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WEDU Presents Free Community Cinema Film Screening of *The Revolutionary Optimists* at The Palladium, St. Petersburg



APRIL 22, 2013 (Tampa, FL) Community Cinema, a national documentary screening series presented locally by **WEDU**, West Coast Florida's primary PBS station (www.wedu.org/cinema) and Independent Television Service (ITVS) presents a screening of *The Revolutionary Optimists* at **The Palladium Theater—St. Petersburg College** on **Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30pm**.

Children in the slums of Calcutta are starting a revolution. Called to action by visionary former attorney Amlan Ganguly, the 'Daredevils' have already made radical health and sanitation improvements in one of the city's poorest slums--awakening a neglected populace to the real possibility of change.

The Revolutionary Optimists proposes a workable solution to intractable problems associated with poverty, including preventable diseases and ineffectual governance. Ganguly's story suggests that education and child empowerment are crucial keys to lifting entire societies out of hopelessness.

WHAT: FREE screening of *The Revolutionary Optimists*

WHO: Presented by ITVS Community Cinema, WEDU, and The Palladium Theater at St. Petersburg College.

WHEN: May 14 at 6:30pm, followed by discussion.

WHERE: The Palladium Theater, **The Side Door Cabaret**, 253 Fifth Ave. N, Saint Petersburg, FL 33701

RSVP: This screening event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and RSVP is requested online at www.wedu.org/cinema

About the Filmmakers

Nicole Newnham co-directed the critically acclaimed documentary *The Rape of Europa*, about the fate of Europe's art treasures during WWII. *The Rape of Europa* played theatrically in 80 cities across the country, and was recently nominated for two Emmy awards. Nicole was also nominated for an Emmy Award for her documentary *Sentenced Home*, following three Cambodian refugees in Seattle who are deported back to Cambodia after 9/11. She field-produced the Emmy-nominated documentary *Skin* for PBS and National Geographic, and co-produced *They Drew Fire*, a widely-acclaimed special for PBS about the combat artists of World War II. Nicole received a Master's degree in Documentary Film from Stanford University.

Maren Grainger-Monsen is a physician and filmmaker-in-residence at Stanford University Center for Biomedical Ethics. She directed *Worlds Apart* and *Hold Your Breath*, a large-scale project on cross-cultural conflicts in medicine currently used in 63 percent of U.S. medical schools. She also directed a series of films on end-of-life issues, *The Vanishing Line*, which aired on P.O.V. ; and *Grave Words*, which won first place in the AMA film festival. She studied film at the London International Film School and received her medical training at the University of Washington and Stanford University.

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About ITVS Community Cinema

ITVS Community is the national community engagement program of the Independent Television Service (ITVS) and the Emmy Award-winning PBS series *Independent Lens*. Through Community Engagement Campaigns in support of groundbreaking, independent films, our innovative educational product ITVS Community Classroom and our flagship community outreach program Community Cinema, ITVS Community works to bring communities together and connect them with information, resources and opportunities for education, engagement and positive change. ITVS Community builds on our 15-year legacy of community engagement activities and makes public broadcasting into a powerful resource for individuals, communities and organizations working on key social issues around the country. For more information visit: <http://www.communitycinema.org>

About Independent Lens

Independent Lens is an Emmy® Award-winning weekly series airing on PBS. The acclaimed anthology series features documentaries united by the creative freedom, artistic achievement and unflinching visions of independent filmmakers. Presented by Independent Television Service (ITVS), the series is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), a private corporation funded by the American people, with additional funding provided by PBS, the National Endowment for the Arts and the MacArthur Foundation. The senior series producer is Lois Vossen. More information is at www.pbs.org/independentlens. Join *Independent Lens* on Facebook at www.facebook.com/independentlens.

ABOUT WEDU

WEDU is west central Florida's leading PBS station and public media company reaching 16 counties through media platforms including on-air programming and online experiences that broaden horizons, transport and transform and open gateways to new ideas and new worlds. Financially supported by the community, the organization offers a wealth of award-winning inspirational, educational and enlightening content over a variety of multi-media platforms including: television programming, station's website, wedu.org and various social media platforms, monthly member magazine *Premiere*, educational outreach activities and a myriad of special events. WEDU's focus on the local community has resulted in the station being regarded as a beacon of trust for men, women and children of every walk of life no matter their age, ethnicity or socio-economic status. WEDU is a treasured community resource; a window to the world for the homebound and a vital educational source for the youngest members of society. WEDU prides itself on its position in the Tampa Bay community as a leader, partner, informed citizen and a member of PBS, the most trusted institution in America (Harris Interactive Trust QuickQuery, February 2012).

For more information, program schedules or to support WEDU visit wedu.org; WEDU Public Media on Facebook and Twitter or call 813.254.9338.

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