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NEWS

Media Advisory

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Colorado Environmental Film Festival in Golden, Nov. 4-6

Note to editors: The 5th Annual Colorado Environmental Film Festival will present 45 environmentally oriented films Nov. 4-6 at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th Street, Golden, Colo. The public is encouraged to attend.

GOLDEN, Colo. – The 5th Annual Colorado Environmental Film Festival will run from Nov. 4-6 at the American Mountaineering Center in Golden. This year’s festival, one of the largest environmental film festivals between the East and West Coasts, features 45 films from six countries and 16 states; five productions are from Colorado.

Films range in length from two minutes to just under two hours, and cover a variety of topics including interactions between humans and wildlife, the impacts of climate change and the consequences of modern children removed from nature. Filmmakers range from a 12-year-old Wyoming boy to a Kenyan Masai warrior; some films are specifically geared toward children and families.

According to CEFF founder and co-director Shawna Crocker, the film festival provides exposure for independent films and informs the public about a wide variety of environmental issues. The ultimate goal is to awaken audience members to important environmental issues and inspire them to act.

“We’ll be presenting thought-provoking films that raise awareness about a variety of ecological, social and economic themes to provide an experience for our audiences that goes beyond passive film viewing,” said Crocker, state coordinator for Project Learning Tree, an educational program of the Colorado State Forest Service.

“Play Again,” which will be featured on opening night, documents the consequences of a childhood removed from nature by following six teenagers, who normally spend five to 15 hours a day in the virtual world, on their first wilderness adventure. The film’s producer, Meg Merrill, one of many filmmakers attending CEFF, will preside over a panel discussion with youth, educators and a school psychologist following the second screening of the film on Saturday.

“Unlike many other film festivals, CEFF provides an intimate setting that allows attendees unprecedented access to the filmmakers,” Crocker said.

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Beginning in 2006 with only a handful of films and approximately 50 attendees, the film festival attracted 1,500 viewers in 2009 and is expected to surpass 2,000 viewers this year.

The film festival takes place at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St., Golden. Tickets cost \$5 per session; each session includes two to four films. Sponsorship opportunities also are still available.

For a full schedule of films, tickets and more information, visit www.CEFF.net. Tickets also can be purchased at the door or at Denver, Lakewood and Boulder REI stores.

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