

In Between Us

FILM FESTIVAL

September 2021



IBU

In Between Us Foundation

IN BETWEEN US FILM FESTIVAL

September 2021

INVITATION

In Between Us Film Festival cordially invites you to be part of this empowering event!

We are hosting the 1st annual In Between Us Film Festival in September 2021. It is the premier destination for enthusiastic high school film makers, artists, storytellers around the world to showcase their short films virtually that followed with nominations, Q&A panels with directors, experts, and talent.



ABOUT US

This youth film festival is truly focused on supporting youth filmmakers, actors, screenwriters by providing constructive feedbacks from professionals in the field. We recognize the pitfall in the current film contests - youth artists' voices are often ignored.

This group of 4 student filmmakers took part in a peer-led project to create a series of 'lockumentaries', which was a 10 minutes microfilm – **“In Between Us”** during the pandemic. “Us” as international high school students stepped out their comfort zone, seeking a creative outlet during the unprecedented year. Due to the time difference of students (Virginia and China), all of the films were completely self-directed, produced, shot and edited independently.

We hoped that through this film, more people will not only hear the voice of Chinese high school students during the pandemic, but also, we wanted to convey a message: setbacks and opportunities coexist. Difficulties often include opportunities. As a first step we submitted to more than ten different levels of professional film competitions. However, we never received any feedbacks from them. We hoped to receive constructive feedbacks from the professionals and also peers to help us learn and grow in the film and media industry. Even though we did not give up and outreached to multiple organizations, there was still no response. It was a bitter moment when our hopes were shattered over and over again, without knowing what can be better improved.

So here we are, we've started the In Between Us Film Festival. We believe in youth power since it is equally important to provide growing space for high schoolers. We believe when our voices are engaged in the community through developing open feedback culture, we are more capable, powerful and effective now more than ever.

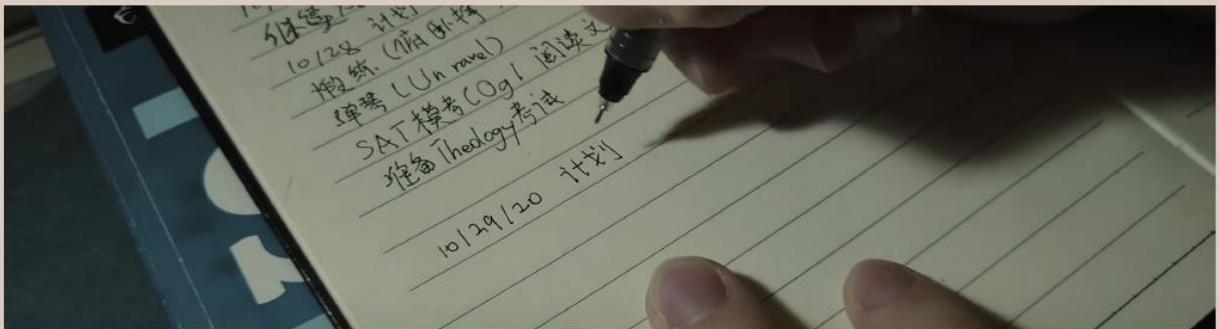
IN BETWEEN US FILM FESTIVAL 2021 MISSION:

We magnify young generations' voices and incentivize other teenagers to share their stories through digital media. With schools and partners' support, we help to ensure that the next generation of artists receive the resources, recognition, rewards and most importantly, the feedback they deserve.

Why Us:

- We empower youth by expanding the space for Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Speech.
- We provide meaningful creative outlets where GenZ will be treated equitably.
- We respond to GenZ's Thoughts, Needs, Wants with abundance of resources, an online community of shared passions, and lifelong relationships
- We value Peer feedback in addition to careful review by honorable reviewing committees. (Peer review opportunities)

Views of Generation Zero



YUHAN LIU

YUTONG WANG

YIN CHEN

IN BETWEEN US

voice to be heard, stories to be told

FOUNDERS



Sophia Wang

Hi, my name is Sophia, and I am 17. I've been a huge movie fanatic since forever. So, I have always been curious about what goes behind the magical scenes since I was a kid.

Through the first In Between Us festival, I hope to build a platform for teenagers to communicate videos creating.

