The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation Launches Film Series to Showcase Documentary Films

Series Launches with Underwater Dreams on September 30

ATLANTA, September 22, 2104 - The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation today announced the launch of The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation Film Series, which aims to use the power of documentary film to address a wide range of societal issues relevant to the city of Atlanta. The series will feature five to seven films per year.

“The Film Series serves as an innovative way to showcase high-impact documentary projects, bring together filmmakers and influencers, and provide significant civic leadership to Atlanta and beyond,” stated John Bare, Vice President – Programs of The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation. “The film events will spur civic action and citizen involvement for positive change in people’s lives.”

The first film in the series is the Georgia premiere of Underwater Dreams, which tells the story of how the sons of undocumented Mexican immigrants learned how to build an underwater robot from Home Depot parts – and defeat engineering powerhouse MIT in the process. The film will be shown on Tuesday, September 30, 2014, at Landmark Midtown Art Cinema.

A panel discussion will follow the screening, with award-winning filmmaker Mary Mazzio, robotics teacher Fredi Lajvardi and Lorenzo Santillan, a member of the high school robotics team featured in the film. The event is invitation only, and seating is limited. For more information, contact Debbie Montgomery at DMontgomery@ambfo.com.

Hailed by Jonathan Alter as “the most politically significant documentary film since Waiting for Superman” (The Daily Beast), the film is the centerpiece of NBCUniversal’s new community engagement campaign focused on exciting the next generation of Hispanic students around engineering.

To find out about robotics opportunities in the Georgia community, visit www.georgiafirst.org. GeorgiaFIRST engages kids in the creative “hands-on, minds-on” process of technical innovation. In getting kids excited about science and technology, higher learning and job placement in Georgia, GeorgiaFIRST contributes to the growth and sustainability of the state’s innovative workforce.
About The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation Film Series:
The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation Film Series (#AMBFilmSeries) uses the power of documentary film to address a wide range of societal issues relevant to the city of Atlanta. The Foundation recognizes that the documentary medium can concurrently spark imagination, illuminate a subject, challenge conventional thinking, entertain and engage audiences, create awareness and inspire action. Documentary films often use personal storytelling to humanize and detangle complex issues for the purpose of not only triggering an emotional response, but also advancing a change strategy through tangible education. Learn more at http://blankfoundation.org/filmseries.