WHITE RIVER INDIE FESTIVAL
2017
WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VERMONT

JUNE 1-4
BARRETTE CENTER FOR THE ARTS
SCHEDULE & TICKETS: WRIF.ORG
**WHERE IS THE FEST?**

**Barrette Center for the Arts**
74 Gates St White River Junction, VT
We screen at two venues at Barrette Center for the Arts. The Byrne Theater is the larger theater. Schleicher Studio is the smaller screening room, seating is limited at 75.

**Main Street Museum**
58 Bridge St #6 White River Junction, VT
This is the venue for “Walk on the Wild Side” event on Saturday, June 3.

**HOW DO I BUY A TICKET?**

A ticket is required for all programs at the festival EXCEPT for Panels, 48-hour Film Slam, and Freedom & Unity Contest.

**Ticket prices:**
Friday Night Gala and Reception (with The Hanji Box screening):
$40 Adults / $20 Students
Space permitting, single tickets to The Hanji Box will be available online beginning 6:00 pm on May 30, 2017, and during WRIF Box Office hours.

**BOX OFFICE HOURS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday June 1</th>
<th>2:30pm - 7:00pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday June 2</td>
<td>5:00pm - 9:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday June 3</td>
<td>8:00am - 9:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday June 4</td>
<td>9:00am - 7:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Payment Methods accepted at Box Office:**
Cash, Credit Card, Check

**THURSDAY CONTINUED**

**SALT OF THE EARTH**
3:30PM Byrne Theater
(1954) by Herbert Biberman, 94 minutes, Narrative, Unrated, USA

“No American film is more inspiring and emotionally satisfying than this remarkable 1954 film.” (Danny Peary, Cult Movies II). Salt of the Earth is the work of blacklisted filmmakers Herbert Biberman, Paul Jarrico, and Michael Wilson, and is the only entire film of the era that was suppressed for political reasons. Based on an actual strike against the Empire Zinc Mine in New Mexico, the film deals with the prejudice against the Mexican-American workers, who struck to attain wage parity with Anglo workers in other mines and to be treated with dignity by the bosses.

Q&A following screening with Rick Winston. Winston was co-founder of Montpelier’s Savoy Theater, and was Programmer for the Green Mountain Film Festival for many years. Since the sale of the Savoy, he has been a lecturer with the Vermont Humanities Council Speakers Bureau, speaking on the Hollywood Blacklist and other film subjects.

**BORDER INCIDENT**

6:30pm Byrne Theater
(1949) by Anthony Mann, 94 minutes, Narrative, Unrated, USA

This dark and harrowing noir unfolds against the backdrop of the Bracero Program, a US-Mexican labor recruitment deal that brought thousands of Mexican peasants to the fields of California and all along the border. Ricardo Montalban and George Murphy team up as government agents trying to crack down on bandits and racketeers preying on the defenseless migrants. Set amidst the irrigation ditches of the Joaquin Valley and shot in beautiful grey tones by legendary cinematographer John Alton, this classic story about elemental violence and human trafficking has lost none of its topicality.

Q&A following screening with Gerd Gemunden, Professor of Film and Media Studies at Dartmouth.

**FRIDAY**

**FRIDAY GALA AND RECEPTION WITH THE HANJI BOX SCREENING**

6:00pm Barrette Center for the Arts
WRIF’s annual fundraiser and reception for the Upper Valley premiere of Nora Jacobson's The Hanji Box. Food, friends, and live music with Mambo Monk, jazz trio with Bill Craig. Screening at 7 p.m. followed by Q&A with director Nora Jacobson, actress Suzanne Dudley (Schon), memoirist Meg Dean Daiss Hurley (whose work inspired the film), and members of cast and crew. The Hanji Box features the work of local film professionals including director of photography Ben Silberfarb, Executive Producer Bill Stetson, and Production Designer Antoinette Jacobson.

