



HUMAN RIGHTS ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL

We invite you to join...
The Human Rights Arts & Film
Festival's Directors' Circle

An intimate community of supporters
who contribute to widespread, creative
and powerful social change.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDERS

'A painting cannot stop a bullet, but...a painting can stop a bullet from being fired' – William Kelly, Artist

One person's story of hope can create a community of change. Through film, art and music, the Human Rights Arts & Film Festival (HRAFF) has shared hundreds of stories - from defiant stories that reveal the dignity and strength of the human spirit to ordinary stories that inspire people to do extraordinary things.

Starting from humble beginnings, HRAFF has grown and matured, inspiring audiences to take action and facilitating incredible opportunities for our artists. Our films, exhibitions and forums continue to make a social impact - from inspiring graduates of medicine travel to Ethiopia to support victims of fistula after seeing the film *A Walk to Beautiful*, to Australian surfers donating surfboards to women in Papua New Guinea after hearing documentary director Adam Pesce of *Splinters* speak, to Awaz, a refugee from Turkey who featured on our *Key of Sea* album, given the opportunity to perform with major international act, Rokia Traore.

Sharing these stories at HRAFF cultivates collective understanding and harmony and, in effect, creates a strong culture of human rights.

However we continue to need your help to ensure these stories keep inspiring positive social change. While we operate on a shoestring budget and at a fraction of the cost, the expense of running HRAFF every year is considerably more than what our box office, and largely NGO sponsors, can support.

We are inviting you to join our Directors' Circle. Join us and become an integral contributor to inspiring social change through the art of storytelling.

With thanks,

Evelyn Tadros & Naz Mantoo (HRAFF Co-founders)

“ *Showcasing both documentary and art, HRAFF plays such a critical role in opening our hearts and minds, raising awareness, and cutting through complacency and indifference. The festival is an extraordinary gift, and an exciting opportunity to share these important stories as a truly connected, engaged community.* ”

Ian Darling, acclaimed Australian filmmaker,
Festival Patron and Directors' Circle Member

JOIN THE CIRCLE

Launched in 2013, the Directors' Circle brings together a dedicated group of like-minded peers that believe in the core message of the festival – creating positive social change through art. They form an integral part of our team, and without the passion and dedication of these supporters, HRAFF wouldn't be possible.

Directors' Circle members are change makers. They invest in the growth and development of HRAFF to connect a wider audience with important human rights issues. By joining, you will be intimately involved in the festival and personally enable these powerful stories to touch and inspire more people.

For an annual or ongoing contribution over three years, you will help HRAFF's ongoing mission to bring social justice issues to a mainstream audience. Commitments start at \$1,000 per year, all donations are tax-deductible.

To join, fill in the form on the back of this brochure, or email info@hraff.org.au for more information.

WHAT WE DO?

We make sense of existence by telling the stories of our times. The complexities of our thoughts, our actions, our behaviour, our view of the world and our understanding of others are formed and filtered through the shared experience of our storytelling.

Cultural expression provides us with an analysis of who we are. A festival enables the storyteller to connect with the rest of the world, to express their thoughts, to dream their dreams, to touch and change the lives of others.

HRAFF, through arts and film, tells those stories that relate to the basic rights of all people. HRAFF believes that all people should be free and equal and should be treated with respect and dignity. We also realise that this is all too often not the case and we therefore focus on ways to influence people and events so that more humane and dignified outcomes prevail.

We aim to present a high quality, interesting, entertaining, dynamic and thoughtful experience to a large number of people; to give enjoyment and to be able to touch, and to influence the thought and actions of others and to know, that as a result, they will respond to the world in a different way.

HRAFF is embarking on a period of major growth and development in order to reach the masses, throughout Melbourne and across the country. As we aim to actively grow the size of the program, extend the reach of our message and increase the number of grassroots community screenings – we are asking for individuals' support by joining our inaugural donor program, the Directors' Circle.

Our goal is to make human rights issues accessible to an even greater mainstream audience and inspire social impact, with 60% of our audience stating they have previously not attended human rights events and 90% holding the belief that events like HRAFF can inspire positive conversation and action.

We hope that you will aid us in sharing these stories and join us in celebrating the universal condition of what it is to be human.

“ *This was an amazing experience. I now know what I want to do for the rest of my life.* ”

Marnie Lester-Smith, HRAFF attendee

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE DIRECTORS' CIRCLE

- I would like to donate \$ _____ to become a part of the Directors' Circle
(Donations start at \$1,000 and are tax-deductible)
- I would like to commit to joining for three years.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- Enclosed is a cheque, payable to the Human Rights Arts & Film Festival Inc
(Please post to GPO Box 4490, Melbourne, 3001)
- Please charge to my credit card:

- Mastercard Visa

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRY DATE (M/Y)

SECURITY CODE

NAME OF CARD

SIGNATURE

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible

CONTACT DETAILS

NAME/S

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

POSTCODE

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS *to receive important updates that relate to HRAFF and the Directors' Circle

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

- I would like to be listed in any acknowledgements as _____
- I would like my donation to remain anonymous