

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact -- Sarah Hawkins, [sarah@prettythingstudios.com](mailto:sarah@prettythingstudios.com)**

### **5th Annual Film Festival To Celebrate International Women's Day**

*Female-driven non-profit launches festival and voting period for official selections.*

**Hollywood, CA (February 19th, 2018)** -- Women's Voices Now, a 501c3 Non-Profit, announced today their 5th Annual Film Festival will begin on March 8th in celebration of International Women's Day. The organization encourages filmmakers and activists alike to watch and vote on their favorite films online during the festival's month-long run, ending on April 8th.

Through free and multilingual access online, Women's Voices Now is the only U.S. organization implementing the digital film festival model of women's rights activism on a global scale. "On International Women's Day we have the opportunity to draw the world's attention to the artists, activists, and every day people united in the quest for a gender equal future. Participating in the Women's Voices Now online film festival will mobilize another group of individuals to become part of the conversation and brainstorm ways to become active." says WVN Executive Director Heidi Basch-Harold.

Using the medium of film, Women's Voices Now focuses their efforts on fostering awareness of women's rights issues, while providing resources for filmmakers and clear ways that audiences can join the cause.

Anyone with access to the internet and a valid email address can view and vote on this year's selection of films for the Viewer's Choice Award. Voting is limited to one vote per person, per project via WVN's website. A viewer's choice winner will be selected in each main category. Winners will be selected in each of the judged categories, with the opportunity to win up to \$3,500: Leslie J. Sacks Grand Prize Award (i.e. best film award), Best Documentary Feature, Best Documentary Short, Best Narrative Short, and Best Experimental Short.

#### **How to Watch Films and Vote:**

To watch and vote on this year's official selections, go to: [womensvoicesnow.org](http://womensvoicesnow.org). Enter your email address for access to view content. Select the "vote" icon to place your vote. Viewers can view and vote on as many films as they would like; however, there is a limit of one vote per project, per person. Voting period ends on April 8th, 2018.

#### **About Women's Voices Now:**

Women's Voices Now is a non-profit supporting the free expression of women worldwide and their struggle for civil, economic, political, and gender rights by creating platforms that connect conscientious art and media creators, activists, filmmakers, audiences, and advocacy organizations. Through the annual

WVN Online Film Festival and the Fiscal Sponsorship program, Women's Voices Now provides an opportunity for filmmakers that share our mission in furthering women's rights and builds a community.