

THE ARLINGTON
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

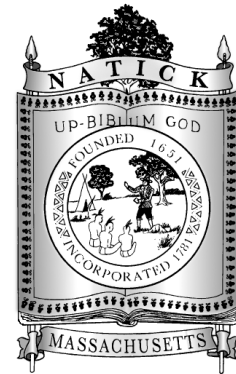


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“Where Arlington and the World Converge”

***The Arlington International Film Festival
Announces its Collaboration with
Natick Center Cultural District and Natick Community & Economic
Development Department***



The Arlington International Film Festival (AIFF) is proud to announce three film events in the town of Natick, the first being an homage to the Indigenous community of Natick... ***MORE THAN A WORD*** by filmmakers John Little and Ken Little. This screening is in collaboration with the Harvard Native American Studies Department. The film will screen on **April 26, 7 PM in the Lebowitz Hall at The Morse Institute Library**, located at 14 East Central Street, Natick. There will be a panel discussion following with filmmaker John Little, Shelly Lowe, Director of Harvard Native American Studies Department, a representative from the Natick Praying Indians, and Zadi Zouku, a local filmmaker.

Synopsis: *More Than A Word* analyzes the Washington football team and their use of the derogatory term R*dskins. Using interviews from both those in favor of changing the name and those against, *More Than A Word* presents a deeper analysis of the many issues surrounding the Washington team name. The documentary also examines the history of Native American cultural appropriation. trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A86QFzpz7s8>

Filmmakers: **John Little** is enrolled in the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. He was born and raised in Denver, Colorado and South Dakota. He graduated with his BA from South Dakota State and MA in history from the University of South Dakota. His research focus is on Native American veterans, music, cultural appropriation, and mascots. He is currently a PhD student at the University of Minnesota. **Kenn Little** is enrolled in the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. He was born and raised in Denver, CO and currently lives in Kansas City, MO. He received his BA in Graphic

Design and New Media from Full Sail University in 2013. He is a multifaceted artist, writer, videographer and musician and often combines those abilities on his projects.

Shelly C. Lowe, Executive Director of the Harvard Native American Studies Department

Shelly C. Lowe is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation. She is Bilagaana, born for Náneesht'ézhí Tách'iinii. Her paternal grandfather's clan is Tábaa. She grew up in Ganado, AZ on the Navajo Reservation. Shelly has most recently held the position of Assistant Dean for Native American Affairs in the Yale College Deans Office and Director of the Native American Cultural Center at Yale University. Prior to her position at Yale, she spent six years as the Graduate Education Program Facilitator for the American Indian Studies Programs at The University of Arizona. During her time at the University of Arizona she was actively involved in the Native American Student Affairs Office and the American Indian Alumni club.

<https://hunap.harvard.edu/people/shelly-lowe>

Natick Center Cultural District

Natick Center Cultural District – home to more than 100 working artists, The Center for Arts in Natick, the Morse Institute Library, The Walnut Hill School for the Arts, many independently owned businesses and cultural organizations, and an active Parks and Recreation Department, all contributing to a busy year-round schedule of arts and cultural events.

Visitors to Natick Center can expect an intimate, friendly experience and the rich heritage of a classic New England town, while celebrating a vibrant, contemporary fusion of art, culture and business. Against the backdrop of the quintessential New England town center, a passionate group of committed individuals and organizations work, through businesses and studios, to create a dynamic and diverse community.

Natick Center Cultural District is fostered by a private-public partnership, managed by Natick Center Associates. This nonprofit organization is comprised of property owners, retail and office workers, concerned neighbors, town officials, nonprofits and corporations with a history of more than 40 years working together for downtown revitalization. We strive to be a great example of a successful community-driven alliance dedicated to preserving the small-town feel and the big-city amenities.

Natick Center is a vital, thriving interesting place to live, work and visit. The respect shown for the historical character of our buildings, the prosperous and friendly business atmosphere, the activities and events on the common, and our growth as a center of arts and culture, all make Natick Center a special place.

There's always something exciting to do and see in downtown Natick, from shopping, dining, walking tours, community events, concerts at TCAN and much more. We invite you to discover why Natick Center is a hub for arts and culture in MetroWest.

Natick Community & Economic Development Department

We are dedicated to making our town a better and safer place to live. A place where people want to raise a family and have their children raise their children. The Community Development Department works to protect, and where possible, enhance our natural resources and preserve the quality of life for the citizens of Natick. Through our Boards and Commission, we strive to serve by building lasting partnerships with individual residents, community groups, professional services, providers, contractors, business leaders, and local and state officials. We stand for a commitment to the long-term interests of our community, and to delivering the highest quality of service. <https://www.natickma.gov/162/Community-Economic-Development>

About the Arlington International Film Festival:

The Arlington International Film Festival (AIFF), celebrating its 9th year of production, offers a unique opportunity for cross-cultural education by promoting understanding of the many cultures represented in our town and beyond. The Festival is a means for recognizing that such diversity enriches our community. We believe that our annual international film festival highlights core values and aspirations we share in common with our culturally diverse neighbors and with all members of the global human family. It is also our goal, through the annual production of the Festival to involve Arlington's youth, artists, filmmakers and professionals in various fields as well as focus on promoting the history of Arlington and its local businesses.

The Festival invites documentary, narrative, animation and experimental shorts and feature film submissions and presents juried awards in each category. Also, we feature a special category of short submissions by high school filmmakers. The 2019 program will be available on-line in October.

For more information, visit aiffest.org or email arlingtonfilmfest@gmail.com.

The Arlington International Film Festival November 7 – 10, 2019 Capitol Theatre | 204 Mass Ave | East Arlington MA

Mission Statement: To foster appreciation for different cultures by exploring the lives of people around the globe through independent film — to nurture the next generation of filmmakers.



Tax-deductible contributions should be made payable to the Festival's fiscal agent, MIRA, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.