

University, arts council bring independent films and filmmakers to Union County

Posted by [Josh Whitener](#) on September 25, 2015 in [Arts & Entertainment](#), [News](#)

WINGATE – Community members will have the chance to be among the first to see a handful of acclaimed independent films, as Wingate University hosts the Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Films and Filmmakers.

The series includes the showing of six films, giving viewers a chance to interact with filmmakers, who will attend each screening and discuss their works with the audience.

The program is a partnership between Wingate University’s The Batte Center, the Union County Community Arts Council (UCCAC) and South Arts.

“We couldn’t be more thrilled with this opportunity to partner with The Batte Center on such a unique project,” said Barbara Faulk, UCCAC’s executive director.

The films included in the Southern Circuit Tour are selected through a highly competitive process, according to Laura Kratt, Wingate University’s director of cultural events. Film professionals viewed more than 200 films this year, narrowing the list down to just a handful of works.

“It’s a very challenging process, and the quality of these films is just phenomenal,” Kratt said.

All films chosen for Wingate’s circuit ended are documentaries, each of which Kratt said tells an “intriguing and compelling” story. The school showed its first film, “I Will Dance,” on Sept. 8, and received positive response from attendees, Kratt said.

“We’re so grateful that so many people have joined us (in) thinking it’s a great project,” she said. “... We hope this is going to be the first of many years to come.”

The film series is free to attend, but tickets are required. Find more information at www.battecenter.org.

Films to be shown include:

- “1971” – Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. in Plyler-Griffin Recital Hall: A true mystery of eight ordinary citizens who exposed FBI corruption.
- “Imba Means Sing” – Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. in McGee Theatre: Follows three children from the slums of Uganda through a world tour with the African Children’s Choir.
- “Dorothea Lange: Grab a Hunk of Lightning” – Feb. 23, 2016, at 7 p.m. in McGee Theatre: Focuses on “one of the most important documentary photographers of the 20th century” through the filmmaking eyes of her granddaughter.
- “American Made Movie” – March 15, 2016, at 7 p.m. in McGee Theatre: Highlights the positive impact of domestic manufacturing jobs on national and local economies
- “Althea” – April 5, 2016, at 7 p.m. in McGee Theatre: Tells the story of “a most unlikely queen of the highly segregated tennis world” in the 1950s.