

THE BOLDERLIFE VISION

Here at BolderLife, we believe in a world that holds space for the whole spectrum of the human experience. We believe in the power of standing and facing the truth with integrity, no matter how that truth manifests itself in tenderness, love, rage, or despair. We believe in building a worldwide community that practices inclusion, has difficult and courageous conversations, and embraces the beauty of diversity. We invite all stories, from the hate-filled misguided adolescent to a mother who unconditionally loves her child, from the forgotten grandparent with Alzheimer's preparing for solitary death to the brave and generous everyday hero, from the sick and fatigued cancer patient to the passionate lover, from the thriving and energetic athlete to the inspired and stretched artist, and all the vast and infinite ways in which life is embodied.

We believe that freedom, love, dignity, grace, presence and purpose are experienced through fearlessness and non-judgment in all moments, leading to more a courageous and fulfilled life. Ultimately, we seek to celebrate and inspire solutions that promote a more conscious approach to living, whether on a personal, community, or global level, inspiring everyone to live a Bolder Life.

THE MISSION

BolderLife is a 501c3 non-profit that supports emotional education and growth with programming aimed at high-school students and the wider community. We introduce difficult and taboo topics through film, theatre, and dance, then deepen the conversation with professional speakers and workshops that help audiences explore discomfort, cultivate mindfulness and live in courage. Our event brings community together to learn and grow both locally at our yearly event and internationally through our live-stream.

For filmmakers, artists, educators and those fueled by inspiration and the adventurers and the passionately curious, the BolderLife Festival provides a common platform for extraordinary people to share your life stories, purpose and innovation.



STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAM

The BolderLife Student Outreach Program was created in 2012 for students from the Denver, Boulder, and surrounding areas. Our goal was to engage the local youth in inspiring educational films, interactive workshops and conversation.

THE PROGRAM

Our society internalizes how we handle adversity, leaving future generations with an underdeveloped Emotional Intelligence (EI). Studies show that EI and conflict resolution education have a profound impact on the adults that children become and the lives they lead in terms of successful personal and professional relationships. BLF's goal is to open communication on controversial topics (Bullying, LGBTQ issues) using artistic platforms (e.g., film) and along with community organizations and schools, developing useful skills through accompanying educational workshops for students.

2014 PROGRAM

Participating schools have the option to select one or both of our two themed programs. Each Program consists of one full school day of inspirational and thought provoking speakers, workshops, and films tailor-made to connect with and have an impact on high school aged youth.

WHAT THE DAY LOOKS LIKE

9:00-10:30 Session One - Full Feature Film

10:45-11:30 Session Two – Interactive Talkback supporting themes of the Film

11:30-12:00 Lunch

12:00-1:00 Session Three – Shorts Program

1:00-2:00 Session Four – Workshop supporting themes of the Films

2013 HIGHLIGHT

In our LGBTQ program, one student came out as being transgendered and a moment later one of her peers announced that he would never again tolerate bullying that he would 'have her back'. The experience was transformative for everyone involved.

THE FILMS

The BolderLife Films are carefully screened and selected based on criteria that support the BolderLife vision to shed light on timely topics, fuel discussions and open a platform for growth, learning and inspiration.

HOW DO WE CHOOSE OUR FILMS?

Films in alignment with the BolderLife vision and mission are submitted from across the globe. After making it though several layers of judges the films for the student program are then carefully and tactfully chosen by Erin Kelly, Artistic Director, and the Student Programing Committee.

THE EDUCATORS

BolderLife invites a diverse selection of speakers and educators to complement the selected films further providing an authentic voice to topics and themes that are highlighted in the festival line up.

HOW DO WE CHOOSE OUR EDUCATORS?

To complement the lineup of films that have been selected for the Student Program, BolderLife carefully selects educators who both have experience working with youth and expertise in the films theming.



FESTIVAL DETAILS

LOCATION

Holiday Events Center 2644 W 32nd Ave, Denver, CO 80211 (720) 432-2026 http://hecdenver.com

DATES

The Festival: October 13th-19th 2014
The Student Program: October 13th -17th

COST

The Program is \$25/student. Teachers and chaperones are free.

