

QUEER FILM FESTIVAL

RAINBOW REELS

12

March 1-4
AT THE PRINCESS
TWIN CINEMAS
rainbowreels.org



OPENING REMARKS

Dear Film Goers:

We are proud to welcome you to the twelfth annual Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival! Many volunteers, including the organizing committee, have been working hard to put together four days of film screenings to celebrate over a decade of Rainbow Reels festivals in Kitchener-Waterloo!

This festival, hosted by the Waterloo Public Interest Research Group (WPIRG), attempts to satisfy a niche in the community by showcasing a variety of queer experiences on screen. Our objective is to increase awareness of the many issues that permeate the greater queer and trans community, by providing content that spans a diverse range of subject matters, genres, and cultures.

As Rainbow Reels goes through the process of incorporating into an independent not-for-profit, and leaves behind its humble beginnings as a UW campus-based project of WPIRG, volunteers and supporting members of our community will be essential to our survival. Individuals, groups, organizations and businesses will

be the core of the festival, sustaining us with their efforts and their passion. We hope Rainbow Reels will thrive with financial support, advertising space, community attendance and a variety of other supports, which will ensure a strong festival with the best of queer film that is culturally relevant and accessible to as many people as possible in South Western Ontario. Twelve years of deep roots will sprout new shoots so come join us and become a part of this exciting time!

Stretch your mind. Expand your world. Laugh, cry & live through the eyes of many talented film makers to see the queer world as it struggles, grows and changes the world round. Many queer individuals in Canada feel that the struggles are over. Take a moment and explore what new challenges still exist, and take away insights that all the films have to offer.

And thank you for your continuing support that makes this festival possible!

2012 Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival Organizing Committee

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Campus Film		Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Wednesday 29th		Thursday 1st	Friday 2nd	Saturday 3rd	Sunday 4th
You Should Meet My Son!	7-9pm	Leave It On The Floor	The Wise Kids	Tomboy	Double Feature: Married In Spandex & Gen Silent
		7-9pm	7-9pm	2-4pm	2-4pm
		GALA Opening at the Clay & Glass Gallery	Pariah	Rainbow Shorts Programme & Call Me Salma	Cloudburst
		9-11pm	9-11pm	4-6pm	4-6pm
				Patrick, Age 1.5	
				7-9pm	
				Weekend	
				9-11pm	

Check out our website for trailers and full details on the festival line-up! www.rainbowreels.org

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

For twelve years the Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival (QFF) has worked hard to increase awareness of queer, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues by showcasing projects from new and emerging film-makers. We are one of the most recognisable film festivals in South-western Ontario, bringing in attendees from Kitchener-Waterloo, London, Hamilton, Guelph and Windsor.

The festival is a project of the Waterloo Public Interest Research group and has been since 2000. What started up as a small student-run event, screening films at the University of Waterloo, has since expanded and grown into an important community-wide event.

WPIRG is a student run not-for-profit organization operating out of the University of Waterloo campus. WPIRG's mission is to foster and support students and community members to research, educate, and take action on social justice and environmental issues. The organization takes aim to motivate community participation through integrative processes encouraging social diversity and social equality while operating in a

consensus based decision making model. To this end, WPIRG started the Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival to satisfy a niche in the community by showcasing a variety of queer experiences on screen. Its objective has been to increase awareness of the many issues that permeate the greater queer community by providing content which spans a diverse range of subject matter and genres. WPIRG is the proud home of the Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival. *To learn more about the WPIRG visit www.wpirg.org*

Vision

The Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival features internationally acclaimed gay and lesbian works that present images of gay and lesbian lives and issues; emphasizes issues of multicultural diversity and gender; encourages local artists, critics and audiences to participate in the discussion of cultural identities and aesthetics and generally to present the public with an opportunity to see and discuss the thematic, aesthetic and political concerns raised by the work of lesbian and gay film-makers.

From **March 1-4, 2012**, the Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival will be taking place in Waterloo at Princess Twin Cinemas. Passes gain you access to 10 films, a shorts programme, and a Gala Evening at the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery!