*Reception tickets are $40, includes The Hanji Box screening

**THE HANJI BOX**

7:00pm Byrne Theater
(2017) by Nora Jacobson, 60 minutes, Narrative, Unrated, USA

How does it feel to be adopted? To adopt a child from a different culture? Nora Jacobson’s latest film, The Hanji Box, is a quietly compelling drama about Hannah, an American mother emerging heartbroken from a divorce, and Rose, her adopted Korean daughter. When the mysterious Hanji Box—Rose’s precious link to Korea—is broken, Hannah travels to New York’s Koreatown to mend it.

There she meets a charismatic Korean artist who takes her on a journey of cultural discovery. Nuanced performances by Hanover actress Suzanne Dudley (Schon), Toronto-based Daniel Park, and New York actress Natalie Kim illuminate issues of longing and belonging, loss, mothering, identity, and US-Korean history. The film was inspired by a memoir written by Jacobson’s childhood friend, Meg Dean Daiss Hurley.

Q&A following screening with director Nora Jacobson, Suzanne Dudley (Schon), Meg Dean Daiss Hurley, Natalie Kim and more of the cast and crew.

Sponsored by The Boatwright Foundation
Community Partner: Child and Family Services of New Hampshire

Space permitting, single tickets to The Hanji Box will be available online beginning 6:00 pm on May 30, and during WRIF Box Office hours.

Paintings by Meg Dean Daiss Hurley are featured in the Byrne Theater lobby.

Buy tickets online at: WRIF.ORG
FRIDAY

AMERICAN HONEY
9:15pm Byrne Theater
(2016) by Andrea Arnold, 163 minutes, Narrative, R, USA
A teenage girl with nothing to lose joins a traveling magazine sales crew and gets caught up in a whirlwind of hard partying, law bending, and young love as she crisscrosses the Midwest with a band of misfits. Stars Sasha Lane and Shia LaBeouf. Winner of the Jury Prize at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival.

DOLL POWER, BY MIKE GORDON AND NEIL MADSEN RYAN
9 minutes, Narrative
Eight-year-old Tessa is given magical powers to save the world by her genie doll. As she seeks out humanity’s biggest problems, she is faced with a difficult choice.

BLOCK TWO 10:00-10:45AM
DIVIDED BY DIVERSITY, BY DUANE CARLETON
10 minutes (excerpt), Documentary
In 2010, five African-American students from New York City were accepted to attend a Catholic high school in Vermont where they made the basketball team. Divided by Diversity explores many of the elements that contributed to the xenophobic resistance the students, their teammates, coaches, and hosts endured.

THE SIGN, BY JIM LANZT
14 minutes, Documentary
After their homemade “Trump 4 President” sign was run over twice, a Vermont filmmaker travels to Virginia to interview his parents to understand their support for (then) presidential candidate, Donald Trump.

SUNDAY 1287, BY BRANDON DEL POZO
11 minutes, Narrative
Vanessa’s family takes her to her boyfriend’s apartment so she can leave him, this time, for the last time.

In the Bight, by Ben Finer
28 minutes, Narrative
What begins as a day of playing in the forest slowly transforms into an adventure exploring the wonders and darkness of the childhood imagination.

LAPS, by Charlotte Wells
6 minutes, Narrative
On a routine morning, a woman on a crowded New York City subway is sexually assaulted in plain sight.

THE COLLINWOOD FIRE, BY DANIEL HOUGHTON
7 minutes, Animation
On March 4, 1908, the Collinwood Elementary School burned to the ground, trapping and killing 172 school children, two teachers, and one rescuer. The Collinwood Fire reanimates the inferno through the sensationalist newspaper headlines of the day and the silent moving picture images of an aspiring young filmmaker cranking his camera at the blaze.

DAD’S 50TH SURPRISE PARTY, BY MATT LENNON
10 minutes, Narrative
Two brothers team up to finally one-up their prankster dad for his 50th birthday.