SCHOLARSHIP

BolderLife is honored to be able to offer scholarship funding to interested schools who need additional financial support. Please connect with a BolderLife rep for more information.

CONTACT INFO

General Information

Phone: 303.818.4645

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Artistic Director/Founding Partner

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FESTIVAL HISTORY

In late 2010, the festival was conceived as a program that closely examines the physical, emotional, and spiritual challenges and achievements we face in life. The primary vehicle of the festival was inspirational and thought-provoking films through which we could promote a more conscious approach to how we live and highlight the courage and triumph of the human spirit.

On September 1, 2011, the concept came to fruition through the Life and Death Matters Festival over the course of 4 days. The festival was a heartwarming success with over 1000 people in attendance. We hosted an array of filmmakers from as far away as Germany and England. Our film selection brought laughter, tears, applause and inspired in-depth discussion. To provide the audience with an opportunity to explore further the topics raised, educational presentations, workshops and panels were offered in tandem with the lineup of films.





A year later, after overwhelmingly positive responses, the event fine-tuned direction and launched a Festival under the name BolderLife to capture its uplifting spirit. The mission was unchanged, and BLF continued to showcase topics that empowered the audience to openly question paradigms and explore new ways of thinking, communicating and living. The 2012 event included the first student program.

We are proud to have hosted a series of Guest and VIP Speakers including Dr. Temple Grandin (author, educator, champion of rights for the autistic), Colorado Congressman Jared Polis, Rosalind Wiseman with her book Queen Bees and Wannabes and Jamie Redford with his ground breaking film on dyslexia.

In 2013, to further expand the scope, reach and attendance, the festival relocated to Denver and was hosted at the SIE Film Center. The event included 31 international films, 8 educational programs, 14 community partner organizations, 6 original plays, 6 local fine artists, 4 local musicians, and 16 local dancers. Keynote speakers included Colorado natives, Craig Zablocki, Mark Andreas and Benjamin Tarasewicz, and a highlight among the panels was a conversation on *Thriving in a Hostile Environment*, which included queer celebrities, Jessica Clark and Rose Garcia. The student outreach program expanded to include two themed options that were both paired with educators to further engage students' critical thinking.

WHAT THE COMMUNITY SAYS ABOUT BOLDERLIFE

I had a fabulous time both as a participant, volunteer, and panelist on a non-violence panel for the BolderLife Film Festival. The festival had a wonderful community feel and the films and plays were so thought provoking, inspiring and touching. They brought me to a deeper sense of connection to what matters in my life. I wish I had seen more of them and look forward to this year's festival! --Mark Andreas is the author of Sweet Fruit From the Bitter Tree -- Participant, Volunteer, and Panelist for BolderLife



I thoroughly enjoyed my time at the film festival last year. The staff was wonderful to work with and put on a great event. I participated in a live radio show and a very lively Q&A discussion after the screening of my film The Greater Good all of which helped to spread the word about the very important vaccine debate. Thanks to all for a terrific weekend. --Leslie Manookian Producer/Director of The Greater Good

The BolderLife Festival is a totally unique, must-see event. Like the best festivals, it's thoroughly entertaining. But unique and true to its name, it raises the big questions about why we're here and why we matter. The BolderLife Festival is a life-changing experience. -- Erich Toll -- Writer/Director of the Play, Oh! The Humanity

WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY ABOUT THE STUDENT PROGRAM

This isn't just a film festival, it's an experience that will open your eyes to new things. I enjoyed being able to participate and share personal stories with my peers. These things help us all grow as humans. --Jeremiah D., Student

I wasn't sure what to expect, this being the first year of the Student Program, but I was definitely impressed. This is the kind of exposure our students need. I am so grateful that the people of the BolderLife Festival were thoughtful enough to include a program for high school students. --Paul P., Administrator

It was a great opportunity for our students to step outside of their comfort zone and learn about cultures that are different than their own. --Leah K., Teacher I felt proud of how honest and articulate our students were about their learning issues in the student panel. --Carey E., Teacher



WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU!

Ultimately, we seek to celebrate and inspire solutions that promote a more conscious approach to life, whether on a personal, community, or global level, inspiring everyone to live a Bolder Life.

We hope you will join us in this effort and look forward to working with you and your students.

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