Everyone can have an opportunity to improve skills in cinematography, storytelling, editing, directing, and so much more. I am looking forward to meeting all these brilliant minds over the summer and learning from each other.



Ian Chen

Hi, my name is Ian, a 17-year-old international student who has been in the United States for four years. I am into video production, photography, composing music, and drawing right now. I hope those skill can eventually help accomplishing our dream.

We shot the mini movie during the pandemic. I look forward to speaking up for more Gen Z.



Christy Liu

My name is Christy. I am a junior at Fairfax Christian School in Virginia. Generation Zero has many incorrect labels and that's the reason why we shot In Between Us to tear off these labels. Realizing there is few platform for teenagers to share their creative videos, we founded In Between Us Foundation. We decided to initiate the first In Between Us Movie Festival to encourage more teenagers to join us and speak up for themselves.

INVITED HOST AND ART DIRECTOR



Host:

Bingru Wang

Hong Kong Phoenix TV journalist in Washington, D.C.

She has interviewed many famous political figures, including former Secretary of State Pompeo, Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao, Kissinger, and many other political figures.

She was one of the Chinese reporters at the 2021 China - US Alaska meeting and contributed several sharp questions to the U.S. Secretary of State Blinken. She brought the truest and objective first-line news of the China-U.S. meeting to the world.



Art Director:

Fiona Zhang

Independent filmmaker, director, and art director.

Born in Chengdu, Sichuan. Graduated from New York Film Academy Master of Fine Arts in Filmmaking.

Director of the short comedy film "Sour Soy Sauce" and was nominated for the Los Angeles DWF: LA Festival. She's also the associate director of the short film "Heartbeat" and was nominated for Los Angeles Lift-Off Film Festival, Arpa International Film Festival (Arpa IFF), and Norwich Film Festival. The short film "FoFo" that she participated in was nominated for The Micheaux Film Festival.

INVITED SPEAKERS



Speaker:

Karina Hou

Famous artist and educator

Karina Hou grew up in Hong Kong and now lives in Maryland. She loves art since she was a child and studied with famous teachers. She has deep attainments in piano, literature, and painting. She is familiar with Eastern and Western cultures and has lived in Montgomery for many years. Karina is also a social activist who is keen on public welfare undertakings. Ms. Hou's current positions include: President of Chinese American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Washington, President of Maryland Film Festival, President of the Maryland Chapter of Organization of Chinese American Women.



Speaker:

Tony Jia

Chief Executive Officer of Montgomery International Film Festival,
Co-Founder of Asian Art & Film Foundation

Tony Jia is a graduate of the University of Maryland, he is Producer of the YouTube Channel Asian Boss, the Advisor of the United Nations Economic & the Pacific, and the Co-Founder of Asiatic Youth Education Ltd. located in Shanghai, China.



Speaker:

Kira Omans

Actor, model, advocate

Kira Omans is an actress, known for Dating App Mishap (2020), The Breakdown: A Self-Tape Series (2020) and Batman: Requiem for a Bat (2019). She also played the first Asian American lead in Damn Write Originals' series Southern Fried Rice. Kira has a B.F.A. with a concentration in Performance for Stage/Screen from George Mason University. She attended Governor's School for the Visual & Performing Arts for acting.



Speaker:

Bianca Chen

The founder of OX3 TV Production

Bianca, AKA Yijia is more recognized as a documentary producer/director in recent years. Her documentary works include STARTUPS MADE IN THE USA, NEXT: BLOCKCHAIN, HELLO, and FUTURE!. NEXT: BLOCKCHAIN was selected as one of the 5 finalists for best documentary project at Cannes 2018 MIPDoc. She used to be a seasoned journalist and presenter for Reuters TV in the Asian market. She appears in prime time on China's most prominent business channel, CCTV Business, as a financial commentator.

MENTORS



Chloe Noor Khosrowshahi

Chloe Noor Khosrowshahi is an Ivy Film Festival co-Director and a junior at Brown University, studying English and Data Science. She is originally from New York City, but has called Sun Valley, Idaho, home for the past ten years (and will make sure “y’all” know it). Prior to taking on a co-Director role, Chloe was an Ivy Film Festival Programming staff member for two years, and a Co-Coordinator last year. Outside of IFF, Chloe enjoys working as a barista at a student-run coffee shop, leading

Brown’s Iranian Students Association, reading horror fiction, and playing drums. Her favorite film is Dead Poets Society and she has a soft spot for all things Baz Luhrmann.



