



Vancouver Asian Film Festival

VAFF is a not-for-profit society celebrating diversity in film, that provides a unique forum through visual media, panels, networking, and artistic development for independent Canadian Asian, North American Asian, Asian international diaspora and mixed heritage filmmakers, to audiences of Asian, non-Asian and mixed heritage audiences in Vancouver. VAFF strives to promote dynamic and innovative images of Asians, especially Canadian Asians, in atypical roles usually not found in mainstream film and television with the belief that in order to have these images, the creative control and storytelling must come from the Canadian Asian communities themselves and the support must begin with these independent filmmakers.

Over the years, VAFF's vision has expanded from simply showcasing the work of Canadian Asian filmmakers, to include mentoring and support for these filmmakers to bring their stories to film; to develop an audience for these films; as well as inform and educate Vancouver audiences regarding the growing filmography of North American Asian, Asian international diaspora and mixed heritage filmmakers, many of whom have family, community or industry ties with and in Vancouver. Since its inception, VAFF has also organized workshops, panel discussions, fundraising seminars and opportunities for filmmakers to network with each other and with industry representatives and community partners as a means to develop, produce, mentor and disseminate media arts activities. VAFF has also begun incorporating an element of Corporate Social Responsibility into its outreach, encouraging corporate partnership and sponsorship for its programming to raise more awareness of the importance of fostering arts and culture among private enterprise and corporate citizenry of the City.

The Vancouver Asian Film Festival Society (VAFF) is the oldest film festival society of its kind in Canada, and celebrates its 18th anniversary in 2014. VAFF is an annual visual celebration of the best in film and video from Canadian-Asian, North American Asian and Asian international diaspora filmmakers and videographers. The festival offers programming from a Canadian Asian and Asian diaspora perspective, with stories and visuals rarely seen in mainstream media that offer uniquely relevant storytelling from diverse filmmakers, to diverse audience members—including all communities in the City.

VAFF programming includes a four-day festival slated to take place November 6 – 9, 2014 at Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas. Additional programming will include an annual short filmmaking contest, a .30 second commercial contest, and quarterly screenings throughout Vancouver with potential outreach to other cities in the Lower Mainland—in partnership with City organizations such as the Vancouver Public Library, as well as other Lower Mainland not-for-profit organizations.

The four-day festival will include 12-13 film programs incorporating feature length and short films and videos, from narrative, drama, documentary, animation and experimental genres. The programming will include at least 50% content by/from Canadian independent filmmakers of Asian heritage, with the remaining 50% drawn from North American Asian filmmakers, Asian international diaspora filmmakers and mixed heritage filmmakers; 2 panel discussions; and additional filmmaker networking opportunities.

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About the Vancouver Asian Film Festival Society

The Vancouver Asian Film Festival Society (VAFF) is a not-for-profit organization that celebrates diversity in film by providing a forum for independent Canadian and American Asian filmmakers to showcase their work to Asian and non-Asian audiences in Vancouver. The oldest Asian film festival in Canada, it was founded by independent filmmaker and writer Barbara K. Lee in 1995 and debuted in September 1997. VAFF is entirely organized and produced by a group of dedicated volunteers, and is made possible by generous financial support from corporate sponsors, public funders and private donors. Organizers are expecting close to 4,000 audience members over the four-day festival.

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