



P.O. Box 889 Shepherdstown, WV 25443

[www.conservationfilm.org](http://www.conservationfilm.org)

## 6th Annual ACFF Best of Fest in Frederick February 10, 2018

Films, Music, and Merriment Return to Weinberg Center for the Arts

The American Conservation Film Festival's **Best of Fest** returns to the Weinberg Center for the Arts in Frederick, MD, for the sixth year for an event including live music, beer tasting, three films, and discussion with river keepers and filmmakers.

This year will feature the 2017 Foreign Film Award winner, *Giraffes: Africa's Gentle Giants*; the 2017 Student Film Award winner, *Keeping the Potomac: The Politics of Water*, and a discussion with members of the Potomac Riverkeeper Network on how to protect our local waterways.

### Line-up for February 10 at The Weinberg:

**6:00pm - Reception with music from Sally Mae Foster**, a Virginia-based singer, songwriter, and musician who incorporates acoustic guitar and harmonica into her melodies.

**Beer Tasting with Flying Dog Brewery**

**6:45pm – Welcome and introduction of films and special guests**

**7:00pm – Keeping the Potomac: The Politics of Water – ACFF's 2017 Student Filmmaker Award Winner.** More than 6 million people live in the Potomac watershed. Some of the very infrastructure that supports their modern lifestyles is poisoning our waterways. This film follows the river keepers whose mission is to protect clean water for drinking, swimming, and boating. (26 minutes)

7:30 – **Discussion with the Potomac Riverkeeper Network's** Mark Frondorf and Dean Naujoks and student filmmakers. (20 minutes)

7:50-8 – Intermission

8pm – ***Wild Animals*** from Israeli student filmmaker Yarden Taube – superbly detailed stop-animation set to the words of Edward Abbey. (3 minutes)

8:04pm – 9:03pm – **Giraffes: Africa's Gentle Giants** (59 minutes)

2017 Foreign Film Award Winner – In an urgent and daring mission with a determined Ugandan team, Dr. Julian Fennesey plans to round up twenty of the world's rarest giraffes to take across and beyond the mighty Nile River.

This Best of Fest is generously **sponsored by Flying Dog Brewery**.

Tickets are just \$8 for adults; \$5 for seniors/students and are available on the Weinberg's website [HERE](#) or AT THE DOOR.



*Keeping the Potomac*



*Giraffes: Africa's Gentle Giants*



**Best of Fest** gives the American Conservation Film Festival the opportunity to take a sampling of what the annual film festival offers in Shepherdstown to other communities in the region. *Best of Fests* have been held in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia over the past several years.

**About the [Weinberg Center for the Arts](#)**

The Weinberg Center for the Arts is one of the region's premier performing arts presenters offering film, dance, music, theatre and family-focused programming. Located in the historic Tivoli movie theater building in downtown Frederick, Md., events are made possible with major support from the City of Frederick, Maryland State Arts Council, Ausherman Family Foundation, and other corporate and individual donors.

**About [ACFF](#)**

The American Conservation Film Festival is an annual event held in Shepherdstown, WV, a vibrant arts community 70 miles west of Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD. ACFF features films from a diverse group of conservation filmmakers from around the world, hosts filmmakers and subject matter experts, offers filmmaking workshops, and presents several special events throughout the year.

This 501(c)(3) non-profit organization addresses conservation through the lens of film, providing a platform for education and dialogue about more sustainable ways to live. Since 2003, the Festival has screened over 500 films to over 35,000 audience members, presented filmmaking workshops for aspiring documentary filmmakers, hosted panel discussions with filmmakers, and offered free family programs with the mission of engaging, informing, and inspiring people toward better ways to live, work, and play.

Press Contact:

Jennifer Lee, ACFF Development & Communications Director  
[jennifer@conservationfilm.org](mailto:jennifer@conservationfilm.org) Phone: 540.539.6150