



August 23, 2016

NEWS RELEASE

EAT AND MEET ON FESTIVAL STREET FOR FREE FILMS, MUSIC, AND FUN **King Street West transformed into a pedestrian paradise from September 8 to 11**

TORONTO — The Toronto International Film Festival® will bring the Festival experience outside for the third year of Festival Street. On Opening Weekend, **September 8 to 11**, King Street West between Peter and University Streets will be closed and transformed into a pedestrian corridor for all to enjoy.

“Festival Street brings great value to the City, to Torontonians, international visitors, and local businesses. Last year, Festival Street drew a remarkable 100,000 visitors in just four days,” said Cameron Bailey, Artistic Director of the Toronto International Film Festival. “The Entertainment District is the City’s centre for nightlife, dining, live entertainment, and film, and Festival Street enhances this experience with dynamic, free programming for everyone.”

The Slight Music Stage returns to John Street with performances from up-and-coming musical talent and free film screenings on John Street south of King Street. TIFF celebrates the 30th anniversary of two cult classics with screenings of *Labyrinth* (1986) and *Ferris Bueller’s Day Off* (1986). Costumes are encouraged, with prizes to be won.

For Festival Street eats, visitors can grab a bite at a Food Truck or get a table on the extended patios along Restaurant Row, and relax with friends in one of the Festival Street seating areas. Passersby can experience virtual reality in Bell’s VR cubes, visit the Express Pop-Up Shop for a free Festival tote, test new chocolates at the Lindor Chocolate Mobile Truck, and get A Taste Of Europe Via Icelandair, with a chance to win flight tickets for a European getaway.

In 2015 increased pedestrian traffic around Festival venues and along Festival Street was a driving force behind a significant increase in visitor spending in the Entertainment District. A 30% week-over-week increase in transactions was recorded at restaurants in the Entertainment District.

Previously announced Festival Street programming includes the *Hidden Figures Live* concert with Pharrell Williams and friends for select TIFF Members.

Full details of the closure, and impact on local services, will be announced on August 29.

Learn more and see the full Festival Street schedule by visiting tiff.net on August 29.

The 2016 Toronto International Film Festival Official Film Schedule was released today and is available at TIFF Bell Lightbox or by visiting tiff.net/schedule.

Purchase Festival ticket packages until August 24 while quantities last. Individual tickets are on sale from Sunday, September 4 to Sunday, September 18. Purchase packages and tickets online at tiff.net/festival, by phone at **416.599.TIFF** or **1.888.599.8433**. Festival Box Office, located at 225 King Street West, opens on August 23.

TIFF prefers Visa.

TIFF is a charitable organization with a mission to transform the way people see the world, through film.

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About TIFF

TIFF is a charitable cultural organization whose mission is to transform the way people see the world, through film. An international leader in film culture, TIFF projects include the annual Toronto International Film Festival in September; TIFF Bell Lightbox, which features five cinemas, major exhibitions, and learning and entertainment facilities; and innovative national distribution program Film Circuit. The organization generates an annual economic impact of \$189 million CAD. TIFF Bell Lightbox is generously supported by contributors including Founding Sponsor Bell, the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada, the City of Toronto, the Reitman family (Ivan Reitman, Agi Mandel and Susan Michaels), The Daniels Corporation and RBC. For more information, visit tiff.net.

The Toronto International Film Festival is generously supported by Lead Sponsor Bell, Major Sponsors RBC, L'Oréal Paris and Visa, and Major Supporters the Government of Ontario, Telefilm Canada and the City of Toronto.

Festival Street is supported by the City of Toronto and the Government of Ontario.

Special Thanks to the Toronto Transit Commission and the Toronto Entertainment District BIA.

Special Thanks to the Slaight Family Foundation for their generous support of the Slaight Music Stage.

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For information, contact the Communications Department at 416.934.3200 or email proffice@tiff.net.
For images, visit tiff.net/press.

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