

Star-Studded Lineup Announced for 2017 Gold Coast International Film Festival November 5-15, 2017

— *Seventh Anniversary of Festival Spotlights Award-Winning Films Including the Long Island Premiere of “Dare to Be Different,” the story of WLIR, the suburban Long Island radio station that changed the sound of radio forever —*

— *Special Guests Include the Granddaughters of Legends Sir Winston Churchill & Frank Sinatra —*



GREAT NECK, NY — October 5, 2017 — The 2017 [Gold Coast International Film Festival](#) presents an exciting slate of more than 80 feature-length and short films for this year. Among the impressive array of films is the Long Island Premiere of *Dare to Be Different* about WLIR 92.7, the influential Long Island radio station on the cutting edge of music in the 1980s. The festival's Spotlight Film is *Darkest Hour* starring **Gary Oldman**, whose brilliant performance as Sir Winston Churchill drives this historic account of the early days of World War II. Festival events will take place at venues across the storied Gold Coast of Nassau County, and the public is guaranteed an exciting week of films, parties, filmmaker Q&A's, and glamour!

The Gold Coast International Film Festival will celebrate its launch on Sunday, November 5, 2017, with screenings of two very inspiring films at the Bow Tie Squire Theater in Great Neck: *Underfire: The Untold Story of Pfc. Tony Vaccaro* will be shown at 3:30 p.m. and *Supergirl* at 3:00 p.m.

Underfire is the remarkable story of WWII infantryman and legendary photographer Tony Vaccaro, who created one of the most comprehensive, haunting and intimate photographic records of the war using a smuggled \$47 camera while developing the negatives in his helmet at night. Tony Vaccaro, Director Max Lewkowicz and Producer Valerie Thomas will participate in

a post-screening Q&A session, followed by the opening reception of Tony Vaccaro's acclaimed, wartime and celebrity photography at the Gold Coast Arts Center Gallery in Great Neck.

Supergirl is the story of **Naomi Kutin**, an Orthodox Jewish pre-teen girl with an extraordinary talent – holding a world record in powerlifting. The film's director will join Naomi and her family for a Q&A following the movie.

The Long Island Premiere of *Dare to Be Different* will screen on Sunday, November 12, at Soundview Cinemas in Port Washington at 5:00 p.m. Director Ellen Goldfarb and Executive Producer and former WLIR Program Director Denis McNamara, plus a host of other special guests, including artists and DJs featured in the film will participate in a Q&A that could only happen on Long Island, where WLIR brought new wave music to America. WLIR helped launch the careers of **U2, Talking Heads, Depeche Mode, Blondie, Duran Duran, Tears for Fears, The Clash, and The Cure**, among others. Special guests attending the premiere **include Larry "The Duck" Dunn, Michael "Eppy" Epstein, Max Leinwand, Steve North, Carol Silva, Donna Donna** and **"Malibu Sue" McCann**.

Darkest Hour will be screened on Monday, November 13 at Soundview Cinemas in Port Washington. The film, which is receiving rave reviews for Gary Oldman's portrayal of Sir Winston Churchill, will be followed by a Q&A with Churchill's granddaughter and world-renowned sculptor, **Edwina Sandys**.

Other standout films and events at this year's festival include more than 40 premieres, including French movie-star **Isabelle Huppert's** new film *Souvenir*; **Burt Reynold's** new film *Dog Years*; *Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story*; and the timely *Bill Nye: Science Guy*. The festival is also featuring *Ben-Gurion, Epilogue* about Israel's founding father, with a live post-screening Q&A with David Ben-Gurion's grandson Alon Ben-Gurion; the delightful documentary *Hummus! The Movie*, followed by "The Great Gold Coast Hummus Taste-Off"; and the East Coast premiere of the Iranian film *Gholam*, starring **Shahab Hosseini**, star of the 2016 Oscar-winning film *The Salesman*, which premiered at last year's festival. On Saturday, November 11, the festival will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Oscar-winning Hollywood musical *Pal Joey*, starring Frank Sinatra, Rita Hayworth and Kim Novak. Sinatra's granddaughter, Amanda Erlinger will join us for a Q&A following the screening.

