

# WOMEN'S VOICES NOW 2017 IMPACT REPORT

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2017, WVN increased global traffic to and use of our online platform by 40 percent. We saw a 17 percent increase in participation in our global online film festival, that involved 45,920 individuals viewing and sharing films coming from 23 countries. We hosted our first creative workshop in Los Angeles and received special consultative status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, allowing us to serve as advisors to global leaders on the power of social impact film on the global struggle for women's rights.



### WVN ON THE GROUND

In 2017 co-coordinated 11 community events in 4 countries. Curated screening programs included films and discussion largely focused on different types of violence against women and the creative ways women resist and break out of violent situations. We launched our first creative workshop, Films and Poetry, at the Turning Point Shelter in Santa Monica, California.

### THE 2017 ONLINE FILM FESTIVAL

#### INVINCIBLE AND UNSILENCED: WOMEN IN THE WORLD

The fourth WVN online film festival gave intimate glimpses into the difficulties experienced by women and the victories that highlight a common thread of perseverance and persistence in the face of adversity. From the rural communities of Brazil, Nepal, and Kenya, to the urban centers of Tehran, London, and Fukushima, these are the realities women champion every day. Five cash prizes were awarded and four films were awarded Audience Choice awards



### 2017 HIGHLIGHTS



### WVN PROGRAM TESTIMONIALS

#### PAYAL SETHI, WINNER 2017 BEST NARRATIVE SHORT, "LEECHES"

Women's Voices Now's mission to highlight women's rights issues through cinema is now more crucial than ever. It is truly incredible to be part of a festival that supports filmmakers of the female variety who are constantly pushing boundaries and challenging the status quo. There is still a gross underrepresentation of women in our field and festivals such as yours are helping to change this.

#### PAULA KWESKIN, PRODUCER, HONOR DIARIES AND DIRECTOR/FOUNDER, CENSORED WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL

I'm grateful for the partnership we've had with WVN since 2013. We love working with WVN and feel encouraged that our missions align and that we can support and facilitate one another's work to empower female filmmakers all over the globe. For our Censored Women's Film Festival, we are grateful to have a 'one-stop' shop for powerful content from under-represented female filmmakers. We look forward to more opportunities to partner and strengthen women's voices together.

#### VIVECA COLE, VOLUNTEER & INTAKE COORDINATOR, TURNING POINT SHELTER

First and foremost I cannot begin to tell you how much the clients and staff appreciated the Films and Poetry program. All of the clients were so excited to have a class that gave them the opportunity to create and share their creations with everyone. The clients felt very empowered to have a forum that allows them to be the unique person that they are.

### HELP KEEP WOMEN'S VOICES NOW GOING

In 2017, your contribution furthered our mission to use the medium of film to advocate for global women's rights. We increased our global impact with our annual online film festival, a free streaming archive of international women's rights based films, educational programs, screening events, and workshops.

The generous gifts of private individuals and philanthropic foundations allow us to meet operating costs; reach filmmakers, activists, organizers, and audiences around the world; and to support the women's rights advocacy of filmmakers, educators, community organizers, and organizations who understand the vital necessity of amplifying women's voices, stories, struggles, and triumphs.

Women's Voices Now is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law.

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