EOFF REACHES OUT WITH VIRTUAL FESTIVAL

By Sabrina Thompson and Lisa Lester Kelly

EO Media Group

LA GRANDE — The annual Eastern Oregon Film Festival in La Grande will be completely online for the Oct. 22-24 event.

The weekend-long festival in October has operated in venues downtown, but due to coronavirus regulations this year's films will be available for viewing only on small screens.

"EOFF ioins a trend that we are all becoming more accustomed to virtual cinema." festival organizers stated in a press release.

"Working with

Eventive, an event management platform, EOFF now has the means to deliver this year's program to our growing audience in their homes, but also the potential to reach far more audience members than ever before."

EOFF 2020 received more than 120 submissions, which the film festival's selection committee narrowed down to a baker's dozen of features and more than 30 short films. The festival also will feature a musical lineup and special keynote event.

According to the festival's director, Christopher Jennings, canceling the 2020 festival was not an option: "We are not ones to give up easily and throw in the towel."

The reasons behind the decision to go on despite the pandemic are many. Jennings said that includes respecting the time and money filmmakers have put into their projects. Additionally, he believes the festival has elevated the region's arts scene and he will do all he can to ensure the event has a long future.

"If we stopped it would be easy

not to pick it up again," Jennings said. "We want to keep our name and the event in people's minds. It is something people from all over have come to look forward to."

This fall the Eastern Oregon Film Festival will celebrate its 11th year of independent film and music programming — while the festival will be conducted virtually, it will remain a collective experience.

"We will still have a hub for the



festival," Jennings said. "A place for people to come together to discuss the film, ask questions and talk to the people who make them."

View the official festival trailer. access the EOFF 2020 guide and purchase passes and tickets at www.eofilmfest.com.

Eastern Oregon Film Festival 2020 selections

Short films / directors

A Good Man — Anthony Gainer A Lark and a Swallow — Parker Winship

Aida (In Between) — Christopher W. Graham

Another Day — Sommer Martin Barney — Colin Earner Bite the Hand — Nolan Wilson Goff

Black Bear — Peter Paton CENTURY: summer — Stephanie

Conspiracy Party — H. Nelson Tracey

Dafa Metti (Difficult) — Tal Amiran Dispatches from the Vietnam War: Beer, Bunkers and Typewriters — Keith Lane

Down on Our Luck — Paul K. Oh Friends Like That — Francesca de Fusco

Ghost Moves — Sebastian Karantonis

Immortal — Robert Allaire / Natalie Metzger

WINDOWS 10

UPGRADE

FRIDAY

Sunny and warmer

In the Same Direction: Jeff Pifher & Socrates' Trial — Alexander Craven Lloyd Loses Everything — Aris Athanasopoulos

Love Birds — Ashley Mosher Marisa Anderson: Pure Form — Claudia Meza

Other Side of the Hill — James Parker

Promises to the Future — Catalina Giraldo

Reclamation: The Rise at Standing Rock — Michele Noble

Remember When — Paola Ossa That's Hollywood Baby — Jeff Ryan

Cheap Seats — Brittany Reeber The Deepest Hole — Matt McCormick

The Oceans are the Real Continents/Los Océanos son Los Verdaderos Continentes — Tommaso Santambrogio

The Other Border — Justin Zimmerman

FAST AND RELIABLE!

Tired Eyes — Ryan Martin Brown Town Girl — Chris A. Crowley

Tribute City — Marlena Williams Trust — Santiago Calogero Wild Heart 1981 / 2020 — Zach Dorn

Feature films / directors

A Dim Valley — Brandon Colvin A Life's Work — David Licata Blood Moon — Vikram Dhawan From Mv River, with Love — Zach Stoltzfus

I Blame Society — Gillian Wallace Horvat

Last Call for Tomorrow — Garv Null / Valerie Van Cleve Life in Synchro — Angela Pinaglia

RAF — Harry Cepka Revolution Launderette — Mark Chua / Lam Li Shuen

Ten Minutes to Midnight — Erik Bloomauist

The Long Breakup — Katya Soldak

The Lure of this Land — Alexandra A. Lexton

Toprak — Sevgi Hirschhäuser





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