REGIONAL SHORT FILM SHOWCASE
9:00AM BYRNE THEATER

Flicker, by Jeremy Lee MacKenzie
13 minutes, Narrative
When a young girl’s mother passes away she copes by believing her mom’s soul is reincarnated as a candlestick to communicate through shadow puppets.

Block One 9:00-10:00am

Block Two 10:00-10:45am

Block Three 10:45-11:30am

Block Four 11:30am-1:00pm

NEITHER SHADOW OF TURNING, BY ADRIAN CENTONI AND JUSTIN DERRY
20 minutes, Narrative
Trapped in snowy isolation, husband and wife descend into darkness as their lives are threatened by illness. A short film about love and control.

YELLOW, BY ALEXANDER HANKOFF AND ALEXANDER MAXWELL
18 minutes, Narrative
A small-town race car driver struggles with the proposition of a sponsor who takes an interest in the sport’s potential for carnage.

BLACK CANARIES, BY JESSE KREITZER
18 minutes, Narrative
Isolated, desperate, and haunted by his coal-stained birthright, Clarence Lockwood continues his daily descent into the accursed Maple mine—even after it has crippled his father and blinded his youngest son. Set in 1907 and based on director Jesse Kreitzer’s own coal-mining ancestry, Black Canaries is a powerful meditation on patrimony, loyalty, and love.
Seeing Through The Wall is about the barriers that separate Palestinians and Israelis—walls of concrete, of mistrust, of ignorance and fear. In this thought-provoking film, Woodstock director Mackosd and Tunbridge cinematographer Michael Saccas follow a group of Americans to Israel and Palestine as they seek to understand what life is like for Palestinians in the Occupied Territories and East Jerusalem. Along with their trip leader, Rabbi Dov Taylor, the visitors meet with Jews and Christians and Muslims, each with their own narrative, most wishing to live in peace. For these Americans, the journey becomes an intense encounter, not only with people they meet but with their own preconceptions—an experience that is transformative.

Q&A following screening with director Anne Mackosd and Rabbi Dov Taylor
Sponsored by Ulrike Von Molkke & Gerry Jacobson
Community Partners: Dan and Whit’s and The Center for Transformational Practice

Starless Dreams plunges us into the lives of young teenage girls sharing temporary quarters at a juvenile detention center on the outskirts of Tehran. Director Mehrdad Oskouei, one of Iran’s most prominent filmmakers, spent seven years securing access to this all-female facility. As the New Year approaches, the girls bond and team up to make one last film, over the objections of Jane, Ed’s wife of 50 years. Told from two filmmakers’ and one subject’s points of view, One Cut, One Life challenges the form of first-person nonfiction film—is considered the father of first person documentary and offers a sometimes comic, sometimes tragic view of the human condition. Ed and Lucia’s intense and raw approach to films offers a vulnerability and intimacy rarely seen in documentary filmmaking, questioning whether some things might be too private to be made public.

Q&A following screening with producer Jane Applegate
Sponsored by Planned Parenthood Northern New England

What happens in 1971 when International Women’s Day marchers in Cambridge turn left on Pearl Street and seize and occupy a Harvard-owned building? The ten-day occupation of 888 Memorial Drive by hundreds of women demanding the ten-day occupation of 888 Memorial Drive by hundreds of women demanding a women’s center to be established is one of the few such takeovers, this action was transformative for the participants and led directly to the establishment of the longest continuously operating Women’s Center in the U.S. Winner, Best Narrative Feature, and Cinematography from festivals around the world.

Q&A following screening with producer Susie Rivo and Executive Producer Cheryl Stein
Sponsored by Open Door
Community Partner: Literary North

Panelists include: Jane Applegate (To See the Light, The Hanji Box), Alex Hankoff (Yellow), Craig Harwood (Anchovies), Signe Taylor (It’s Criminal).
IT’S CRIMINAL + BROKEN

7:00pm  Byrne Theater

**IT’S CRIMINAL**

(2016) by Signe Taylor, 80 minutes, Documentary, Unrated, USA

*It’s Criminal* is a powerful critique of the economic and social inequities that divide the United States. The film offers a window into a rural jail, an Ivy League college, and what happens when these worlds collide. Shot in an intimate verité style, the film shares the life-changing experiences of female prisoners and Dartmouth College students working together to write and perform an original play about the lives of the incarcerated women. It delves into privilege, poverty, and injustice and asks viewers to think about who is in prison and why—while also sharing an inspiring story about how empathy is a powerful force that can help bridge the divide.