Tickets & Prices:

Festival Passes (including Gala)

Waged \$40

Unwaged/Student/Senior \$20

Tickets

Waged \$8

Unwaged/Student/Senior \$5

Gala Pass (Feature + Party)

Waged \$15

Unwaged/Student/Senior \$10

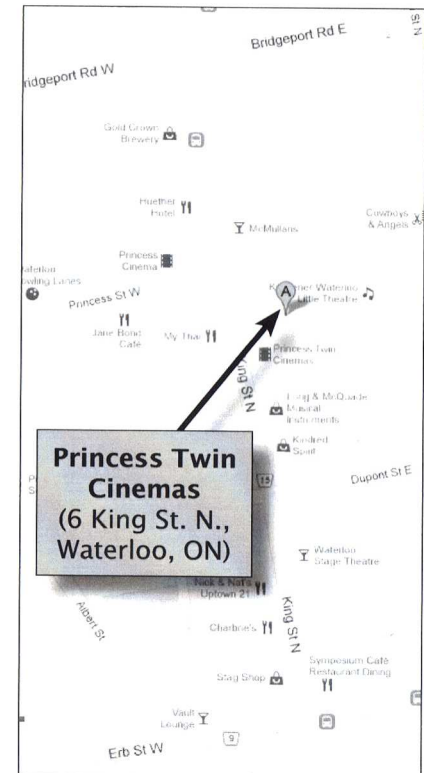
Also, from now until March 31st, receive **10% off** when you show your festival pass at **Queen of Hearts Costumes** in Waterloo!

GRT Bussing Info: Both the iX-press and 7 bus line run North and South through Uptown Waterloo along King Street. Adult fare: \$2.50 (cash), 5-ticket strips are available for \$9.75 or \$8.75 (reduced) at Charles Street Terminal in Kitchener or Ainslie Terminal in Cambridge. Children under 5 ride for free.

INFORMATION

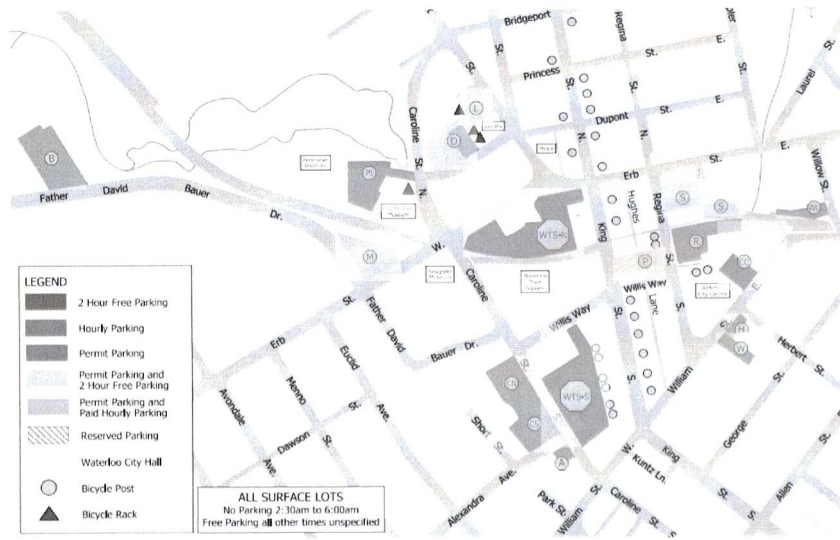
Join us after the festival on Friday or Saturday at **Sizzle (19+)** in Cambridge or **Club Renaissance (19+)** in Kitchener with **NO COVER charge** when you show your festival pass!

To reserve tickets or for questions about accessibility, please call 519.888.4882



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 7 PM

INFORMATION



Parking Info: From Monday to Friday, 8am-6pm, 2 Hour Free Parking is available in most public parking lots in Uptown Waterloo, including the Waterloo Town Square lots on Erb. St. between Caroline St. and King St., and off of Caroline St. at Willis Way. The hourly rate for the Uptown Parkade at King and Willis Way is \$2.75. **Parking is free after 6pm and on weekends.**

<p>Don't forget to vote for the</p> <h2>PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD</h2>	<p>You get two choices! Vote for your favourite feature film or documentary (regular slot) AND for your favourite short film (Saturday Shorts Programme)</p> <p>Your ballot is included in this program. If not, a Rainbow Reels volunteer will be glad to give you another one.</p>
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YOU SHOULD MEET MY SON!



