



MEDIA CONTACT

Lauren Marty

Bakersfield Museum of Art

(661) 323-7219

Imarty@bmoa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Women's Film Festival Comes to Bakersfield LUNAFEST®: Films By and About Women

Bakersfield, CA – October 24, 2022 -- Bakersfield Museum of Art & Junior League of Bakersfield are excited to bring LUNAFEST®, a fundraising film festival dedicated to championing women filmmakers and bringing communities together, to Kern County for a spectacular inaugural event on Friday, November 4, 2022.

This year's event, held at Bakersfield Museum of Art, features eight short films that empower and inspire, told from a variety of perspectives that champion women and gender-nonconforming individuals, highlighting their aspirations, accomplishments, resilience, strength, and connection.

A glamorous night under the stars in the museum's Sculpture Garden, LUNAFEST begins with a red-carpet entrance and welcome champagne toast. Guests will enjoy a cocktail hour from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, with food and dessert provided by two local women-owned businesses, Locale and GhilaDolci. Film screening begins at 7:00 PM. Attire is semi-formal.

"Whether it be a film, a mural, a sculpture, a painting, a dance, we believe in the power of all art forms to help foster community, understanding, and growth," says the museum's executive director Amy Smith. "Our goal in working with Junior League of Bakersfield—a group dedicated to creating the next generation of female philanthropists—is to highlight the enormous power of women's voices and share examples of that work in film."

All proceeds from this event will benefit Bakersfield Museum of Art, Junior League of Bakersfield, and Chicken & Egg Pictures, a nonprofit organization that supports women nonfiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change.

Thus far, LUNAFEST, which is created and funded by LUNA®, has raised more than \$6.5 Million for nonprofit organizations, featured 170 women filmmakers, and hosted over 2,700 screenings across the US and Canada.

Ticket prices are \$75 for Bakersfield Museum of Art & Junior League of Bakersfield Members and \$100 for non-members. Tickets are available at <u>bmoa.org/lunafest</u>. For more information about Lunafest, visit <u>www.lunafest.org</u>.

Lunafest is sponsored by BMW of Bakersfield, Sage Equities, Roco's Jewelry, Priority Urgent Care, and Jarrad and Kellie Merriman.

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About BMoA

The Bakersfield Museum of Art's mission is to inspire and engage diverse audiences by providing a broad spectrum of creative visual arts experiences through the exhibition and preservation of fine art, educational programs, community outreach and special events. BMoA is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. with free admission and extended hours until 8 PM every First Friday of the month. The Museum is closed most major holidays. Visit bmoa.org or call (661) 323-7219 for more information. Follow the museum on Facebook and Instagram @thebmoa and on Twitter @bmoa.

About Junior League of Bakersfield

Junior League of Bakersfield makes a difference in Kern County through volunteerism and enabling fund grants, given annually to local nonprofits. Its members are strongly committed to service and have been instrumental in activities focused on women and children. Visit jlbakersfield.org or call (661) 322-1671 for more information. Follow Junior League of Bakersfield on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @jlbakersfield.

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