Q&A follows the film with director Signe Taylor, Dartmouth Professors Ivy Schweitzer and Pati Hernandez, as well as formerly incarcerated women, and Dartmouth students.

Community Partner: Second Wind Foundation and Dismas of Vermont

**BROKEN: THE WOMEN’S PRISON AT HOHENECK**

(2016) by Volker Schlecht and Alexander Lahl, 5 minutes, Documentary, Unrated, Germany

An animated documentary about Hohenec, the women’s prison in the former East Germany. Based on interviews with former inmates, Broken is about political imprisonment, forced labor, and enormous profits on both sides of the Iron Curtain. Winner of the Short Film Jury Award (Animation) at this year’s Sundance Film Festival.

Reception to follow screening

DON’T CALL ME SON + ANCHOVIES

8:00pm  Schleicher Studio

**DON’T CALL ME SON**

(2016) by Anna Muylaert, 82 minutes, Narrative, Unrated, Brazil

With a light touch for heavy topics, Brazilian filmmaker Anna Muylaert looks at an unusual family configuration—the true story of Pierre, who at age 17 learns that his adoptive mother had in fact stolen him, landing her in prison and Pierre with the biological family who spent years tracking him down. What follows is the tale of an androgynous young man robbed of his identity just as he is about to find himself, while a perceptive camera carefully tracks how pent-up emotions slowly turn into rage and rebellion. Portuguese with English Subtitles

Sponsored by Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Dartmouth College

**ANCHOVIES**

(2016), directed by Craig Harwood, 17 minutes, Narrative, Unrated (family friendly), USA

Vern, a genderqueer teen, is not happy. He’s grieving the loss of his mother and is not thrilled about spending the day with his father’s new girlfriend. Samantha’s a health freak and Vern’s not having it—no omega-3 fatty acids, yoga asanas, or walks on the beach. Can they find middle ground? Winner of the Grand Prize for Short Script at the 2015 Hollywood Screenplay Contest

Q&A Following screening with director Craig Harwood.

WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

9:30pm  Main Street Museum, WRJ

**WILD**

(2016) by Nicolette Krebitz, 90 minutes, Feature, Unrated, Germany

Move over, Grizzly Man, and make room for Wolf Woman. In this visceral and outré tale, the life a young woman, Ania, living in a nondescript German city, takes a dramatic turn when she comes across a full-grown wolf in a small park, resulting in a powerful, immediate connection between beast and beauty. While actor-turned-director Nicolette Krebitz delivers modest jolts in the first part of the film, we soon witness how Ania’s relationship with this famously untamable animal takes on proportions never quite seen on screen before. Not for the squeamish, Wild makes the 2014 Reese Witherspoon vehicle of the same title look like a walk in the park and gives a whole new meaning to what it means to unleash. German with English subtitles
PEACE HAS NO BORDERS
10:00am    Schleicher Studio
(2016) by Deb Ellis and Denis Mueller, 64 minutes, Documentary, Unrated, USA

During the Iraq and Afghan Wars, veterans from the United States crossed the border to Canada seeking relief and refuge from serving in what they viewed as unjust and immoral wars. Today little is heard from the men and women who made a stand when the wars were raging. Peace Has No Borders gives voice to veterans who refused complicity and tells a complex story that revises the resistors’ personal struggles against the backdrop of the political power of the Canadian government and demonstrates how one decision of conscience can affect the rest of your life.