2010 | USA | 88 min.

Writer/Director Keith Hartman

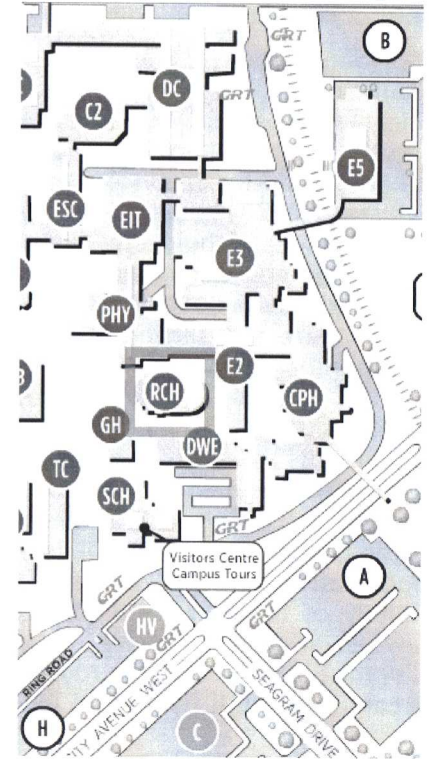
A comedy about a conservative Southern mom who discovers that her only son is gay. Determined that he won't go through life alone and miserable, she sets out to find him the perfect husband!

Free screening at the University of Waterloo in building RCH, room 301!

GRT Routes 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 29 and iXpress reach the University of Waterloo Campus (\$2.50 cash fare/person).

Guest parking is available after 4 pm in Lots A and B (see map). \$5 coin entry only.

University of Waterloo Campus



THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 7 PM

LEAVE IT ON THE FLOOR



2011 | Canada/USA | 109 min.

Writer/Director Sheldon Larry

Sheldon Larry's audacious, raunchy and big-hearted musical—with songs by Beyoncé music director Kim Burse and choreography by Beyoncé dance master Frank Gatson Jr. —takes us into the fabulously funky world of voguing. (Remember the documentary “Paris is Burning”?) Here the setting is contemporary downtown L.A. Our hunky, homeless hero Brad, discarded by his homophobic mom, falls in with the members of The House of Eminence, ruled by the stern aging diva Queef Latina, who keeps a careful, loving watch over her makeshift family of runaways and throw-aways. When two of her crew fall for Brad, the Queef is royally unamused. High flying and low

down, LEAVE IT ON THE FLOOR is a one of a kind celebration—a gay African American musical about finding your true family.

“...a sizzling mash-up of Paris Is Burning, Rent and Dreamgirls... LEAVE IT ON THE FLOOR is that and more...Pulsing with energy [and] joy.”

— Cindy M. Emch, **Frameline**

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 9 PM

GALA OPENING PARTY (19+)

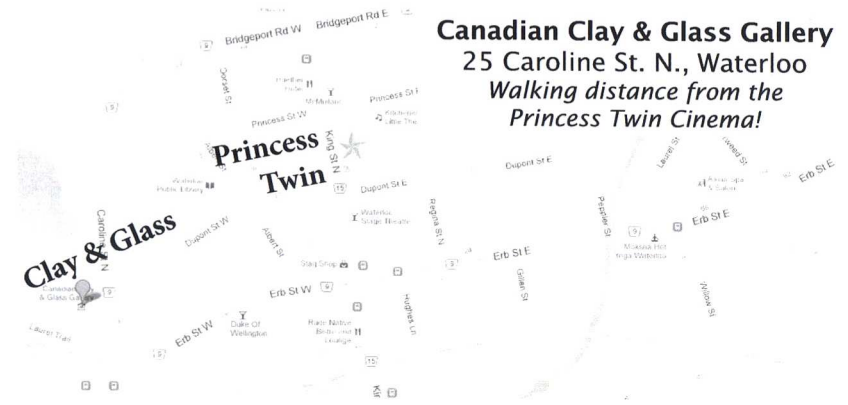


Join us after the screening of LEAVE IT ON THE FLOOR for an evening of music and energy at the **Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery** (19+ only).