The seventh anniversary of the not-for-profit Gold Coast International Film Festival features over 80 films and dozens of filmmakers at screenings and events at North Shore venues, including Soundview Cinemas in Port Washington, the Bow Tie Cinemas in Great Neck, Port Washington, Manhasset and Roslyn, and the Gold Coast Arts Center in Great Neck. Films presented this year, showcasing some of Hollywood's best actors, include **Gary Oldman, Kristin Scott Thomas, Patricia Arquette, Burt Reynolds, Isabelle Huppert, Rainn Wilson, Bill Nye, Rosemarie DeWitt, Imogen Poots, and Shahab Hosseini**. Films starring screen immortals **Frank Sinatra, Rita Hayworth and Gary Cooper** and many more industry stars will also be presented. Award-winning feature films from the world's most prestigious festivals (Cannes, Toronto, Sundance, Tribeca, Hamptons) will be shown, along with dozens of excellent short films. This year, we are pleased to again present the work of talented young filmmakers in

grades K-12 in our Young Filmmakers Program, presented in partnership with Hofstra University.

Filmmakers and special guests scheduled to attend the Gold Coast International Film Festival include: renowned photographer **Tony Vaccaro**; **Alon Ben-Gurion**; award-winning filmmakers **Alexandra Dean** (*Bombshell*); **Max Lewkowicz** (*Underfire*); **Ellen Goldfarb** and **Denis McNamara** (*Dare to Be Different*); **Jessie Auritt** (*Supergirl*); **Jean-Stéphane Bron** (*Paris Opera*); **Yael Melamede** and **Jenny McQuaile** (*Straight/Curve*); **Edwina Sandys**, granddaughter of Sir Winston Churchill; **Amanda Erlinger**, granddaughter of Frank Sinatra; plus many more.

Sponsors and partners of this year's Gold Coast International Film Festival include: founding partners, the Town of North Hempstead and Douglas Elliman Real Estate; major partners, Hofstra University and the Nassau County Industrial Development Agency; as well as Neiman Marcus Garden City; GEICO; Deluxe Entertainment Services Group; AARP Long Island; A.L. Sarroff Fund; Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP; The Katz Institute for Women's Health at Northwell Health; St. Mary's Kids; , Jet Blue; Biener Audi; LVR Rental; The Inn at Great Neck; The Andrew Hotel; WLIW21; Altice; New York Women in Film & Television; Anton Publications; Blank Slate Media; LI Pulse; Edelman Financial Services, LLC; and LOLA of Great Neck.

For tickets to all screenings and events visit www.goldcoastfilmfestival.org.

A list of all films being screened at the Gold Coast International Film Festival is attached. Images for all films can be found at: <http://bit.ly/2xW9Idu>.

About the Gold Coast International Film Festival

Since 2011, the festival has brought the latest Hollywood hits and Indie favorites to standing room only audiences throughout the fabled Gold Coast of Long Island. Add A-list celebrities and unforgettable events to the mix and it's easy to see why the Gold Coast International Film Festival has become the "go to" festival for film buffs and the public; (it is also the last major film festival on the East Coast before Awards season). The Gold Coast International Film Festival is produced by the not-for-profit Gold Coast Arts Center.

Previous honorees and special guests of the festival and the Gold Coast Arts Center include film industry VIPs **Francis Ford Coppola**, **Hugh Grant**, **Baz Luhrmann**, **Brian Dennehy**, **Paul Sorvino**, **Ed Burns**, **Bruce Dern**, **Isabella Rossellini**, **Lou Diamond Phillips**, **Morgan Spurlock**, **Eli Wallach**, **Gabriel Byrne**, **Jacques Pepin**, **Bill Plympton**, **Phil Donahue**, **Phylicia Rashaad**, **Joan Allen**, **Jay McInerney** and **Michael Cuesta**, as well as composer **Morton Gould**, artists **James Rosenquist**, **Oleg Cassini**, **Edwina Sandys** and **Bob Gruen**, comedian **Susie Essman**, Broadway stars **Kelli O'Hara**, **Melissa Errico** and **Savion Glover**, and 4-time Oscar winner for production and costume design **Catherine Martin**.

About the Gold Coast Arts Center

The [Gold Coast Arts Center](http://www.goldcoastartscenter.org) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting the arts through education, exhibition, performance and outreach. Located on the North Shore of Long Island, it

has brought the arts to tens of thousands of people throughout the region for over 20 years. Among the Center's offerings are its School for the Arts, which holds year-round classes in visual and performing arts for students of all ages and abilities; a free public art gallery; a concert and lecture series; film screenings and discussions; the annual Gold Coast International Film Festival; and initiatives that focus on senior citizens and underserved communities. These initiatives include artist residencies, after-school programs, school assemblies, teacher-training workshops and parent-child workshops. The Gold Coast Arts Center is an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Partners in Education program, and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. More information can be found at www.goldcoastarts.org.

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For Tickets or More Information on the Festival visit www.goldcoastfilmfestival.org or call 516-829-2570.

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