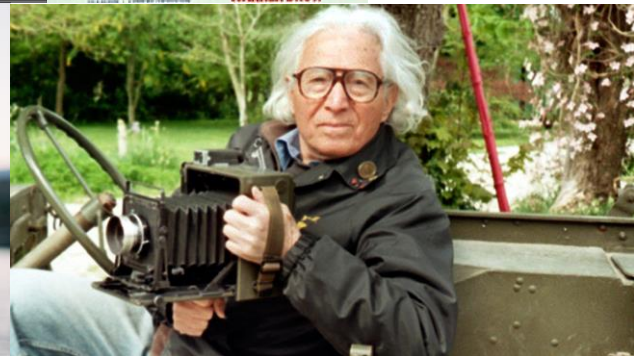
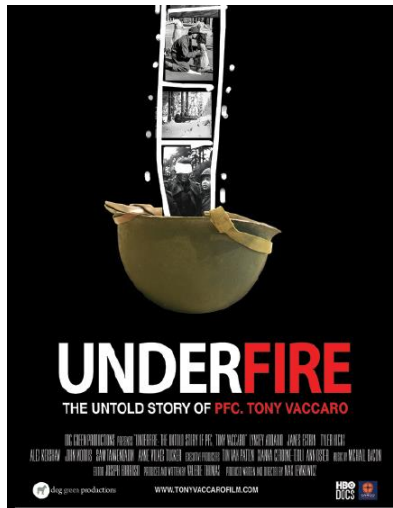


2017 Gold Coast International Film Festival Spotlights Legendary Photographer Tony Vaccaro

- Seventh Anniversary of Festival Featuring *Underfire: The Untold Story of Pfc. Tony Vaccaro* with an exhibit of Vaccaro's stunning photography as part of Veteran's Day tributes —
- Other films to honor and spotlight the military include *The Yellow Birds* starring Jennifer Aniston, Toni Collette and Alden Ehrenreich and a free public screening of the 1941 classic *Sergeant York* starring Gary Cooper —



GREAT NECK, NY — October 24, 2017 — The 2017 [Gold Coast International Film Festival](#) presents a tribute to our nation's veterans with an impressive selection of programs to honor our nation's heroes, plus free film screening tickets for veterans courtesy of GEICO.

The Gold Coast International Film Festival will celebrate its launch on Sunday, November 5, 2017, at the Bow Tie Squire Theater, 115 Middle Neck Road, Great Neck with a screening of *Underfire: The Untold Story of Pfc. Tony Vaccaro* (2016), 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 Mr. Vaccaro's acclaimed, wartime and celebrity photography at the Gold Coast Arts Center Gallery in Great Neck. Tickets can be purchased at <http://bit.ly/gciffunderfire>

Also at the Festival is *The Yellow Birds* (2017), starring Jennifer Aniston, Toni Collette, Alden Ehrenreich, soon to be Hans Solo in an upcoming *Star Wars* film, and Tye Sheridan of *X-Men* films and the star of upcoming Steven Spielberg film *Ready Player One*. *The Yellow Birds* is an American war film directed by Alexandre Moors and is based on the novel "The Yellow Birds," by Kevin Powers. The film takes place in the midst of the Iraq War as Bartle (Ehrenreich) and Murph (Sheridan), two young soldiers fresh out of boot camp, find themselves woefully unprepared for the realities facing them upon their deployment. What starts off as a simple mission, ends in tragedy driving one traumatized soldier to return home desperate to escape the past, while the other soldier's parents begin their search for the truth. *The Yellow Birds* is a haunting look at the personal devastation facing both the soldiers on the ground and those they leave behind. *The Yellow Birds* is screening on Tuesday, November 7 at 7:30 p.m. Soundview Cinemas located at 7 Soundview Market Place, Port Washington, NY 11050. Tickets can be purchased at <http://bit.ly/gciffyellow>

On Friday, November 10 at 1:00 p.m. at the Bow Tie Squire Theater, 115 Middle Neck Road in Great Neck, the public is invited to a free screening of *Sergeant York*, the 1941 classic film that won Gary Cooper an Oscar for Best Actor. Based on a true story, this inspiring drama is about a religious young man from Tennessee who is opposed to war. After being drafted into the army, he realizes there is indeed justification for fighting, and he ends up becoming one of the most decorated heroes of World War I. *Sergeant York* is timely as 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the United States entry into the First World War. Tickets can be reserved at <http://bit.ly/gciffyork>

As in years past, tickets to all films are offered free to veterans and military personnel courtesy of GEICO. Tickets must be reserved in advance by emailing Kacie@goldcoastarts.org or calling 516-829-2570.

Other standout films and events at this year's festival include more than 40 premieres, including *Dare to Be Different*, the story of the famed radio station, WLIR; French movie-star **Isabelle Huppert**'s new film *Souvenir*; **Burt Reynolds**'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: The Hedy Lamarr Story*); **Max Lewkowitz** (*Underfire: The Untold Story of Pfc. Tony Vaccaro*); **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.goldcoastarts.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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