Come for the lively jazz band, the **Bernie Blue Trio**, featuring **Bernard Singer** on Sax, **Fabrice Sico** on accordion and **David Dunlap** on guitar. Also enjoy drinks & hors d'oeuvres and strut your stuff at our GALA photobooth,

featuring the creative stylings of local artist **Girl Crimson :: Alt Portraiture!** We are proud to welcome back **body painter Tania** from Infinite Body Arts.

The GALA is a formal and 30's style jazz event, so dress up—whatever that means to you. The GALA Opening is **included in your festival pass**, OR tickets are just \$15, or \$10 for unwaged/students/seniors!



Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery
25 Caroline St. N., Waterloo
Walking distance from the Princess Twin Cinema!

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 7 PM

THE WISE KIDS



2011 | USA | 95 min.

Writer/Director Stephen Cone

In a Baptist church community in Charleston, South Carolina, three teenage friends contemplate the next stage of life. There's Brea, an introspective pastor's daughter experiencing debilitating doubt; the hyperactive Laura, Brea's best friend and a devout believer; and Tim, the open-hearted son of a single father, confronting his homosexuality for the first time. Weaving comedy and drama, *THE WISE KIDS* is a character-driven coming-of-age story with an extraordinarily talented young cast.

Awards

2011 Outfest Grand Jury Award for US Dramatic Feature Film; 2011 Outfest Grand Jury Award for Outstanding Screenwriting; Audience Award, NewFest; Shout Grand Jury Award, Sidewalk/Shout Birmingham; Audience Award for Narrative Features, Sidewalk/Shout Birmingham.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 9 PM

PARIAH



2011 | USA | 86 min.

Writer/Director Dee Rees

A world premiere at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival, the contemporary drama *Pariah* is the feature-length expansion of writer/director Dee Rees' award-winning 2007 short film *Pariah*. Spike Lee is among the feature's executive producers. At Sundance, cinematographer Bradford Young was honored with the [U.S. Dramatic Competition] Excellence in Cinematography Award.

Adepero Oduye, who had earlier starred in the short film, portrays Alike (pronounced ah-lee-kay), a 17-year-old African-American woman who lives with her parents Audrey and Arthur (Kim Wayans and Charles Parnell) and younger sister Sharonda (Sah-

ra Mellese) in Brooklyn's Fort Greene neighborhood. She has a flair for poetry, and is a good student at her local high school.

Alike is quietly but firmly embracing her identity as a lesbian. With the sometimes boisterous support of her best friend, out lesbian Laura (Pernell Walker), Alike is especially eager to find a girlfriend.

Wondering how much she can confide in her family, Alike strives to get through adolescence with grace, humor, and tenacity - sometimes succeeding, sometimes not, but always moving forward.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2 PM

TOMBOY



2011 | France (French) | 84 min.

Writer/Director Céline Sciamma

Laure is 10 years old. Laure is a tomboy. Upon arriving in a new neighborhood, she lets Lisa and her crowd believe that she is a boy. Truth or dare? Dare.

Laure pretends to be "Michael," a boy like the others different enough to get the attention of Lisa who falls in love with him. Laure takes advantage of her new identity as if the end of the summer would never reveal her unsettling secret.

Awards

Teddy Jury Award, Berlin International Film Festival 2011; Jury Prize (Best Feature), Philadelphia International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival 2011; Audience Award (Best Feature), San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival 2011; Best Feature Film, Torino International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival 2011.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 4 PM

SATURDAY SHORTS PROGRAMME

Announcing the Femme Fatale Queer Youth Video Contest winner. Congratulations to James Vong of Kitchener-Waterloo!

