**FOURTH ANNUAL REELABILITIES BOSTON FILM FESTIVAL**

**FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 2, 2015**

For tickets, updates, and additional information (including text-only version) [www.reelboston.org](http://www.reelboston.org)

617-244-9899; info@reelboston.org

**MISSION**

ReelAbilities is dedicated to promoting awareness and appreciation of the lives, stories,
and artistic expressions of people with different disabilities from a variety of communities.

**ACCESSIBILITY**

ReelAbilities strives for inclusion of all people. All venues are wheelchair accessible. Individuals needing accommodations to participate should contact us before February 1, 2015 at 617.244.9899 or info@reelboston.org.

Unless otherwise noted, all films are recommended for ages 17 and older.

Thanks to our generous donors, complimentary tickets are available for groups from agencies serving people with disabilities.

Please contact the Festival office at 617.244.9899 or info@reelboston.org for more information, or to inquire about bringing a group.

**SPONSORS**

J.B. & Z.B. Butler Foundation

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**Co-Presented by**

The Boston Jewish Film Festival

**FESTIVAL SCHEDULE**

Thursday, February 19

Springfield JCC 6:30 PM VELCRO® 100 Cameras Project & *Shooting Beauty*

Gateway Arts 7:00 PM “Homage to Film” Gallery Reception

Monday, February 23

Emerson College 6:30 PM *Little World*

Tuesday, February 24

Cambridge Public Library 6:00 PM *Stand Clear of the Closing Doors*

Wednesday, February 25

Berklee College of Music 1:00 PM *Lost & Sound*

Leventhal-Sidman JCC 6:30 PM *Special Interview* with *Keep the Change*

Warwick Cinema, Marblehead 7:00 PM *Mabul* (The Flood)

Thursday, February 26

Springfield JCC 6:30 PM Reel Encounters I: Shorts Program

Malden High School 7:00 PM *A Whole Lott More*

Friday, February 27

Cardinal Cushing Centers 11:30 AM Reel Encounters II: Shorts Program

Saturday, February 28

Berklee College of Music 7:00 PM *Alive Inside*

Sunday, March 1

Museum of Fine Arts 12:00 PM *Here One Day*

Museum of Fine Arts 2:30 PM *AKA Doc Pomus*

Temple Shir Tikva, Wayland 7:00 PM *Fixed*

Monday, March 2

Plymouth Public Library 6:30 PM *A Whole Lott More*

Longmeadow HS 7:00 PM *Wampler’s Ascent*

Somerville Theatre 7:00 PM Reel Encounters III: Shorts Program

 plus bonus short: Stumped

**SPECIAL EVENTS FEBRUARY 19, 2015**

**Springfield Jewish Community Center:**
**VELCRO® Brand 100 Cameras Project Exhibit**

**Opening Reception February 19th 6:30pm**

Join local photographers for the opening of the **VELCRO® Brand**100 Cameras Project exhibit in Springfield. This innovative national project places modified camera systems into the hands of people with disabilities, offering a new way to express and share their lives through a once inaccessible art form. The Springfield exhibit is the result of a collaborative workshop with Baystate Health’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The exhibit and gallery reception are hosted by the Springfield Jewish Community Center.

After the reception in the lounge, please join us at 7:30 pm in the auditorium for a screening of *Shooting Beauty*, an award-winning documentary film that chronicles the beginning of Courtney Bent’s experimental photography program. Courtney Bent will participate in a Q&A after the screening.

Please call the Springfield Jewish Community Center at 413.739.4715 to register for this event. Registration is requested, but not required.

The 100 Cameras Project exhibit will be on display at the Springfield JCC through February 28, 2015.

**Gateway Arts: Homage to Film**

**Gallery Reception February 19th 7:00pm**

Join Gateway artists for the reception of “Homage to Film,” an exhibition in which they pay tribute
to an American art form. Since its invention in the 1890s, the motion picture camera has revolutionized the way we communicate. Gateway artists use two and three-dimensional art mediums to depict images inspired by their favorite films, film personalities, and by the filmmaking process itself.

Gateway Arts is dedicated to providing individualized art-based services to adults with disabilities. A service of Vinfen Corporation, Gateway Arts has provided careers in art for over 40 years. Visit: [www.gatewayarts.org](http://www.gatewayarts.org)

Please call Hannah Hoffman at Gateway Arts: 617.734.1577 to register for this event. Registration is requested, but not required.

The Homage to Film exhibit will be on display at the Gateway Arts Gallery through February 28, 2015.

