



**PARKWAY**  
HOME OF THE MARYLAND FILM FEST

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**For Immediate Release**

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**MdFF Virtual Announces Special Live Events, Including LGBTQ Pride Performances and a Late Night Comedy Show; Names Local Broadcast Host and Celebrated Comic Talent Reese Waters as Host of MdFF Virtual Live Events During Virtual Festival Held June 12-21, 2020**

***Press Registration Open***

BALTIMORE – SNF Parkway, home of the Maryland Film Festival (MdFF), announced today that the annual festival will present three special live events in addition to screening 17 feature films and more than 130 short films during its virtual festival, taking place from June 12-21, 2020. Reese Waters, host of *Get Up DC!* and a celebrated comedian, will serve as the host of the Opening Night live event as well as headlining MdFF's first ever Comedy Show.

Waters has forged an impressive career in comedy, sports and broadcasting. New York Magazine tapped him as one of the city's *Ten Comedians To Watch* and he soon found himself taking top honors at the annual Caroline's Comedy Competition and the Emerging Comics Content at the New York Underground Comedy Festival. He has appeared on MTV, Good Morning America, Sirius Satellite Radio, Comedy Central, NPR, Late Show with Craig Ferguson and the Late Show with David Letterman. His "Live at Gotham" set that aired on Comedy Central landed him a role on the critically acclaimed series "Michael and Michael Have Issues."

He has hosted shows for NBC Sports, TNT, The Weather Channel, ESPN and currently hosts WUSA's Emmy Award winning *Get Up DC!* morning show.

MdFF Virtual will host three special live events during its 10-day film extravaganza:

- **Opening Night Live Event - Balti-shorts & Dark City Beneath the Beat - 6 p.m. EST on Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>**

A Baltimore-centric **opening night celebration with performances, two live film screenings, and Q&As** focusing on all new Baltimore-made short films and the locally produced club music feature "Dark City Beneath the Beat" directed by Baltimore musician TT the Artist who will attend the evening along with special guests. This dynamic evening will end with Baltimore DJs spinning online for a unique and memorable after party happening virtually at The Crown Bar and Venue. Tickets are \$25.

- **LGBTQ Pride Live Event – 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Screening of a collection of LGBTQ shorts to celebrate Pride month with special performances and a special version Queer Dance Party with Kotic Coture and Trillnatured happening virtually at The Crown Bar and Venue.
- **MdFF Virtual Late Night Comedy Show – 11 p.m. on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Hosted and headlined by Reese Waters, host of Get Up DC! and stand-up comedian, along with comedians from Baltimore Improv Group.

In addition to one of the largest short film offerings to take place at a film festival, MdFF Virtual will offer 17 feature film screenings, with daily live filmmaker interactive events.

For a complete lineup of our MdFF Virtual screenings, upcoming virtual events and announcements associated with the festival, please visit <https://mdfilmfest.com/virtual-fest/>.

Press interested in covering MdFF Virtual should submit their application [here](#). Access to screening and live events will be made available for registered press only.

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#### **About the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Parkway –**

At the SNF Parkway Theatre, home of the annual Maryland Film Festival (MdFF), we are committed to serving and growing our community of independent filmmakers, audiences, and partners across Baltimore, Maryland, and beyond. MdFF typically takes place over five days and attracts talented filmmakers from all over the world but will present its virtual festival in 2020 due to the pandemic. As Baltimore's only non-profit cinema and film organization, we offer unique and innovative programs that provide students, university partners and local filmmakers with the education, community network and opportunities that lend a pathway to thought provoking storytelling. Our theatre and programming reflect the creative vigor of Baltimore's arts community, while participating in the film and cultural dialogue across the country and the world. More information about the Parkway and MdFF is available at [www.mdfilmfest.com](http://www.mdfilmfest.com).