

Press Release

Doha Film Institute hosts Ajyal jurors at the 47th Giffoni Film Festival in Italy

- *Four young people from Qatar, including two nationals, to represent Qatar at the oldest youth film festival in Europe*
- *Four 'Made in Qatar' films to be screened at the youth-oriented film event with jurors from more than 50 countries*
- *Doha Film Institute granted film 'Behind the Wall' to screen in Festival's Official Selection*

Doha, Qatar; July 21, 2017: Doha Film Institute has underlined its commitment to encouraging cultural exchange through film at the Giffoni Film Festival, the largest children's film festival in Europe, held in Italy. Leading Qatar's participation at the international festival, the Institute is hosting four young jurors at the largest of its kind youth film event in Europe that welcomes young filmmakers and enthusiasts from across the world.

Celebrating the cultural partnership between Doha Film Institute and Giffoni, the jurors from the Ajyal Youth Film Festival were chosen to join the international youth jury of the Giffoni Film Festival. They will deliberate on the winners of the 47th edition of the film festival taking place from July 14 – 22.

The four jury members from Qatar are in the 13+ category. The jurors from Qatar joined over 3500 young people from countries including Italy, Brazil, Croatia, Russia and South Africa. This is the sixth year that Doha Film Institute has facilitated the attendance of young talents from Qatar at Giffoni.

As part of its presence at Giffoni Film Festival, the Doha Film Institute will also present a special showcase of works by Qatar-based filmmakers, featuring a special programme of 'Made in Qatar' films during the festival.

Fatma Al Remaihi, Chief Executive Officer of the Doha Film Institute, said: "Initiatives such as the Giffoni Film Festival and the Ajyal Youth Film Festival, provide us with an opportunity to enrich the lives of young people through film. By engaging them with compelling and meaningful films, we enhance their awareness of the world around them, and inspire them to see humanity from fresh perspectives. The spirit of enthusiasm and boundless energy of youth is a common trait between our two initiatives, that promote the values of togetherness and bringing communities together in the spirit of cultural exchange.

"The showcase of the 'Made in Qatar' films and the participation of the Ajyal jurors, is a strong reflection of the global outlook of Qatar and our focus on promoting universal values that resonate with youth globally."

Highlighting the progress made by Qatari cinema at international film events, four 'Made in Qatar' films are being shown at the festival. These include: ***Kashta*** (2016) by AJ Al Thani; ***Dunia*** (Jordan, Qatar/2016)



by Amer Jamhour; ***Shishbarak*** (Palestine, Qatar/2016) by Bayan Dahdah; and ***Makh'bz*** (2015) by Aisha R. Al Muhannadi. These films will be screened at Giffoni, in addition to Doha film Institute granted film ***Behind the Wall*** by Karima Zoubir that screens in the Festival's Official Selection.

The Doha Film Institute will also highlight the landmark fifth edition of the Ajyal Youth Film Festival this year to be held from November 29 to December 4. Submissions to the festival are now open. The six-day Festival will bring generations together through activities and events designed to inspire and entertain every member of the family.

For more information, please log on to: www.dohafilminstitute.com

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Note to Editors:

About Doha Film Institute:

Doha Film Institute is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organisation. It supports the growth of the local film community through cultivating film appreciation, enhancing industry knowledge and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar. The Institute's platforms include funding and production of local, regional and international films; skills-sharing and mentorship programmes; film screenings; the Ajyal Youth Film Festival; and Qumra. With culture, community, learning and entertainment at its foundation, the Institute is committed to supporting Qatar's 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge-based economy.

Doha Film Institute

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