**SCREENINGS FEBRUARY 23 – MARCH 2, 2015**

**Mon. Feb. 23 6:30pm**

**Emerson College**

**OPENING NIGHT**

***Little World***

Directed by Marcel Barrena

Spain, 83 minutes, Documentary

In Catalan, Spanish, and English with English Open Captions and Audio Description

Albert’s only 19, but he’s already traveled to dozens of countries; he’s made a sport of leaving with only 20 euros in his pocket and putting his faith in the innate goodness of people he meets along the way. This time, together with his girlfriend, his destination is as far away as possible from his home in Barcelona: a lighthouse in New Zealand. Through interviews with Albert’s grandmother, stepmother, and father, we learn more about this irrepressibly optimistic young man who won’t let anything – especially
his wheelchair – get in his way.

Invited: Richard Bernstein, Michigan Supreme Court Justice; and Jason Harris, founder of online resource Jason’s Connection

Tickets $10 each

Online at www.reelboston.org or in person at the Bright Family Screening Room/Paramount Center one hour before the event.

**Tues. Feb. 24 6:00pm**

**Cambridge Public Library**

***Stand Clear of the Closing Doors***

Directed by Sam Fleischner

USA, 107 minutes, Fiction
In English with Open Captions

Ricky, a 13-year-old boy with autism, lives in Rockaway Beach with his family. His mother, Mariana, an undocumented immigrant from Mexico, works long days; Ricky, deeply imaginative but painfully
isolated, struggles to cope. One day Mariana yells at Ricky for skipping school and, in a panic, he escapes into the New York City subway system. Overwhelmed by his surroundings, he loses track of space and time in the massive underground labyrinth. Ricky embarks on an odyssey of self-discovery, observing scenes of urban pathos and oddity while his body weakens from hunger.

Discussion to follow facilitated by Goldie Eder, MSW.

Panelists: Norma Casaya, Federation for Children with Special Needs; Joe Foley, National Geographic
Traveler of the Year; Andy Novis, artist and endurance athlete

Free admission

**Wed. Feb. 25 1:00pm**

**Berklee College of Music**

***Lost and Sound***

Directed by Lindsey Dryden

UK, 76 minutes, Documentary
In English with Open Captions

1 in 7 of us will experience some kind of deafness in our lifetime. If you lost your hearing, what would happen to the music you love? Made by a partially deaf filmmaker after the future of her own hearing was called into doubt, *Lost and Sound* is a moving and fascinating documentary that follows music critic Nick Coleman, dancer Emily Thornton, and pianist Holly Loach for two years as they experience music. The film weaves its way through a startling world of altered sound. It combines intimate filming with original animation, a rich musical soundtrack, and new insights from the world’s top neuroscientists, to tell the story of the great human love affair with music.

Discussion to follow

Free admission

**Wed. Feb. 25 6:30pm**

**Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center**

***Keep the Change***

Directed by Rachel Israel

USA, 16 minutes, Fiction

In English with Open Captions

Screening with:

***Special Interview***

Directed by Nitzan Rozenberg

Israel, 55 minutes, Documentary
In Hebrew and English with English Open Captions

Pre-screening reception 6:30-7:30pm In honor of Jewish Disability Awareness Month, hosted by the CJP Committee on Services for People with Disabilities and the Special Needs Professionals Committee

Discussion to follow facilitated by Sandy Miller-Jacobs, Ed.D.

Pre-registration strongly advised at bostonjcc.org/reelabilities15

Free admission

**Wed. Feb. 25 7:00pm**

**Warwick Cinema, Marblehead**

***Mabul (The Flood)***

Directed by Guy Nattiv

Canada, France, Germany, Israel
101 minutes, Fiction
In Hebrew with English Open Captions

In this coming-of-age drama, a family struggles to keep up appearances while hiding their painful truths from one another. While the younger son prepares for his bar mitzvah, the older son, who has autism, returns from an institution. As the pressure builds on the family, their secrets begin to emerge.

Discussion to follow facilitated by Susan Senator, author

Reception to follow

Free admission

**Thurs. Feb. 26 6:30pm**

**Springfield Jewish Community Center**

**Shorts Program:
Reel Encounters I**

A selection of short international films

46/47
Nadine Heinze and Marc Dietschreit

8 minutes, Fiction

A Life with Asperger’s, Jaime Ekkens

4 minutes, Animation

Keep the Change, Rachel Israel

16 minutes, Fiction

Just as I Remember, Andrew Moir

17 minutes, Documentary

Motherly (Maadaraaneh)
Navid Nikkhah Azad

13 minutes, Fiction

The Commute, Jake Alexander-McAfee

4 minutes, Fiction

Reception: During intermission, light refreshments will be served.

