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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## 8th Annual Albany FilmFest Announces 2018 Lineup

Albany, CA (December 1, 2017) – Science! The environment! Kids! Virtual reality! East Bay punk history! Complex subjects, human-centered story-telling, and fun collide in this year's eclectic Albany FilmFest. "Our program is designed to provoke thought and discussion, give voice to diverse views, and offer audiences a time and place to take a time out and enjoy watching films," says AFF program coordinator Naomi Sigal. A week of film events mixes with documentary, narrative, and animated shorts and features films from local, hyperlocal, and global independent filmmakers. Q&A with filmmakers follow every screening. All films screened at Landmark's Albany Twin Theatre unless otherwise noted.

March 17: Kids' Matinee @ Albany Community Center Enjoy family-friendly short films by and for kids, hands-on filmmaking demos, and fun.

**March 20:** My Love Affair with the Brain (Documentary, 2016) This warm, charming, and award-winning film reveals the soul of science through neuroscientist Dr. Marian Diamond, whose research on brain plasticity forever changed the way we understand the brain.

**March 21: 4 Wheel Bob** (Documentary, 2016) Follow the amazing trail of East Bay wheelchair hiker and intrepid adventurer Bob Coomber as he sets out to be the first wheelchair hiker to cross the 11,845 foot Kearsarge Pass in the Sierra Nevada.

March 22: Turn It Around: The Story of East Bay Punk (Documentary, 2017) Over 30 years of the California Bay Area's punk music history are on show, along with the emergence of Berkeley's iconic 924 Gilman Street music collective. Directed by Corbett Redford, narrated by Iggy Pop and executive produced by Green Day.

March 23: Reality Bites: A Behind-the-Scenes Tour of Virtual Reality Filmmaking @ Albany Community Center Award-winning producer David Eisenmann leads us on a behind-

the-scenes visual, sound, and story tour of Google Spotlight Stories' innovative and awardwinning virtual reality shorts. Discover the innovative techniques and storytelling strategies that bring these intricate and immersive stories to life, and what it means for the future of film.

**March 25: Shorts! All-Day Screening** Immerse in an eclectic mix of independent short films (documentary, drama, comedy, and animation) from the Bay Area, the nation, and the world. Six themed shows, all followed by filmmaker Q&A.

**Tickets and Program Information:** All shows \$10 (all ages). Festival Pass: (\$70, \$50 through Jan. 6, 2018) and All-Day Sunday Shorts Screening Pass (\$50, \$40 through Jan 6 2018).

Buy tickets at Albany Twin box-office or online:

https://www.landmarktheatres.com/san-francisco-east-bay/albany-twin/film-festivals

Kids' Matinee \$5/adults, \$1 kids, ages 3 and under free. No advance sales. Tickets at the door.

For information about special events and program details: http://www.albanyfilmfest.org

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