Q&A following screening with directors Deb Ellis and Denis Mueller

P.S. JERUSALEM
10:30am    Byrne Theater
(2015) by Danae Elon, 87 minutes, Documentary, Unrated, Canada

Filmmaker Danae Elon began to film her three young sons the moment she and her partner, Philip, decided to leave New York and return to Jerusalem. The decision was prompted by the death of her father, leading Israeli intellectual and writer Amos Elon. It was his dying wish that Danae not return, but her attachment to the place she always called home was stronger. Danae’s camera captures her three young boys growing up, asking endless questions and confronting the reality around them. The place she once saw as home challenges her relationship with her partner and the future of her kids. It is through the prism of parenthood, children, and a family that the story of this film exposes a deep, complex, and painful portrait of Jerusalem today.

Sponsored by Liz Canner

FREEDOM & UNITY YOUTH FILM CONTEST
12:00pm    Schleicher Studio
(2017) mixed genre, USA

Inspired by Freedom and Unity: The Vermont Movie, this contest invites young Vermonters to create films that explore the life and culture of the Green Mountain State, both past and present, from their point of view. This program features a selection of the winning films and invites you to join us and participate in a Q&A with the young filmmakers. Since the contest began three years ago, the Freedom & Unity contest has drawn over 200 entries from high schools, tech centers, colleges, private schools, and home schools across state, and this year the contest was expanded to include middle school.

Sponsored by Freedom and Unity: The Vermont Movie

THE MARS GENERATION
1:00pm    Byrne Theater
(2017) by Michael Barnett, 97 minutes, Documentary, Unrated (family friendly), USA

The Mars Generation is a comprehensive look at the little known history of mankind’s efforts to reach Mars, as seen through the eyes of the teens who aspire to be the first ever to set foot on the Red Planet. Following the young participants in NASAs Space Camp, their energy and dreams are intertwined with stunning archival footage and interviews with leading experts including Neil deGrasse Tyson, Bill Nye, and Sunita Williams. The Mars Generation sheds light on just how close we are to a manned mission to Mars and the incredible impact that such a journey would have on both the scientific advancement and the collective pride of the people of Earth. Premiered at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival.

Q&A following screening with Christine Hallquist, CEO of Vermont Electric Cooperative

DENIAL
3:00pm    Schleicher Studio
(2016) by Derek Hallquist, 92 minutes, Documentary, Unrated, USA

David Hallquist, a Vermont utility executive, has made it his mission to take on one of the largest contributors of global warming—our electric grid. But when his son Derek tries to tell his father’s story, the film is soon derailed by a staggering family secret, one that forces Derek and David to turn their attention toward a much more personal struggle. With stunning access to intimate family moments and behind-the-scenes energy deals—and with humor in the face of overwhelming events—Denial manages to present an important topic through a compelling personal narrative.

Q&A following screening with Derek Hallquist, producer

PANEL: PRODUCING FOR DISTRIBUTION
1:30pm    Schleicher Studio

So you want to make a movie, but what about getting it seen? A good distribution strategy can help find investors and financing from the get-go, and a home for the film once it’s finished. Industry veteran Mark Lindsay will take you through the steps of film production from idea to distribution. For over 30 years, Lindsay has been an executive in the entertainment industry, and has handled the sales and international distribution on Academy Award-winning films Chicago, Finding Neverland, The Hours, and The Cider House Rules, among many others.

48-HOUR FILM SLAM
3:30pm    Byrne Theater

WRIF and CATV are teaming up again for the 5th Annual 48-Hour Film Slam. Teams have two days and two nights to cook up, from soup to nuts, a short film! Audience members get to watch the delectable results of the pedal-to-the-metal film shooting on Sunday, June 4th.

Sponsored by The Stettenheim Foundation

Watch submissions from the 2016 Slam: https://vimeo.com/167320191

SUNDAY

WHILE WHITE RIVER INDIE FESTIVAL 2017

Buy tickets online at: WRIF.ORG
### NUTS!