1. STRIPPING THE LABEL

2012 | Canada | 3 min. | James Vong

2. THE PRINCE'S SWORD

2011 | Canada | 16 min. | Melissa Sky

3. SHIFT

2011 | Canada | 2 min. | Krista Boniface

4. RED LIPS [CAGES FOR BLACK GIRLS]

2012 | Canada | 16 min. | Kyisha Williams

5. SPIRAL TRANSITION

2010 | USA | 6 min. | Ewan Duarte

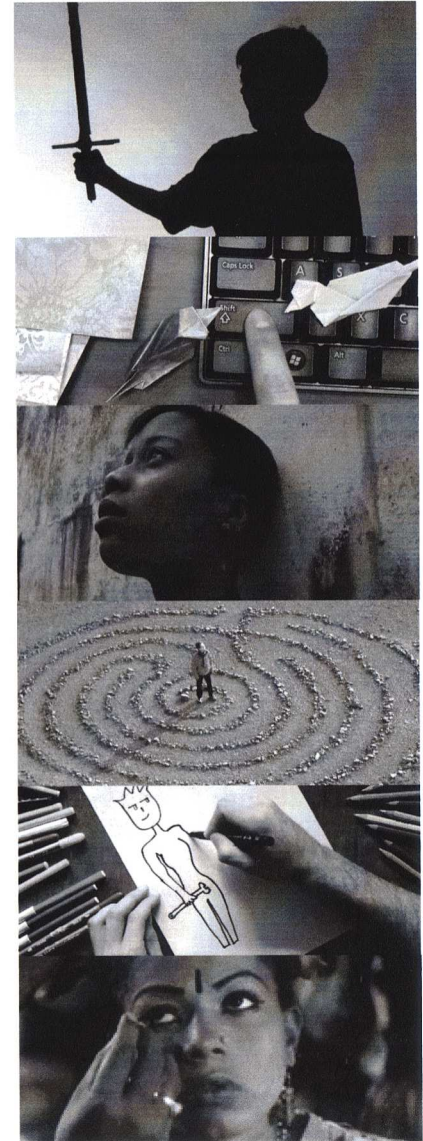
6. TAKE IT / BREAK IT

2011 | Slovenia | 20 min. | Maša Zia Lenárdič & Anja Wutej

7. CALL ME SALMA

2009 | Canada | 54 min. | Aude Leroux-Lévesque, Sébastien Rist

In the crowded back alleys of Dhaka, Bangladesh, Salma enters the mysterious and rich world of transsexuality. A documentary film about love and loss.



SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 7 PM

PATRIK, AGE 1.5



2008 | Sweden (Swedish) | 103 min.

Director Ella Lemhagen

Göran (Gustaf Skarsgård) and Sven (Torkel Petersson) are the perfect gay couple; they have a beautiful house in the suburbs, a solid relationship, a home full of love and warmth. Newly approved for adoption, they believe that baby Patrik, age 1.5, is on his way.

One tiny decimal mistake later, they find themselves saddled with a 15-year-old homophobe...who may have a criminal past.

Awards

Best Narrative Feature HBO Audience Award, Provincetown International Film Festival; Best Feature Film, Verzaubert International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival; Best Feature Film Audience Award, Frameline San Francisco International LGBT FF; Official Selection, Toronto International Film Festival

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 9 PM

WEEKEND



2011 | UK | 96 min.

Writer/Director Andrew Haigh

On a Friday night after hanging out with his straight mates, Russell heads out to a nightclub, alone and on the pull. Just before closing, he meets Glen. And so begins a weekend—in bars and bedrooms, getting drunk and taking drugs, telling stories and having sex—that will resonate throughout their lives.

“Perfectly realised—a bracing, present tense exploration of sex, intimacy and love.”

— A.O. Scott, *The New York Times*

“A small, perfect thing. A likely classic and not just a gay one.”

— Chuck Wilson, *LA Weekly*

“WEEKEND depicts a fleeting romantic encounter with delicacy and philosophical depth, but its chief appeal is simplicity. Revolving around a brief affair between two young men with vastly different perspectives on life, the film operates on a familiar dynamic; however, it works here thanks to the precise alignment of talented actors and a focused screenplay. Humming along on the commitment of its engaging leads, WEEKEND builds into a powerful encapsulation of an identity crisis over the course of three passionate days.”

— Eric Kohn, *indieWIRE*

Awards

SXSW “Emerging Visions” Audience Award; Outfest 2011 Grand Jury Award for Outstanding International Dramatic Feature.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2 PM

DOUBLE DOCUMENTARY FEATURE



Married in Spandex
2011 | USA | 54 min.

Directors Devin Gallagher,
Allison Kole

As they begin a life's journey together, Amanda and Rachel are determined to make their wedding day a unique and memorable affair. *Married in Spandex* follows the young women as they navigate their way from their home in the City of Brotherly Love to the town of Ames, Iowa for a celebration like nothing anyone has ever seen. From the "brides mamas" and "butches" to the officiant (lady rapper and performance artist Leslie Hall) to Amanda and Rachel's tutu-clad Chihuahua, the two have planned the day of their spandex-clad dreams.

