

## HOT DOCS FESTIVAL TO OFFER FREE FILMS FOR STUDENTS AND SENIORS

Toronto, ON, April 27, 2021— Hot Docs is pleased to announce that it will offer students currently enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution and seniors over 60 years-of-age a selection of films to watch for free during this year's online Festival, available to stream nationwide. Starting on Friday, April 30, one film will be available each day at 10 a.m. to stream on the Hot Docs website at [hotdocs.ca](http://hotdocs.ca), with a limited number of streams available for each film. Part of Hot Docs' accessibility initiatives, the free students and seniors program is sponsored by CBC Gem.

The first selection of films available is listed below. The second group of films will be announced midway through the Festival.

April 30

### [NIKE'S BIG BET](#)

D: Paul Kemp | P: Corey Russell, Paul Kemp | Canada | 2021 | 80 min | North American Premiere  
Alberto Salazar was a coaching legend until his recent doping ban shocked the running world. Did his "Just Do It" attitude and questionable practices push the limits of human performance and technology too far?

May 1

### [THE COLONEL'S STRAY DOGS](#)

D: Khalid Shamis | P: Steven Markovitz, Khalid Shamis | South Africa, Libya, Qatar | 2021 | 73 min | World Premiere

Recounting his father's dangerous life as an exile in London with a million-dollar bounty on his head, the director questions the cost of his decades-long opposition to Muammar Gaddafi and eventual return to an unrecognizable Libya on the brink of civil war.

May 2

### [THE STORY WON'T DIE](#)

D: David Henry Gerson | P: Odessa Rae | Denmark, Germany, USA | 2021 | 83 min | World Premiere  
A rapper, tortured by Bashar Al-Assad, along with other exiled artists and performers who supported the Syrian uprising, explore resilience and resistance through art, dance and music, while also processing their trauma and love of homeland through creative expression.

May 3

### [FRUITS OF LABOR](#)

D: Emily Cohen Ibañez | P: Emily Cohen Ibañez | USA | 2021 | 76 min | International Premiere  
Working in a food processing plant after class and in the fields on weekends, a California high school senior dreams of graduating while bearing the burden of being the family breadwinner and threats of separation as ICE raids increase in her community.

May 4

### [APART](#)

D: Jennifer Redfearn | P: Tim Metzger, Jennifer Redfearn | USA | 2020 | 85 min | International Premiere

In the US Midwest, plagued with opioid abuse and rising incarceration rates for women, three unforgettable mothers return home from prison to rebuild their lives after years of separation from their children.

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[Hot Docs](#), North America's largest documentary festival, conference and market, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary and to creating production opportunities for documentary filmmakers. Hot Docs will present its 28th annual edition online from April 29-May 9, 2021, during which a full roster of industry conference sessions, market programs and networking events will be held for Canadian and international delegates, including the renowned Hot Docs Forum, Hot Docs Deal Maker, Distribution Rendezvous and The Doc Shop. Year-round, Hot Docs supports the Canadian and international industry with professional development programs and a multi-million-dollar production fund portfolio, and fosters education through documentaries with its popular free program Docs For Schools. Hot Docs owns and programs the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, a century-old landmark located in Toronto's Annex neighbourhood and the world's first and largest documentary cinema, and operates Hot Docs at Home streaming platform.

Hot Docs is proud to include Scotia Wealth Management as its Presenting Platinum Partner; Rogers Group of Funds as its Founding Partner; CBC Gem as its Signature Partner; Crave and Netflix as its Presenting Partners; and Telefilm Canada and the Government of Ontario as its Major Supporters.

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