



**QWFF 2021- This Year's Theme is H.O.P.E.**  
*(Healing Opportunities Promote Equity)*  
**11th Annual Queens World Film Festival**  
**to be live/virtual hybrid in multiple locations across Queens.**

Screenings from June 23-July 3 schedule @ <https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/>

Queens, New York (March 05, 2021) - **"The Show Must Go On!"** In light of the global health pandemic, the [11th Annual Queens World Film Festival](#) (QWFF) is set to return to the Museum of the Moving Image and Kaufman Astoria Studios while also streaming the entire schedule on [FilmFestivalFlix.com](#) from Wednesday, June 23rd - Saturday July 3rd.

The complete schedule will be announced in late April when tickets to the event go live.

**Queens World has selected the theme of H.O.P.E. *H*ealing *O*pportunities *P*romote *E*quity**

*"The very act of making art is hopeful, telling your story is healing, and recognizing that every human being has a story and that establishes equity among us all. I don't ever want to go back to 'normal'...we hope for a world where there is more ease between us all, more space for dreaming, imagining, creating....which are all indications of a hopeful society,"* said **Katha Cato**, Executive Director of the Queens World Film Festival.

- **Queens World** promotes hope by bringing stories from over 30 nations together into a mosaic that reflects the humanity we all long for.
- **Queens World** promotes hope by providing opportunities to come together, virtually, in person, inside, outside and in ways that have not even been thought of yet. So that we can all feel the humanity, so that we can all fan that spark of understanding into the flames of acceptance.

Queens World Artistic Director **Preston Cato**, explained, "We are selecting 100+ incredible films that reflect the common yearnings, hopes, observations and experiences of our global storytellers. Expect to experience cinematic treasures exploring the human experience by filmmakers residing from all over the globe—yet all engaged in similar conversations."

This year's Festival submissions reveal an increased concern for the weakest among us and many express the yearning for connection that has been deprived us all throughout the quarantine. The screening panel is reviewing almost five-hundred films submitted from 40 nations. Queens World programmers will curate about 40 thematic blocks grouping complimentary films together for a specific cinematic experience.

"Queens World is all about HOPE and features maverick filmmakers of all orientation, ethnicities, countries, and cultures," said Katha Cato, adding that "Our festival is committed to making sure creative expression and a passion for truth is alive and well in Queens. This is a tough time on and for our planet. Now is the time to hold up a mirror to show us who we are, what we have done, and who we can be."



In addition to the annual festival, Queens World includes year-round screening opportunities for festival alumni, special events to bring the Indie film community together, industry networking events, and an educational initiative for youth and seniors.

Festival Sponsors include Investors Bank, Kaufman Astoria Studios, Queens Council on the Arts, Queens Economic Development Corporation, Resorts World, with several hotels in Queens that are offering discounts to the visiting filmmakers and their guests - including the Paper Factory.

Media sponsors include PIX11, Schneps Communication, and Queens Chronicle. Queens World is made possible in part with funds from the Decentralization Program a re-grant program at the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council. Both are administered by the Queens Council on the Arts.

The Queens World Film Festival is a program of the Queens World Film Initiative, Inc., a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization.

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