



Mississippi
Alberta
North Portland

METRO

Vancouver
East County
Beaverton



Set in Minneapolis, Minn., home to the largest Somali immigrant community in the U.S., the film 'A Stray' follows a 19-year-old Somali refugee named Adan who is kicked out of his house by his mother for failing to live up to her expectations.

The worldview of many Americans is shaped in large part by what they see on the evening news – but the news can be an imperfect lens that provides an incomplete picture of peoples, events, and cultures. And too often, where the nations of Africa are concerned, the picture is even less complete.

In Portland, though, there is a remedy – the Cascade Festival of African Films. Now in its 28th year, the festival sponsored by Portland Community College offers audiences the rare and edifying opportunity to see Africa through the lenses of its own people. As always, the festival is free and open to the public.

A slate of 25 new films are scheduled for screening from across the African continent. The longest-running African film festival in the United States draws in excess of 4,000 attendees each year, and has become a fixture of Portland's cultural calendar.

African Films Festival celebrates Black History Month



Kalushi: The Story of Solomon Kalushi Mahlangu is an important anti-apartheid film told wholly from the black perspective based on a 19-year-old street hawker whose life is upended when the Soweto Student Uprising erupted in 1976.

This year's festival opens with back-to-back screenings of "76" (Nigeria, 2016), with visiting Nigerian director Izu Ojukwu in attendance.

"76" is a political thriller and love story – inspired by true events – set against the backdrop of an attempted 1976 military coup. Each screening will be followed by a Q&A with the director, and to cap off the opening night in style, a '70s-style Afrobeat dance party will follow the second screening of "76," starting at 11:30 p.m.

Most screenings take place during the month of February at PCC Cascade's Moriarty Auditorium, 735 N. Killingsworth St. Each Saturday, a popular "Saturday Social Hour," starts at 5 p.m., and features live music, food and an African marketplace.

Seventeen nations from across the African continent are represent-

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