Gen Silent
2011 | USA | 63 min.

Director Stu Maddux

What would you do if you were old, disabled or ill - and the person feeding you put down the spoon and said that you are going to hell unless you change your sexual preference? Sound absurd? Social workers around the world say it's happening every day.

Gen Silent is the critically-acclaimed documentary from filmmaker Stu Maddux that asks six LGBT seniors if they will hide their friends, their spouses - their entire lives in order to survive in the care system.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 4 PM

CLOUDBURST



2011 | Canada/USA | 93 min.

Writer/Director Thom Fitzgerald

Cloudburst is a romantic road movie written and directed by **Thom Fitzgerald**. It stars Oscar®-winning actresses **Olympia Dukakis** and **Brenda Fricker** as Stella and Dot, an aging couple who escape from a nursing home in Maine and drive to Nova Scotia on a quest to be legally married. Stella and Dot have been together for 31 years and have faithfully accompanied one another through life's ups and downs. Now in their seventies, Stella is hard of hearing and Dot is legally blind. Dot's prudish granddaughter, Molly (played by Genie Award-winner Kristin Booth), decides the best place for Dot is a nursing home that will provide all the necessities. This forces Stella and

Dot to make a bold decision: they will leave their hometown and make their way to Canada, where same-sex marriage is legal. It's a last-gasp bid to stay together. En route to Canada, they pick up a young hitchhiker, Prentice, played by newcomer Ryan Doucette. A small-town boy turned modern dancer, he is returning to Nova Scotia to visit his dying mother. Despite his bravado, Prentice is a confused and wounded soul who has much to learn from Stella and Dot as they wage their own unexpected battle - after three decades, can they keep their family together?

With equal parts humour and grace, *Cloudburst* explores the important themes of life, death and love through the eyes of this oddball trio.

GET INVOLVED!

Do you like what you saw at this year's festival? Did you think it could have been improved? Do you have a passion for film, community, and action? As a local business or organization, do you want to work with Rainbow Reels to make it even stronger? Then we would like to hear from you!

What do volunteers do for the festival?

The Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival is a project implemented primarily through the efforts of volunteerism. The festival's organizing group of volunteers uses collaboration and consensus as the tools to design the festival from film selection to film screening in an anti-oppression and politically queer environment provided by WPIRG, the festival's main sponsor.

What can I do as a volunteer?

Do you have an idea about how you could help improve or implement the festival? Do you want to take on a large role planning the festival or maybe just help out when it screens? Do you want to get involved but are not sure how? These are

all good questions. There are a number of ways volunteers can help out the festival by expressing their unique talents or even by learning new ones. Here's a broad list of some of the areas that you could participate in:

- film selection
- print media design
- web media design
- advertising and marketing
- fundraising
- sponsorship and financial support
- project management
- gala party planning
- day of implementation

You can also just ask one of this year's festival organizers about their experiences volunteering. So, if you are excited about volunteering, or just want to hear about festival updates in the next year please send an email to:

rainbowreelsfilm@gmail.com

THANK YOU!

*First, we thank the Waterloo region Queer community for their continual support for and participation in Rainbow Reels. This year's festival would not have been possible without the incredible work of the **planning committee**:*

Lindsay Jack Brauweiler
Karen Ferguson
Jeff Goy
Hausalya Kulanayagam
Deadra Leslie
Ashling Ligate

Reena Reddy (staff)
Leah Robinson (staff)
Jennifer Roe
Kevin Shahbazi
Sue Weare

Thanks to our fundraising sponsors:

Princess Cinemas
Hilton Garden Inn
Cambridge Hotel & Conference Centre
East Side Mario's
Escape Spa
Rick Madore, Artist

Fore U Enterprises
Papa John's Pizza
Holly Balija Hairstyling Services
Napa Grill and Wine Den
Girl Crimson :: Alt Portraiture
MyRainbowPartner.com

Thank you to our supporters:

Princess Cinemas
Queen of Hearts Costumes
Club Renaissance

Vancouver Queer Film Festival
ReelOut Arts Project

*Last, but not least, a special thank you to our **current sponsors** for their special contribution to bringing Queer cinema to the Waterloo region.*



Please  This Program

