

VOICES
WITH
IMPACT



2024

VWI is made possible by



**Mental Health Services
Oversight & Accountability Commission**

MHSOAC supports transformational change across mental health and service systems.

mhsaac.ca.gov



The APA Foundation promotes mental health literacy, connects underserved communities to services and supports, and influences behaviors and attitudes toward mental wellness.

apafdn.org

**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT** for the **ARTS**

arts.gov

The National Endowment for the Arts supports the nation's arts sector with grant opportunities so that together we can help everyone live more artful lives.

arts.gov/grants



Welcome to the festival!

Thank you for joining us at the 2024 Voices With Impact Mental Health Film Festival. This month-long festival is your place and time to connect with filmmakers, mental health professionals and people passionate about using art to explore mental health issues. This year's filmmaking cohort has created films that can serve as generous invitations to explore the world around us in new ways. My greatest hope is that watching and engaging with these films through the festival will give you opportunities to connect more deeply with yourself and others and that, together, we can work together to make this world a better place.



Cary McQueen

Founder and Executive Director, Art With Impact

What is Voices With Impact?

Voices With Impact (VWI) is a film production grant and short film festival. Each year, with the help of our partners, we find and fund a small cohort of talented filmmakers to make short, five-minute films on underrepresented mental health topics. In just a short few short months the filmmakers create powerful shorts that tell important stories in new ways. The VWI festival is these films' launch into the world and their first chance to generate the important conversations they were made to inspire.

Festival Schedule

June 6, 2024

LIVE & IN PERSON:

SAN FRANCISCO



WORLD PREMIERE

SF LGBT CENTER, 1800 Market St
Doors: 6.30pm

June 6, 2024

FROM THE COMFORT OF HOME:

GLOBAL LIVESTREAM



ONLINE WORLD PREMIERE

Stream starts at 7pm

June 13, 2024

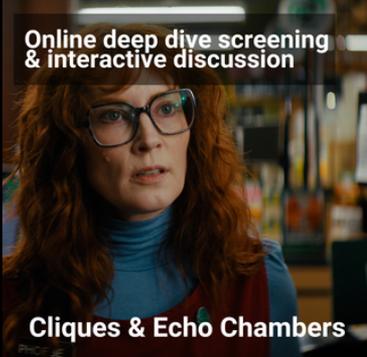
Online deep dive screening
& interactive discussion



Mental Illness

June 20, 2024

Online deep dive screening
& interactive discussion



Cliques & Echo Chambers

June 27, 2024

LIVE & IN PERSON:

VANCOUVER



CANADIAN PREMIERE

Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema
Goldcorp Centre for the Arts
149 W Hastings St, Vancouver, BC V6B 1H4
Doors: 6.30pm

June 27, 2024

FROM THE COMFORT OF HOME:

GLOBAL LIVESTREAM



ONLINE CANADIAN WORLD PREMIERE

Stream starts at 7pm

Get tickets: voiceswithimpact.com/filmfestival

Event Details

June 6

San Francisco, in person! World Premiere of all 10 mental health short films. The filmmakers will be in attendance to discuss the films in an interactive Q&A.

This event is a hub to connect with likeminded people!

The San Francisco premiere will be live streamed so people can enjoy the event from the comfort of home.

June 13

Online interactive screening and discussion. We'll screen 5 films exploring Mental Illness and get to ask the filmmakers about their creative process. This is an interactive event, so think, relaxed workshop!

June 20

Online interactive screening and discussion. We'll screen 5 films exploring Cliques & Echo Chambers and get to ask the filmmakers about their creative process. This is an interactive event, so think, relaxed workshop!

June 27

Vancouver, in person! Canadian Premiere of all 10 mental health short films. The filmmakers will be in attendance to discuss their films in an interactive Q&A. VWI are partnering with VIFF to bring this event to Vancouver!

The Vancouver premiere will be live streamed so people can enjoy the event from the comfort of home.



Films exploring Serious Mental Illness



CRANE

By Aiden Keltner

A young girl who gets the opportunity to visit her father. We see from her perspective what it is to love someone living with a serious mental illness. (Drama, San Diego)



BROTHERLY

By Gavin Seal

A man learns his mentally ill brother has signed a do-not-resuscitate order and is forced to choose whether or not to respect his wishes. (Drama, Quebec)



WHERE IS MY THOUGHT NOW?

