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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

California Film Institute Receives National Endowment for the Arts Grant
 Grant to support “Inspiring Women in Cinema” Program

San Rafael, CA (December 3, 2014) – National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Chairman Jane Chu announced today that the California Film Institute is one of 919 nonprofit organizations nationwide to receive an NEA Art Works grant. The California Film Institute is recommended for a \$15,000 grant to support our “Inspiring Women in Cinema” program at the 38th Mill Valley Film Festival.

The “Inspiring Women in Cinema” project will engage the public with diverse and excellent art through films, panels, master classes and education programs with women film industry professionals from around the world. This program will encourage audiences to learn about diverse perspectives of women in the film industry, to connect to talented local, national and international filmmakers and to discover the importance of female voices in today’s film industry landscape.

NEA Chairman Jane Chu said, “I’m please to be able to share the news of our support through Art Works including the award to the California Film Institute. The arts foster value, connection, creativity and innovation for the American people and these recommended grants demonstrate those attributes and affirm that the arts are part of our everyday lives.”

Mill Valley Film Festival Director of Programming Zoe Elton said, “MVFF has long championed women as filmmakers, and as the subjects of compelling stories. It’s critical to create a forum where women’s work is recognized, ideas are shared, and where the next generation of girls and boys are moved to create and support each other’s stories. I’m thrilled we’re partnering with the NEA to celebrate the importance of inspiring women!”

Art Works grants support the creation of art, public engagement with art, lifelong learning in the arts, and enhancement of the livability of communities through the arts. The NEA received 1,474 eligible applications under the Art Works category, requesting more that \$75 million in funding. Of those applications, 919 are recommended for grants for a total of \$26.6 million.





For a complete listing of projects recommended for Art Works grant support, please visit the NEA website at arts.gov. Follow the conversation about this and other NEA-funded projects on Twitter at #NEAFall2014.

About the California Film Institute

The non-profit California Film Institute celebrates and promotes film as art and education through year-round programming at the non-profit, Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, presentation of the acclaimed Mill Valley Film Festival and building the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through CFI Education programs. For more information visit www.cafilm.org or call (415) 383-5256.

About the Mill Valley Film Festival

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 38th Mill Valley Film Festival runs October 8-18, 2015 at the CinéArts@Sequoia (25 Throckmorton Ave., Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center (1118 Fourth Street, San Rafael), and other venues throughout the Bay Area. With a reputation for launching new films and creating awards season buzz, MVFF has earned a reputation as a “filmmakers’ festival” by celebrating the best in American independent and world cinema, alongside high profile and prestigious award contenders. MVFF welcomes more than 200 filmmakers representing more than 50 countries.