Georgia Salke

Georgia Salke is a student at Brown University majoring History. She serves as one of the three directors of the Ivy Film Festival, which is one of the largest student run film festivals in the world. She loves film and television and is passionate about amplifying stories that the world needs to hear.



Vivian Chun

Hailing from Southern California, Vivian Chun was raised by a Japanese-Hawaiian father and German-French mother. Vivian’s love of language from a young age later translated into a passion for visual storytelling through television and film. Vivian currently attends Brown University where she studies Literary Arts and Modern Culture and Media, and serves as a co-director for the Ivy Film Festival. Vivian cares deeply about funky clothes, dreams, a mismatched manicure, and tea.

INVITED JUDGES



Judge:
Qinling Li

Independent director, producer, and editor

Born and bred in Changsha, Hunan, she studied and practiced journalism in China, Australia, and the United States. Her work has appeared on PBS Frontline, Al Jazeera English, Newsweek Media Group, Politico, the Christian Science Monitor, and among others. QinLing graduated from Columbia Journalism School in 2016 and went back to Columbia as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in 2018.



Judge:
Alexis King

Writer and director from Granby, Connecticut.

She graduated from Brown University in 2021 with Honors in screenwriting, where she wrote and directed a short film for her senior thesis. She worked as a development intern for Jason Bateman's production company Aggregate Films and Bryan Unkless's production company Screen Arcade. She is currently working with writer/producer Tad Quill as he develops new television projects. She also writes and performs stand-up comedy and has written sketch comedy.



Judge:
Eleonora Granata-Jenkinson

Film production and acquisitions executive.

Eleonora has worked as Vice President and head of the film co-productions and acquisitions division at Turner Pictures. She served as Senior Vice President at Pandora Films, ran their U.S. office, and was responsible for film productions and acquisitions. She began her career with RCS Films and Television in Italy, where she held various acquisitions, distribution, and marketing positions and eventually oversaw the company's worldwide acquisitions and productions from Los Angeles. She is a producer for A Paixão Segundo G.H.(2020), Galore(2013), Monica, and The Crying Steppe(2021).

INVITED JUDGES



Judge:
Tianyi Wang

Graduated from Beijing Film Academy and Academy of Art University.

His works during his student period won the best film at the Houston International Film Festival and the best photography at the Los Angeles Film Festival. Mr. Wang is currently working as a news photographer for Phoenix TV. He photographs many social activities including U.S. presidential election, hurricanes, racist riots and etc. He started shooting short films with the DV given by his father when he was high school. He is willing to share his experiences and feelings with future filmmakers and help them pursue their dreams.



Judge:
Tim Zhao

BA, Art Design, Renmin University of China

Independent director, Artistic Director and Founder, Lan Culture LLC
Consultant at 2009 Shanghai World Expo
Artistic Director, Smart Education Corp



Judge:
Li He

Graduated from China Academy of Art

Born in Hangzhou, Engaged in independent creation for many years.
Graduated and taught in the first studio of the Department of Integrated Art of China Academy of Art.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINE & IMPORTANT DATES

Visit us at <https://www.inbetweenus.org/>

Step 1: Make sure to upload your video online and send us the URL link. (YouTube, Vimeo, and etc)

Step 2: All submission is free. Send your video URL link via email to inbetweenusfoundation@gmail.com. Email title should be FirstNameLastName_FilmTitle (Sample: SophiaLee_MyFilm)

Step 3: Please introduce your team and include your movie introduction (less than 200 words) in the email.

Early bird submission deadline: Aug. 15th, 2021

Regular submission deadline: Aug. 29th, 2021

Late submission deadline: September 10th, 2021

PARTNERS



Ivy Film Festival

Held annually since 2001 in a week-long April event, Ivy Film Festival has grown to become the largest student run film festival in the world. Festival week features advanced screenings of feature films, panels, keynotes, workshops, and masterclasses with some of the most highly regarded professionals in the industry. The heart of the festival is the Official Selection of short student films, screenplays, and virtual reality experiences. In 2016, Ivy Film Festival expanded its reach to partner with dozens of universities across the world through its Satellite Film Festival, bringing its world-renowned Official Selection to audiences throughout the globe.



AmeriChina

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