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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS EARLY SUBMISSION RATE EXTENSION

SAN RAFAEL, CA (May 12, 2020) – Zoë Elton, MVFF Director of Programming, announced today that the Mill Valley Film Festival **has extended the early submission rate to June 12, 2020** for feature length (50+ minutes) and short films in the following categories: Narrative, Documentary, Animation, Children and Family, Experimental and Youth Produced. Festival sections include World Cinema, US Cinema, Valley of the Docs, Music, Family Films, and the popular "5@5" shorts program. Films invited to the Festival may also be included in our ongoing initiatives, Mind the Gap, Active Cinema, and ¡Viva el Cine!.

The cost of submitting a film will remain at the economical Early Deadline rate up until the Final Deadline of June 12. Filmmakers who want to take advantage of the cost savings involved in submitting now will have more time to do so. After June 12, there will be a rate increase leading up to the Extended Deadline of Friday, June 26, the final opportunity to submit a film to MVFF43.

The Mill Valley Film Festival is committed to producing our 43rd edition this October 8-18, 2020. We will continue to monitor updates on COVID-19 and will work to remain in compliance with state and local guidelines at all times to ensure the safety of our staff and audience.

We recognize that in planning for the Festival now, there is still uncertainty about what "people coming together again" will look like later this year. This is why we are looking at both onsite and digital options and opportunities which will deliver a festival that engages our members and patrons, supports filmmakers and our valued partners, and bolsters the industry and our own film community.

Mill Valley Film Festival offers a high profile, prestigious, non-competitive environment perfect for celebrating the best in independent and world cinema alongside high profile award season contenders. MVFF has a knack for spotting emerging talent as well as drawing legendary artists. Known as the "filmmaker's festival", MVFF welcomes more than 200 filmmakers and guests from around the world.

Submission Deadlines:

- Early Deadline: Friday, May 15, 2020
- Final Deadline: Friday, June 12, 2020
- Extended Deadline: Friday, June 26, 2020

The Mill Valley Film Festival only accepts online submissions through <u>FilmFreeway</u>. Presentation formats for films accepted to MVFF are DCP and 35mm. For more information, visit: <u>mvff.com</u>

The Festival is curated by the programming team, including Elton; MVFF Director | Founder Mark Fishkin; Senior Programmer Karen Davis; Senior Programmer João Federici; Programming Manager Sterling Hedgpeth (shorts); Kelly Clement (docs); and CFI Director of Education Joanne Parsont (family, young adult).

About the Mill Valley Film Festival

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 43rd Festival runs October 8-18, 2020. 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. Locations this year include: CinéArts@Sequoia (Mill Valley), Christopher B.

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Smith Rafael Film Center (San Rafael), Century Larkspur, Lark Theatre (Larkspur) and other theatres throughout the Bay Area.

Follow the Mill Valley Film Festival on Facebook : <u>https://www.facebook.com/MillValleyFilmFestival</u>_Twitter @MVFilmFest and Instagram @millvalleyfilmfest.

About California Film Institute

The California Film Institute (CFI) is a non-profit dedicated to celebrating and promoting film and media arts through the presentation of the internationally acclaimed Mill Valley Film Festival and DocLands Documentary Film Festival, CFI Education, which features a broad range of film screenings, Q&A sessions and seminars with top international and local filmmakers and industry professionals and a rich program of classes and hands-on-workshops to cultivate the next generation of filmmakers and film lovers, and CFI Releasing, a non-profit film distribution initiative enabling filmmakers and sales agents to collaborate with U.S. Independent exhibitors, giving nationwide audiences access to quality independent films. Additionally, CFI acts as a year-round film-centric town hall with a diverse calendar of programming at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, one of the leading non-profit independent theatres in the country. The art of storytelling through film enables CFI to touch 275,000+ guests throughout the year with films and events from diverse creators and storytellers that entertain as well as address a breadth of social, environmental and cultural issues. CFI relies on the generosity of its community to sustain these core programs. The invaluable support of our sponsors, foundations, and individual donors ensures our continued success. For more information visit cafilm.org

Social Media

#MVFF43 Twitter: @MVFilmFest Instagram: @millvalleyfilmfest Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MillValleyFilmFestival