By Leanne Dimant

Sue, a solicitor turned artist, was diagnosed with schizophrenia two decades ago. She re-wilds a garden and discovers an affinity with plants. (Documentary, United Kingdom)



THE FOUR NOBEL TRUTHS

By Asha Alaji-Sharif

Exploring the relationship between religion and mental health, we see Maeta's journey with schizophrenia, his sexuality and his loving family. (Documentary, Atlanta)



MEDITATIONS BETWEEN US

By Ashleigh Vaillancourt

Two lovers grapple with the challenges posed by schizophrenia on their relationship. One, ensnared by delusions, leaves the other behind. (Experimental, Vancouver)



Films exploring Cliques & Echo Chambers



PLANT PEOPLE

by Jason Eksuzian & Kincaid Walker

Phoebe is a supermarket cashier who is the lone human in a world of plant people.
(Drama, The Berkshires / Los Angeles)



SCREENLESS

by Brandon Hicks

As a young woman goes about a typical day, we see all of her online interactions realized around her.
(Animated Comedy, New Brunswick)



CLUBBING

by Eric Forbes & Zach Myers

When a college freshman attends a club fair she is bombarded by each club leader on what it takes to join their clique. (Comedy, Fort Collins)



BONFIRE

By David McShane

Isaac weaves through friends at a Bonfire night, wondering whether he should send pictures to the person on his phone.
(Animated Drama, United Kingdom)



ALL MEAT DIET

by Hae Ji Cho & Kevin Alcántar

A young man turns to a collective of zealous fitness enthusiasts in pursuit of his "best self." The shame he harbors is reflected back at him.
(Experimental Drama, Los Angeles)



Festival On-Demand!

Want more films and festival content?
Throughout June & July VWI is On-Demand!



Watch film packages on specific mental health topics with intros from mental health professionals, filmmaker interviews, films from past VWI years, and much more!

watch.eventive.org/voiceswithimpact

**You will also be able to watch back all the films
(and bonus behind the scenes content)
from VWI 24 throughout July!**



Love our art?
So do we!
Check out:
[@davidgraunnean](https://www.instagram.com/davidgraunnean)
[davidgranneman.art](https://www.davidgranneman.art)



Serious Mental Illness Film Competition Winners

VWI's Serious Mental Illness Short Film Competition was an open call for short films that explore issues related to diagnoses of schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, and bipolar disorder. This competition was made possible by the support of the Sidney Baer Foundation.



AN ORPHAN'S MEMORIAL TO HER DYING MOTHER

by Glenn A. Holsten, Paul & Sandra Fierlinger

Psychotherapist Sheri Heller is interviewed about the journey she took with her mother, Pearl, who lived with schizophrenia.

(Animated Documentary, Philadelphia)



A BIPOLAR INTERVIEW

by Kobee Byrd & Carl Monroe

Carl shares his story of being diagnosed with Bipolar I Disorder, navigating his way towards healing and recovery.

(Documentary, San Jose)



WHAT IT FEELS LIKE

By Steven Fraser

Small boxes that contain flip book style animations represent the emotions of a person who hears voices.

(Experimental, Documentary, Animation, United Kingdom)

Watch all 3 winners in our special on-demand film package!



Or visit:

VoicesWithImpact.com/mental-health-film-competition

Voices with Impact Partner Resources

Thanks to our Community Partners VWI attendees have exclusive, free access to the following mental health resources:



Ten
Percent
Happier



Scan the QR code to learn more about Ten Percent Happier and claim your free 3 month subscription.

Talkspace



Scan the QR code to learn more about Talkspace and claim your free therapy session. (Conditions apply)



SUPERBETTER



Scan the QR code to learn more about SuperBetter and claim your free 3 month subscription.

If you have any trouble with the QR codes visit:
www.voiceswithimpact.com/audiencebenefits



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And our community partners

VIFF



Ten
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Happier



Talkspace



Eating
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Center



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Anxiety
Center



San Francisco Chronicle

**SFLGBT
CENTER**



Mental Health Support & Resources

To access support right now:
Call or text 988

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE

If you need to talk
but aren't in crisis
right now but you
can access a warm
line. Here's a list:



[warmline.org](https://www.warmline.org)

If you would like to
see our curated list
of resources please
visit our site:



[voiceswithimpact.com/support](https://www.voiceswithimpact.com/support)