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## Communities, people and partnerships: One Earth Film Festival reaches a milestone

Chicago area's leading showcase for environmental films, programs turns 5

**OAK PARK** — Now in its milestone fifth year, **One Earth Film Festival** continues to illuminate the environmental topics of the day while creating wide-ranging opportunities for dialogue and action. This year's festival, March 4-6, presents "**This Changes Everything,**" "**A Farmer's Road,**" "**Racing Extinction,**" "**Inhabit: A Permaculture Perspective,**" "**Landfill Harmonic,**" the family friendly "**Saving My Tomorrow**" and more than two dozen other feature length and short films at 30 plus venues in Chicago, Oak Park, River Forest, Wilmette, and Lake and DuPage Counties.

The festival's new tagline, "Moving Planet, Moving People," recognizes the symbiotic relationship between humans and the Earth, and the festival's aim to inspire people to take positive actions for the planet. One Earth Film Festival's signature kick-off event, the **Green Carpet Gala**, a combination celebratory reception with a film preview and short program, takes place March 4 at Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut St. in Chicago.

Festival planners continually seek fresh approaches to reaching new audiences. In the months leading up to #OEFF2016, eight "cluster leads," or local area liaisons, worked closely with community partners in city neighborhoods and suburbs, expanding opportunities to hold screenings in schools, churches, libraries, theaters, art centers, and even a greenhouse, a brewery and a bike shop—the places where people live, work, pray and play.

"One Earth Film Festival is committed to bringing its programs to more people, from Lincoln Park to Hyde Park, from West Town to Washington Heights, from Pilsen and the South Side, to Elmhurst and Grayslake," says festival director **Ana Garcia Doyle**. "Stories about our environment are universal and urgent but also personal and local. By screening near where people live and work, we emphasize the values that drive OEFF—and save our audiences time and resources."

The largely volunteer-run festival reached more than 2,500 people in 85 ZIP codes in 2015. Tickets to the Green Carpet Gala, reservations for more than 40 screening events and information about films and filmmakers are available at oneearthfilmfest.org.

One Earth Film Festival is the *Midwest's Premier Environmental Film Festival*.

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