Exhibit: Before and after the screenings, the VELCRO® Brand 100 Cameras Project Exhibit will be on display. Please call the Springfield Jewish Community Center at 413.739.4715 to register for this event. Registration is requested, but not required.

Free admission

**Thurs. Feb. 26 7:00pm**

**Malden High School**

***A Whole Lott More***

Directed by Victor Buhler

USA, 83 minutes, Documentary
In English with Open Captions

Lott Industries in Toledo, Ohio employs more than 1200 workers with developmental disabilities. But as the auto industry declines, Lott is threatened with closure and has just one year to rebuild and reinvent itself. Lott’s employees must face the lack of employment available to people with disabilities, despite the many contributions they can make to the workforce when provided with the right support.

Discussion to follow facilitated by Jeff Gentry, Triangle, Inc.

Panelists: Mark Breen, parent of a career seeker and EPIC Leader; Christopher Chirco, Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism; Lloyd Clarke, Malden Department of Public Works and EPIC Leader; Kelly Lawless, Department of Developmental Services

Special guest: Mayor Gary Christenson

Free admission

**Fri. Feb. 27 11:30am**

**Cardinal Cushing Centers**

**Shorts Program:
Reel Encounters II**

A selection of short international films

Anything You Can Do,Emma Buckley

7 minutes, Fiction

Beautiful,Genevieve Clay

17 minutes, Fiction

A Life with Asperger’s, Jaime Ekkens

4 minutes, Animation

The Commute, Jake Alexander-McAfee

4 minutes, Fiction

Discussion to follow facilitated by Impact:Ability trainers Meagan Anderson, Michael Perry, and Meg Stone

Post-screening self-defense demonstration for members of the Cardinal Cushing community facilitated by IMPACT:Ability

Free admission

**Sat. Feb. 28 7:00pm**

**Berklee College of Music**

**SPECIAL SCREENING**

***Alive Inside: A Story of Music & Memory***

Directed by Michael Rossato-Bennett

USA, 74 minutes, Documentary
In English (no captions)

*Alive Inside* is a joyous cinematic exploration of music’s capacity to reawaken our souls and uncover the deepest parts of our humanity. Filmmaker Michael Rossato-Bennett chronicles the astonishing experiences of individuals around the country who have been revitalized through the simple experience of listening to music. The film reveals how the healing power of music can triumph where prescription medication falls short.

In Person: Filmmaker Michael Rossato-Bennett

Tickets: $10 each

Online at www.reelboston.org or in person at the David Friend Recital Hall one hour before the event.

**Sun. Mar. 1, 12pm**

**Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**

***Here One Day***

12:00pm

Directed by Kathy Leichter

USA, 76 minutes, Documentary

In English with Open Captions

A visually arresting and emotionally candid film about a woman coping with mental illness, complex family relationships, and the ripple effects of suicide.

In Person: Filmmaker Kathy Leichter and her brother, Josh Leichter

Free admission

**Sun. Mar. 1 2:30pm**

**Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**

***AKA Doc Pomus***

2:30pm

Directed by Peter Miller and
Will Hechter

Canada/USA, 98 minutes, Documentary
In English with Open Captions and Audio Description

After being paralyzed by polio as a child, Jerome Felder reinvented himself as “Doc Pomus,” first as a blues singer and then as one of American popular music’s greatest songwriters. “Save the Last Dance for Me” and “This Magic Moment” are among his many hits. This documentary brings to life Doc’s joyous, romantic, heartbreaking, and extraordinarily eventful journey.

Free admission

**Sun. Mar. 1 7:00pm**

**Temple Shir Tikva, Wayland**

***Fixed***

Directed by Regan Brashear

USA, 83 minutes, Documentary

In English with Open Captions

*Fixed* explores the implications of emerging human enhancement technologies through the experiences of five people with disabilities: a scientist, a journalist, a disability justice educator, a bionics engineer, and an exoskeleton test pilot. The film challenges commonly held beliefs about disability and normalcy by exploring technologies that promise to change our bodies and minds.