5:30pm  Schleicher Studio  
(2016) by Penny Lane, 79 minutes, Documentary, Unrated, USA

Inventive and wildly fun, *Nuts!* recounts the unbelievable true story of John Romulus Brinkley, a doctor who in 1917 discovered that he could “cure” impotence. From there, the story only gets more bizarre. Along the way, he transplants thousands of goat testicles, amasses an enormous fortune, is (sort of) elected Governor of Kansas, invents junk mail and the infomercial, builds the world’s most powerful radio station, and generally annoys the heck out of the establishment. 

*Community Partner: Junction Magazine and The Center for Cartoon Studies*

### CAMERAPERSON

6:00pm  Byrne Theater  
(2016) by Kirsten Johnson, 102 minutes, Documentary, Unrated, USA

Exposing her role behind the camera, award-winning director and cinematographer Kirsten Johnson reaches into the vast trove of footage she has shot over decades around the world. What emerges is a visually bold memoir and a revelatory interrogation of the power of the camera. *Cameraperson* is both a moving glimpse into one filmmaker’s personal journey and a thoughtful examination of what it means to train a camera on the world. *Rolling Stone* calls it “an extraordinary self-portrait and an existential statement.”

*Sponsored by Janine Kanzler and Mike Tsapakos in memory of Jamie Kanzler*

### BOB AND THE TREES

7:30pm  Schleicher Studio  
(2015) by Diego Ongaro, 91 minutes, Narrative, Unrated, USA

It is deep winter in rural Massachusetts, and Bob, a 50-year old logger with a soft spot for golf and gangsta rap, struggles to make ends meet in a changed economy. When a beloved cow gets wounded and his trees suffer from a mysterious infestation, Bob begins to unravel. Filmed on location in the Berkshires, *Bob and the Trees* presents a breathtaking and unique vision of American life. *Hollywood Reporter* lauds film as “a verité drama that mines a rich vein of humanism shot through with characteristically dry New England humor.”

*Sponsored by Bill and Cyndy Bittinger*

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### WRIF 2017 at-a-glance

#### THURSDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Film</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:30PM</td>
<td>Salt of the Earth</td>
<td>Byrne Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30PM</td>
<td>Border Incident</td>
<td>Byrne Theater</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### FRIDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Film</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00PM</td>
<td>Friday Gala and Reception</td>
<td>Barrette Center for the Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00PM</td>
<td>The Hanji Box</td>
<td>Byrne Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15PM</td>
<td>American Honey</td>
<td>Byrne Theater</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SATURDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Film</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>Regional Short Film Showcase</td>
<td>Byrne Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>Seeing Through The Wall: Meeting Ourselves in Palestine and Israel</td>
<td>Schleicher Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td>Starless Dreams</td>
<td>Schleicher Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00PM</td>
<td>Girl Flu</td>
<td>Byrne Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00PM</td>
<td>Panel: How Do You Fund Your Film?</td>
<td>Schleicher Studio</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15PM</td>
<td>One Cut, One Life</td>
<td>Schleicher Studio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SUNDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Film</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>Peace Has No Borders</td>
<td>Schleicher Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>P.S. Jerusalem</td>
<td>Byrne Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td>Freedom &amp; Unity Youth Film Contest</td>
<td>Schleicher Studio</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00PM</td>
<td>The Mars Generation</td>
<td>Byrne Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>Panel: Producing for Distribution</td>
<td>Schleicher Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Denial</td>
<td>Schleicher Studio</td>
</tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

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The Stettenheim Foundation

Boatwright Foundation

Liora Alschuler  Lia Rothstein  Liz Canner  Ulrike Von Moltke & Gerry Jacobson

Jamie Kanzler Fund / Janine Kanzler & Mike Tsapakos

Department of Spanish & Portugese, Dartmouth College

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White River Indie Festival acknowledges its Sponsors & Community Partners without whom this program would not be possible.

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Venues

Barrette Center for the Arts
74 Gates St, WRJ
(parking on street and in lot behind Center)

Main Street Museum
58 Bridge St #6
(parking on street and in lot behind Museum)