organizers are now accepting entries to be shown next year.

The three-day event will move to the off-season this year to better accommodate traveling filmmakers and locals who wish to attend. The tradition of screening films across town — now in three venues over three days — will continue.

The inaugural OC Film Festival was held in June 2017 and was the first of its kind in Ocean City, presenting over 100 films across four venues in four days. More than 700 films were submitted from around the world, representing a diversity of origins, genre, and filmmaking styles.

This diversity will continue in 2018, with film screenings in 11 categories: feature films, youth short films, animation, short horror, short documentary, music videos, not-short-but-not-feature-length films (about 40 minutes), funny shorts, dramatic shorts, social commentary shorts, and experimental shorts.

Interested filmmakers can now submit their films online at filmfreeway.com/festival/oceancityfilmfestival. The entry fee for submissions by Dec. 1 is \$10 for general submissions, \$5 for students. After Dec. 1, the entry fee is \$20 for general submissions, \$10 for students. All films must be submitted by Jan. 1 to be considered.

More information about the Film Festival is available at ocmdfilmfestival.com and also at artleagueofoceancity.org.

The OC Film Festival is the brainchild of Stephen Decatur High School graduate and 2017 Towson University graduate William Strang-Moya, fellow TU graduate Kristin Helf, and Rina Thaler, executive director of the Art League of Ocean City. The trio intends the Film Festival to become an annual and long-running tradition.

“The theme of the 2018 festival is ‘Film Forever,’ encapsulating the notion that film is timeless and unending and will forever hold a place in the hearts of those who cherish it,” Strang-Moya said. “The festival’s goal is to continue bringing creative visual media to the resort, exposing attendees to the diversity of visions among filmmakers, and encouraging the artistic endeavors of Shore residents.”

“There’s a lot of interest in Ocean City for this project from a tourism point of view, from an artistic point of view, and from a community point of view,” Thaler said.

“This is going to jell into an event that we grow over the years.”

The films that will be shown are not rated, and viewer discretion is advised.

The Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th Street is the home of the Art League of Ocean City, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects. Financial support comes primarily through membership dues from individuals and corporate sponsors. Funding for exhibits is also provided by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, the Worcester County Arts Council, Maryland State Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, organizations dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

More information is available at 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

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