Interfaith panel to follow

Free admission

**Mon. Mar. 2 6:30pm**

**Plymouth Public Library**

**CLOSING NIGHT**

***A Whole Lott More***

Directed by Victor Buhler

USA, 83 minutes, Documentary

In English with Open Captions

Lott Industries in Toledo, Ohio employs more than 1200 workers with developmental disabilities. But as the auto industry declines, Lott is threatened with closure and has just one year to rebuild and reinvent itself. Lott’s employees must face the lack of employment available to people with disabilities, despite the many contributions they can make to the workforce when provided with the right support.

Discussion to follow

Free admission

**Mon. Mar. 2 7:00pm**

**Longmeadow High School**

**CLOSING NIGHT**

***Wampler's Ascent***

Directed by Jacques Spitzer
USA, 77 minutes, Documentary
In English with Open Captions;
appropriate for ages 11 and up

Steve Wampler, who has cerebral palsy, must do 20,000 pull-ups to climb the famous El Capitan Mountain in Yosemite. The founder of a camp for children with disabilities, he undertakes the journey to prove that anything is possible. However, the harrowing climb tests Steve’s considerable humor, will, and determination.

Please call the Springfield Jewish Community Center at 413.739.4715 to register for this event. Registration is requested, but not required.

Free admission

**Mon. Mar. 2 7:00pm**

**Somerville Theatre**

**CLOSING NIGHT**

**Shorts Program:
Reel Encounters III**

A selection of short international films

Keep the Change,Rachel Israel

16 minutes, Fiction

Just as I Remember,Andrew Moir

17 minutes, Documentary

Sounds for Mazin, Ingrid Kamerling

19 minutes, Documentary

Boston Bonus Short

*Stumped,* Robin Berghaus

10 minutes, Documentary (no captions; subtitles only)

In Person: Filmmaker Robin Berghaus and Will Lautzenheizer from *Stumped*

Tickets $10 each, available at www.reelboston.org and in person at the Somerville Theatre Box Office

**VENUES**

Berklee College of Music

David Friend Recital Hall
Genko Uchida Building
921 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02115
617.747.8930

Cambridge Public Library

449 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02138
617.349.4040

Cardinal Cushing Centers

405 Washington St., Hanover, MA 02339
781.826.6371

Emerson College

Bright Family Screening Room
Paramount Center
559 Washington St., Boston, MA 02111
617.824.8000

Gateway Arts

62 Harvard St. #2, Brookline, MA 02445
617.734.1577

Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center

333 Nahanton St., Newton, MA 02459
617.558.6522

Longmeadow High School

95 Grassy Gutter Rd.
Longmeadow, MA 01106

Malden High School

Jenkins Auditorium
77 Salem St., Malden, MA 02148
781.397.6000

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

465 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115
617.267.9300

Plymouth Public Library

Fehlow Room
132 South St., Plymouth MA 02360
508.830.4185

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square, Somerville, MA 02144
617.625.5700

Springfield Jewish Community Center

Neal Webber Building
1160 Dickinson St., Springfield, MA 01108
413.739.4715

Temple Shir Tikva, Wayland

141 Boston Post Rd., Wayland, MA 01778
508.358.9992

Warwick Cinema, Marblehead

123 Pleasant St., Marblehead, MA 01945
781.476.2076

**COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

ALS Association Massachusetts Chapter

ALS Therapy Development Institute

The Arc of Massachusetts

Asperger/Autism Network

Autistic Self-Advocacy Network

Baystate Health’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Berklee College of Music

Best Buddies of Massachusetts

Boston Jewish Music Festival

Boston University, School of Education

Boys and Girls Club of Dorchester

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities

Cambridge Public Library

Camp Ramah in New England

Cardinal Cushing Centers

Carroll Center for the Blind

Chelsea Jewish Foundation

City of Boston Mayor’s Commission for Persons with Disabilities

CJP Committee on Services for People with Disabilities

Cohen Hillel Academy

Disability Law Center

Doug Flutie Jr., Foundation for Autism

Emerson College

Exceptional Lives

Federation for Children with Special Needs

The Five Project

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Museum of Fine Arts, Boston Access Advisory Board

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Understanding Our Differences

VELCRO® Brand 100 Cameras Project

Vinfen Corporation

VSA Massachusetts

Waypoint Adventure

Yachad/National Jewish Center for Disabilities

**SPECIAL THANKS**

Festival Staff and Volunteers

Ellie Pierce *Festival Director*

Goldie Eder *Festival Curator*

Mara Bresnahan

Nysselle Clark

Amy Geller

Elizabeth Heller

Karen Kashian

Laura Pinsky

Nora Puricelli

Jaymie Saks

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