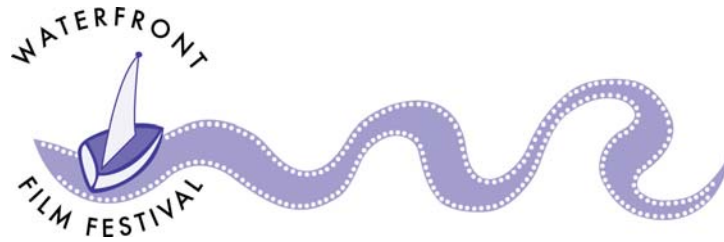


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Waterfront Film Festival awarded \$6,000 *Statewide arts council supports annual festival*

Saugatuck, Michigan, March 20, 2012 – Waterfront Film Festival again is benefiting from the backing of Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, which announced the annual festival will receive \$6,000 to put toward planning and programming.

The grant is given each year to a select number of arts-related organizations as a way to “encourage, develop and facilitate an enriched environment of artistic, creative and cultural activity in Michigan.”

Independent filmmakers and thousands of film fans will come to Saugatuck for the Waterfront Film Festival, a four-day event in mid-June that offers more than 70 independent films, discussion panels, learning opportunities and nightly mixers.

The 14th Annual Waterfront Film Festival will be held June 14-17 in Saugatuck, Michigan.

“Each year fundraising is increasingly more difficult, and each year Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs evaluates the best place to put its dollars and again has decided on Waterfront as a deserved recipient,” WFF Co-founder Kori Eldean Rentz said. “We feel very fortunate to have the support of such a valuable organization, and one that lends such credibility to the work we do in bringing quality independent film to Michigan and the Midwest.”

About Waterfront Film Festival

Now in its 14th year, Waterfront Film Festival celebrates independent film and filmmakers in a non-competitive environment. Located in Saugatuck, Mich., WFF is one of the leading destination film festivals in the Midwest, regularly hosting Midwest premieres of Academy Award-winning and nominated documentaries. Recognized as a top five film festival, WFF is a volunteer-run, non-profit event committed to creating a “middle coast” venue for independent filmmakers while further enhancing the artistic draw of West Michigan. For more information on the 2012 festival, June 14-17, visit www.waterfrontfilm.org.