



Umbria in Sugar Land Italian Film Festival Announces Films for 2018 *Opening Night Film: Friends by Chance*

SUGAR LAND, TX, September 14, 2018 – The second annual Umbria in Sugar Land, an Italian Film Festival announced the film lineup for its event to be held **October 26 - 28th, 2018** at the historic Sugar Land Auditorium. The opening film, *Friends by Chance*, is about a hot-headed 22-year-old troublemaker and an elderly poet living with Alzheimer's, form an unlikely friendship in this delightful coming-of-age story.

Additional 2018 films include: *The Awful Wars*, *Children of the Night*, *Let Yourself Go* and *Pure Hearts*.

The festival is hosted by the City of Sugar Land and the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the Sugar Land Cultural Arts Foundation and the region of Umbria and city of Spello. This three-day event features public screenings of five award-winning films from the 2018 international film festival, *Festival del Cinema Città di Spello ed i Borghi Umbri* (also known as IFFS). IFFS is an Italian film festival based in Spello, Italy, an ancient town in the province of Perugia in east central Umbria. The seventh edition of the festival was presented this past February 2018. The film festival features both Italian and European films, meetings with film professionals, cultural events and seminars. It is a festival dedicated to the promotion of cinematographic culture and celebrates professions behind the scenes of the film industry.

The event, now in its second year, was the inspiration of Sugar Land resident and film lover Tiziana Triolo. She presented the idea of bringing award-winning films from the *Festival del Cinema Città di Spello ed i Borghi Umbri* to serve as a symbiotic experience between the two cities for the purpose of creating a mutually beneficial cultural, economic, and educational partnership between the regions of Fort Bend County and Umbria and the cities of Sugar Land and Spello.

Leaders from the arts and business communities concluded that the festival could help celebrate the visual arts and forge new economic partnerships through public screenings of films from around the world showcased in a unique, intimate venue, as well as further establish that the City of Sugar Land embraces diversity in art and culture.

The festival's screenings will take place at the Sugar Land Auditorium at 226 Lakeview Drive.

A schedule of events is as follows:

Friday, October 26

6:00 PM – Proclamation & Ceremony on lawn of Sugar Land Auditorium

6:30 PM – Opening Aperitivo at Lonnie Green Park

7:30 PM – Film Screening (Film #1 – *Friends by Chance*)

Saturday, October 27

9:30 AM-12:00 PM – Educational Seminar at the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce

10:00 AM-2:00 PM – Sugar Land Cultural Arts Foundation 100th Year Celebration at Sugar Land Auditorium

2:30 PM – Aperitivo at Lonnie Green Park
4:00 PM – Film Screening (Film #2 – *The Awful Wars*)
6:00 PM – Aperitivo at Lonnie Green Park
7:30 PM – Film Screening (Film #3 – *Children of the Night*)

Sunday, October 28

1:00 PM – Film Screening (Film #4 – *Let Yourself Go*)
4:00 PM – Film Screening (Film #5 – *Pure Hearts*)

Tickets

VIP Festival Package (All Aperitivos & Screenings) \$100
VIP Ticket (One Aperitivo & One Screening) \$20
General Admission \$10
Student Admission \$8

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit: www.UmbriainSugarLand.com.

Media Contacts

Melissa Stevens

Melissa@stevensprgroup.com

713.419.0000

Megan Orgel

Megan@stevensprgroup.com

901.246.3359