



Press Release

Final day of Ajyal Youth Film Festival to screen 'BraveHearts' programme of 3 films on impact of education on young minds

*Opportunity to also watch several festival-favourites including **Theeb**, **#chicagoGirl**, **Sepideh**, **Finn**, **If I Had Wings**, **The Tale of Princess Kaguya** and a selection of short films*

Doha, Qatar; December 5, 2014: As the week-long Ajyal Youth Film Festival comes to a close on Saturday (Dec. 6), film-lovers can watch a Special Screening of the BraveHearts programme that features three films illuminating the incredible impact of education on young people.

Screening at 5 PM at Katara 12 – Theatre A are: **Faridullah's Day Off** (Denmark, Afghanistan; Afghan; 2013), directed by Jens Pedersen; **Fire in our Hearts** (India, USA; Marathi; 2013) by Jayashree Janu Kharpade; and **Poet Against Prejudice** (USA, English, 2014) by Faiza Almontaser.

Faridullah's Day Off charts the story of a 11-year-old boy who dreams of getting an education and opening a restaurant in a heartrending clash of reality and imagination. **Fire in our Hearts** highlights the illegal slavery that had affected tribespeople until the late 1970s in India until activists built the first school of them. Director Jayashree unveils how this made her and her classmates the first generation of literate women in their tribes. **Poet Against Injustice** narrates how the director, who emigrated to the US with her family from Yemen, has been able to inspire others through her courage and poetry skills.

The Closing Night Red Carpet gala of **Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet**, a fascinating movie co-funded by the Doha Film Institute, will host actress Salma Hayek Pinault, the producer of the film, writer-director Roger Allers, co-directors Mohammed Saeed Harib and Joan Gratz, as well as co-producers Clark Peterson and Jose Tamez.

Film enthusiasts also have the opportunity to watch a selection of compelling shorts showcased under the **Bariq** and **Bader** programmes that draw in films from around the world. The Bariq screening is at 11 AM at Katara Opera House and will appeal to the little ones. The Bader Shorts programme screenings are at 8.30 PM at Katara 12 – Theatre A. BraveHearts, Bariq and Bader are free screenings for the public.

As part of SONY Pop-Up Cinema, Ajyal Youth Film Festival will screen director Peter Jackson's **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (USA, New Zealand; English; 2013) at 8 PM. The screening is also free of charge and guests can reserve tickets online at www.dohafilminstitute.com; seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.



A selection of the festival-favourite films is also being screened at Ajyal on Saturday. These include: ***Finn*** (The Netherlands, Belgium; Dutch; 2013) by Frans Weisz at 11 AM at Katara 12 – Theatre B; ***If I Had Wings*** (Canada, English, 2013) by Allan Harmon at 2 PM at Katara Opera House; ***Sepideh: Reaching for the Stars*** (Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Iran; Persian, English; 2013) by Berit Madsen at 2.45 PM at Katara 12 – Theatre B; ***Theeb*** (Jordan, Qatar, UAE, UK; Arabic, English; 2014) directed by Naji Abu Nowar, screening at 2.45 PM at Katara Drama Theatre; ***#chicagoGirl: The Social Network Takes on a Dictator*** (USA, Syria; Arabic, English; 2013) by Joe Piscatella at 5.45 PM at Katara 12 – Theatre B; and ***The Tale of Princess Kaguya*** (Japan, Japanese, 2013) by Isao Takahata at 9.15 PM at Katara 12 – Theatre B.

Tickets to these screenings can be purchased from Box Offices at Ajyal Festival Booth in City Center Mall, West Bay; Doha Film Institute Drama Theatre Ticket Outlet (Katara Building 16) and Ajyal Katara Main Box Office (Katara Building 12).

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About Doha Film Institute:

Doha Film Institute is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organisation. It supports the growth of the local film community through cultivating film appreciation, enhancing industry knowledge and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar. The Institute's platforms include funding and production of local, regional and international films; skills-sharing and mentorship programmes; film screenings; the Ajyal Youth Film Festival; and the Qumra. With culture, community, learning and entertainment at its foundation, the Institute is committed to supporting Qatar's 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge-based economy.

Doha Film Institute

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