About the Festival
The Tri-Co Film Festival showcases exemplary film and media work by students at Haverford, Bryn Mawr, and Swarthmore Colleges. Highlighting the diversity of media production within the Tri-Co, the program seeks work that demonstrates creativity, craft, and intentionality across a variety of genres and aesthetics. Festival leadership rotates annually between each of the Tri-Co schools. This year’s fest was hosted by Bryn Mawr College with faculty advising by Professor Homay King. Learn more at Tricofilmfest.org.

Jurors
Shari Frilot is a Sundance Senior Programmer and Chief Curator of New Frontier.

Shari’s focus is American and World Cinema dramatic features, as well as films that experiment and push the boundaries of conventional storytelling. She is also the founder and driving creative force behind New Frontier at Sundance. As Co-Director of Programming for OUTFEST (1998-2001), she founded the Platinum section, which introduced cinematic installation and performance to the festival. As Festival Director of MIX: The New York Experimental Lesbian & Gay Film Festival (1993-1996) she co-founded the first gay Latin American film festivals, MIX BRASIL and MIX MEXICO. Shari is a filmmaker and recipient of multiple grants, including the Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Media Arts Foundation. She is a graduate of Harvard/Radcliffe & the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program. She joined the programming team in 1998.

Sosena Solomon is an award-winning social documentary film and multimedia visual artist from Ethiopia.

Intuitively selecting subjects and stories, she is particularly interested in spaces of transition and change, acting as a cultural preservationist. Her work, whether presented as a film or an immersive 3-dimensional experience, explores cross sections of various subcultures and communities in flux, carefully teasing out cultural nuances and capturing personal narratives via arresting visual storytelling and cinéma vérité stylings. Sosena earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in Social Documentary Film from The School of Visual Arts in New York, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Television Production from Temple University. She is a recipient of The Leeway Foundation Art and Change grant (2013) and the Transformation Award (2014). Sosena is a freelancer currently lecturing in the Fine Arts Department at University of Pennsylvania’s School of Design and in the Film and Video Department at the University of the Arts. She has previously lectured at Temple University’s School of Media and Communication (SMC), sosena.com

Harlow Figa is a documentary media artist from Chicago who applies their identities as a transgender, queer, and disabled person to explore (dis)ability, the medicalized and gendered body, accessibility, and modes of creatively expressing personal narratives. They graduated with High Honors in Anthropology from Haverford College in 2016 and has since worked as a director, cinematographer, editor, and graphic designer on a variety of documentary film and media projects. Harlow’s personal documentaries have shown at the 2016 St. Louis International Film Festival, 2016 Pink Life QueerFest in Ankara, Turkey, and 2015/16 Tri-Co Film Festivals in Bryn Mawr, PA. harlowfiga.com

May 10th, 2018
Bryn Mawr Film Institute

6:30 RECEPTION / 7:00 SCREENING / 9:00 CELEBRATION

Programmed & Juried by
Shari Frilot and Sosena Solomon

Directed by
Harlow Figa

Student Representatives:
Maeve White (BMC), Alex Kingsley (SC), Cecilia Burke (HC)

The festival is supported by the Film and Media Studies Department at Swarthmore College, the Film Studies Program at Bryn Mawr College, the John B. Hurford ’60 Center for the Arts and Humanities at Haverford College, and the Bryn Mawr Film Institute, with support from Lightbox Film Center.
The Old Brain - Nick Barton
A person suffering from mental illness wonders whether treatment will create discontinuities in their self.

M.A.Y - Julian Turner
On a single night in Philadelphia, an impalpable connection develops between a weary French professor and a young black musician.

Drunk History Swarthmore: Solomon Asch - Min Chéng, Ariana Hoshino, Henry Feinstein, Kenneth Bransdorf
A Drunk History of Professor Solomon Asch's conformity experiments held at Swarthmore College in the 1930s.

Halve the Peach, Split the Seed - Sasha Klugar
Born out of what cannot quite be placed but deeply felt, Halve the Peach, Split the Seed is an experimental found footage short that toys with sound and image to create a feeling of the unknown. Special thanks to David Romberg, John Muse, and Rodney Evans.

Freddy's Boxes - Saket Sekhsaria
Freddy's Boxes is a documentary focusing on the preparation and execution of Colin Fredrickson's Shedding City exhibition in 2017.

Dear America - Bryan Chua & Esther Rim
“Dear America” is a short documentary giving a peek into the life of Pakistani immigrant Rahmat-Ali as a food cart vendor in Philadelphia. We hear about his journey to America and his hopeful pursuit for a better life.

To vote for the Audience Favorite Award at the end of the program, please rip your favorite film name from the list below and give your vote to an usher!

LIBERATION - Mecca Naeem Harris & Alliyah Allen (pw: RECLAIM2018)
RECLAIM was an exhibition hosted by Haverford College’s Black Student League whose aim was to glorify and amplify the beauty of melanin-filled skin using color gels, glitter, and body paint. There were four sections to the show, each a step toward the goal of reclaiming and embracing the skin that was a source of discrimination and marginalization. This video was the interlude introducing the second section: Liberation.

JOY - Ruby Bantariza
This film is dedicated to my grandma Joy Bantariza who passed away in 2016. For a while it was difficult to look at photos of her without falling apart, but recently I found a deep sense of comfort in seeing and hearing her as I made this film. Through old footage during my first trip to Uganda, I show glimpses of the sacred six weeks I spent with my grandma.

This and That - Ilana Epstein, Ariana Hoshino, Anna Phillips, Min Chéng
Meera and her girlfriend breakup. When Meera recounts the story later, the details are a bit skewed.

Living Legends - Akosua-Asamoabea Ampofo
Living Legends is a conversation about hip hop as more than just a musical genre. With the hip-hop group Hardwork Movement at the centre of this discussion, the film looks at the old versus the new, the sound, the lyrics and what they mean to the group and the black community of Philadelphia. The film also takes a look at the evolution of the sound, its influences and how older members of the Philadelphia community view the transformation of hip from their youth till present.

“Übermensch” - Vishnu Gupta
Adam lives a comfortably ignorant life in the Philadelphia suburbs. One fateful night, he gets thrown out of a bar and meets an Uber driver who claims she is God. They share a meal, and their thoughts.

“Swim, Swim, Swim, Swim” - Cecilia Burke
A boy recounts a memorable summer.