

BronzeLens Continues 10 Year Legacy as Nexus for Filmmakers of Color Featuring In Depth Conversations and Talks back with Regina Hall and Yvette Nicole Brown

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release: ATLANTA --- August 14, 2019 --- **10th Annual BronzeLens Film Festival (BronzeLens)**, August 21-25, will be a commemoration of the organization's evolution over the past decade as one of the most substantive film festivals in the United States. "Over the years we have remained committed to exposing the community to business opportunities and career paths in the industry. BronzeLens values the authentic voices of people of color and celebrates those whose work represents filmmaking at its best", said Kathleen Bertrand, BronzeLens Film Festival Founder and Executive Producer.

Festival programming includes industry specific panels, master classes conducted by leading professionals and its signature events, BronzeLens Women SuperStars Luncheon, First Glance Friday Screening, BronzeLens Awards Show, Sunday Brunch with the Brothers, and Cinema and Social Justice Sunday.

Over the course of five days a total of 100 films will be screened in the Shorts, Features, Documentaries, Short Documentaries, International Films, Webisodes, Student Films, and Music Video categories. Selected films include the work of filmmakers representing the United States, Canada, Peru, Jamaica, Australia, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Nigeria, Mexico and the United Kingdom.

BronzeLens Film Festival Highlights:

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

Opening Night at BronzeLens

BronzeLens Opening Night Feature will feature a talk back that will be moderated by **Gil Robertson**, Co-Founder of the African American Film Critics Association (AAFCA). Actor **Angelo Diaz** (*"ATL Homicide"*) will host the Bronze Carpet.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

All Shorts All Day and **All Shorts All Night** presented by **BET Networks** will showcase Film Shorts from sun up to sundown. Evening screenings will feature the top five nominated Short Films for the Best Short Award. BronzeLens is an Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences qualifying festival for the Short Film category. The short film that receives the BronzeLens Best Short Award is eligible to enter the Academy's Short Subject competition for the concurrent season.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

Key to generating financial support of the festival is the **BronzeLens Women Superstars Luncheon (WSSL)** sponsored by **BETHer**. Since its inception, 48 of the brightest women of color in the film and television industry have been honored. The 2019 BronzeLens Women SuperStar honorees are veteran actress **Regina Hall** (*Little, The Hate You Give, Girls Trip and Scary Movie*), star of screen and stage, actress **Angela Robinson** (*"The Haves and The Have Nots"*, *The Color Purple*), and Academy Award®-nominated Producer **Lisa Cortés** (*Precious; The Woodsman; and Shadowboxer*). Actress **Kim Coles** will serve as mistress of ceremonies and A Conversation with Regina Hall presented by **AARP – Georgia** will be moderated by comedienne **Myra J**. The Bronze Carpet will be hosted by author and motivational speaker **Stacii Jae**.

First Glance Friday screening features Will Packer's new original series "*Bigger*" which is set to premiere on **BET Network's** streaming service **BET+**, this fall.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

Comedian and all-around entertainer **Rodney Perry** will emcee the **BronzeLens Awards Show**. The 'Best of Festival' filmmakers in their perspective categories and other noteworthy industry leaders will be honored at the historic Carter Center.

Categories include the best in Features, Documentaries, International Films, Shorts, Student Films, Music Videos Short Documentaries, and Webisodes, as well as Best Actress and Best Actor. Actor and comedian **Jonathan Slocum** will host the Bronze Carpet.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

Sunday Brunch with the Brothers featured guests are **Yusef Salaam** and **Raymond Santana, Jr.** who were exonerated of all charges from the Central Park Jogger Case and portrayed in Ava DuVernay's Netflix Series "*When They See Us*". The event will be moderated by Civil Rights Attorney **Mawuli Mel Davis**.

Cinema and Social Justice Sunday will be a double feature screening. *Illegal Rose*, a short directed by Deborah Riley Draper will open **Cinema and Social Justice Sunday**. Post screening talk back includes cast member Lucca Rodriguez-Pedraza and Deborah Riley Draper. Rapper **Kap G** will perform his hit song *A Day without a Mexican* and vocalist **Nina White** will also perform.

Jodi Gomes' highly anticipated documentary *One Child Left Behind: the Untold Atlanta Cheating Scandal* is the **Cinema and Social Justice Sunday** feature film. Former Atlanta **Mayor Kasim Reed** and President of the American Federation of Teachers, **Randi Weingarten** are confirmed to participate in the talk back.

BronzeLens Closing Night Feature is the world premiere of director Trey Haley's romantic comedy, *Always a Bridesmaid*, written by actress **Yvette Nicole Brown** ("*Community*", *Avengers Endgame*), and starring **Javicia Leslie** and **Jordan Callaway**. Brown will participate in the post screening talk back.

About the BronzeLens Film Festival

BronzeLens Film Festival of Atlanta, Georgia, is a non-profit organization, founded in 2009, that is dedicated to bringing national and worldwide attention to Atlanta as a center for film and film production for people of color. Its mission is two-fold: to promote Atlanta as the new film mecca for people of color; and to showcase films and provide networking opportunities that will develop the next generation of filmmakers. Since its inception, BronzeLens producers have brought national and worldwide attention to Atlanta, helping to showcase the city as a leader in the thriving film industry.

In 2017 the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences approved BronzeLens as a qualifying festival for the Short Film Awards category. The short film that receives the BronzeLens Best Short Award is eligible to enter the Academy's Short Subject competition for the concurrent season.

2019 BronzeLens Sponsors

2019 BronzeLens Sponsors include BET Networks, BETHer, WarnerMedia (Turner, WB, HBO, Otter), AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Black Leadership AIDS Crisis Coalition, Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau, Dihvinely Konnecked Productions, City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Film and Entertainment, City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, AARP Georgia, Fulton County Films Commission, The Coca-Cola Company, Delta Air Lines, Georgia Film Office, Southern Company Gas, Dekalb Entertainment Commission, Georgia Power, AEE Productions, Bobbcats Films Studio, The Sai Sai Group, Mercedes-Benz of Buckhead, Entertainment Partners/Movie Magic, CINEMA: Alonzo Crim Center for Urban Educational Excellence, Georgia Public Broadcasting, Reel South, Georgia Production Partners, IslandJon Vodka, Talero Tequila, and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. Media Partners include Rolling Out, WSB-TV Atlanta, WAOK, Oz Publishing, Midtown Lifestyle Magazine and THEA.

Media Credentials

Approved media representatives who applied in advance and received written confirmation from Sommer Vega sommerbronzelens@gmail.com or Tandi Reddick tandibronzelens@gmail.com will have access to interview areas and bronze carpet arrivals. This includes media opportunities with filmmakers, honorees, panelists, festival producers, and other special guests of BronzeLens Film Festival. All media must email Sommer Vega sommerbronzelens@gmail.com or Tandi Reddick tandibronzelens@gmail.com to request access to cover these opportunities. To apply for media credentials and for more information regarding the BronzeLens Film Festival, go to www.bronzelens.com.

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