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Photographs Available Upon Request:

2016 ROVING EYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL CELEBRATES ITS 11TH ANNIVERSARY AT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

Programming Features More Than 80 Films From Across The World, Premiere Work, Professional Panels, Visiting Filmmakers And Celebrates Arts Programming On The Roger Williams University Bristol Campus

WHAT: The 11th Annual Roving Eye International Film Festival: A Celebration of the Arts

WHEN: April 10-17th, 2016

WHERE: Roger Williams University, 1 Ferry Road, Bristol RI

WHO: Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) and Roger Williams University and Students in the Senior-level Curation & Film Festival Production Class

WHY: To celebrate the next generation of independent cinema from across the globe

HOW MUCH: Free for film-related events; Modest admission cost for theater and music events

(BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND) - The 11th Annual Roving Eye International Film Festival created by the Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) in partnership with Roger Williams University kicks off April 10th and runs through the 17th. This year's programming features over 80 films from across the world including Academy Award nominees and winners, numerous World and US Premieres; panel discussions/symposia; visiting filmmakers and student film showcases. The event will conclude with the Spring 2016 Soforenko Foundation Film/Speaker Series On The Jewish Experience.

The **Roving Eye International Film Festival** promises to be a portal for discovery for film, arts and culture lovers across the region at this year's celebration. Complementing this year's cinematic offerings, the campus will be alive with a bounty of special presentations from a highly anticipated **Poetry Slam**, the A Capella Invitational, "**A Capella Wars: The Voice Awakens**," hosted by Drastic Measures to a presentation by Architectural historian and Preservation advocate Christine Madrid entitled, "Preservation Wins, Losses & Lessons In The Millennial Battle Of Gettysburg;" The President's Distinguished Speakers Series featuring **Naomi Oreskes**, professor of the history of science at Harvard University; a Keynote Address by **Mahzarin Banaji**, Richard Clarke Cabot Professor of Social Ethics, Department of Psychology Harvard University for the Thurgood Marshall Memorial Lecture, entitled "Blindspot: Hidden Biases Happen to Good People," an art gallery opening and presentation by artists, **Lisa Perez** and **Maxwell Van Pelt**; and the Theater Department's production of "**WORKING**" adapted by Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso.

The Festival's annual **Soforenko Foundation Film/Speaker Series On The Jewish Experience** will showcase documentaries and short films never before shown in the U.S. Guest speakers include **Brian Mayer**, Cantor at Temple Beth Emmanu-El; and **Andrew Lund**, director/producer/educator.

Throughout the Festival, there will be a series of panel discussions and presentations. This year's guest panelists include such industry leaders as **Eric Latek**: writer, director, motion graphics artist; **Duncan Putney**, actor, and award winning screenwriter; **Chris Sparling**, award-winning writer/director; **Tom DeNucci**, writer/director/actor; **Fr. Kenneth Gumbert, O.P.**, filmmaker/educator/painter/sculptor; **Alice Cross**, writer/lecturer; **Rev. Nancy Soukup**, RWU Multifaith Chaplain; and **Shawn Quirk**, RIFF Program Director

Students at the University, with the guidance of Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival, create the Roving Eye International Film Festival through the Film Minor senior-level course, *Curation and Film Festival Production*. Flickers' Executive Director and RWU Professor, **George T. Marshall** teaches the class. This year, 22 students spent the first part of the spring semester reviewing more than 500 films provided by Flickers and from there went on to create the entire Roving Eye Festival. The students developed active marketing and PR strategies, including the planning for events plus staffing throughout the week. **Roberta E. Adams, Ph.D.**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, is the Festival Chair, linking faculty adjudicators with students, RIFF and the RWU administration in a unique collaboration.

Students in the Curation and Film Production Class include: **Ziyad M. Almutairi, Jordan A. Berry, Jenna M. Brink, Michael J. Cardi, Madeline C. Cirullo, Andre D. Courtois, Alexander M. DeLalla, Bradley S. Fagan, Joshua T. Grab, Kyle P. Gravel, Benjamin J. Horst, Zachary R. Kline, Evan M. Mozzer, Masahiro Odagawa, Sarah E. Reid, Stephanie L. Ressler, Christopher M. Rossi, Elle Schaffhauser, Max D. Schlichtmann, Catherine F. Smeykal, Marc S. Sullivan, and John R. Tateossian.**

The **2016 Roving Eye International Film Festival** is sponsored by *The RI Film & the Television Office; Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival; Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia, Edge Media Network, the Edwin S. Soforenko Foundation; the Helene and Bertram Bernhardt Foundation; Roger Williams University Office of the Provost; the RWU Department of Communication, the RWU Department of Political Science, the RWU Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences, Dean Robert Eisinger, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Roberta Adams, the RWU Film Production Collaborative, the RWU Screenwriter's Guild, RWU Hillel, and the Spiritual Life Office.*

To see a listing of this year's programming and to learn more about the Roving Eye Festival, go to: <http://www.film-festival.org/RovingEye.php>

ABOUT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY:

Roger Williams University, located on the coast of Bristol, R.I., is a forward-thinking private university with 45 undergraduate majors spanning the liberal arts and the professions, where students become community-minded citizens through project-based, experiential learning. With small classes, direct access to faculty and boundless opportunity for real-world projects, RWU students develop the ability to think critically while simultaneously building the practical skills that today's employers demand. In the two years since launching its signature Affordable Excellence initiative, the University has established itself as a leader in American higher education by confronting the most pressing issues facing students and families – increasing costs that limit access to college, rising debt and the job readiness of graduates. In addition to its 4,000 undergraduates, RWU is home to more than a dozen graduate programs, a thriving School of Continuing Studies based in Providence as well as Rhode Island's only law school. For more information, go to: www.rwu.edu.

ABOUT FLICKERS' RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF), has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. Ranked as one of the top 10

Festivals in the United States, RIFF is a qualifying festival for the Short Narrative, Documentary Short Film and Animation Short Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). There are only 6 film festivals worldwide that share this distinction and RIFF is the only festival in New England. The Festival takes place every August.

For more information about the **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival**, running Aug. 9-14, 2016 at **The Vets** (formerly Veterans Memorial Auditorium), please visit www.RIFilmFest.org or call 401.861.4445.

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