



September 18, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For information call: Clifford Laube at (845) 486-7745

**The Pare Lorentz Center at the FDR Presidential Library
to present a Food & Farming Film Festival
including a screening of student documentary film shorts
Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4, 2015
in the Henry A. Wallace Center
at the FDR Presidential Library and Home**

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Pare Lorentz Center at the FDR Presidential Library will present a **Food & Farming Film Festival** screening films that address the theme of farming, food and hunger -- from the Great Depression to present day -- on Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4, 2015. Both days, screenings will begin at 3:00 pm in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. Films will range from New Deal documentaries on the causes of the Dust Bowl, to current award-winning films with uplifting stories of how farmers today engage in sustainable practices. Both afternoons will feature a food drive for Food Bank of the Hudson Valley. Seating is first-come, first-served. **This program is free and open to the public.**

Sunday's screenings will include short films produced during a two-week summer film internship hosted by the library's Pare Lorentz Center in partnership with Spark Media Project of Poughkeepsie, New York. At the internship, student filmmakers studied with experienced documentarians, including renowned film producer Paul Barnes, and Emmy Award-nominated local filmmaker Seth Kramer. Films produced from this internship address Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and the Roosevelt legacy using interviews and archival footage.

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Schedule:

Saturday, October 3, 2015

3:00 p.m.

The FDR Library is proud to debut a new biographical short film on Pare Lorentz, President Roosevelt's filmmaker. This 7-minute biography engages viewers in the history of documentary filmmaking and one man's successful attempt to change the way factual films are made.

THE PLOW THAT BROKE THE PLAINS (1936), 28 minutes, directed by Pare Lorentz, is a treatment of the causes of the Dust Bowl and description of New Deal programs to combat its effects.

4:00 p.m.

DIRT! (2009), 83 minutes, an official selection of Sundance Film Fest that year. This film tells the story of Earth's most valuable source of life and invites viewers to consider a mutually beneficial relationship with what is under our feet.

Sunday, October 4, 2015

3:00 p.m.

Welcome by FDR Library staff and Spark Media Project of Poughkeepsie followed by a screening of five short films created by high school student interns, 40 minutes. A question-and-answer session with the intern filmmakers will follow the screening.

4:00 p.m.

A PLACE AT THE TABLE (2013), 84 minutes, an International Documentary Association award winner. This film tells the stories of three Americans as they battle food insecurity.

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A food drive will be held to benefit Food Bank of the Hudson Valley. Participants are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to both days of screenings. Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email clifford.laube@nara.gov with questions about the event.

The Pare Lorentz Center's mission is *to apply the audiovisual techniques pioneered by Pare Lorentz to teach history and social studies, and to perpetuate Lorentz's use of the documentary format in inspiring social and political messages*. Located at the FDR Presidential Library, the center is funded through a generous grant from the New York Community Trust to the Roosevelt Institute. Pare Lorentz created groundbreaking documentary films -- a powerful synthesis of stunning imagery, poetic narration, and evocative music -- for New Deal agencies of the Roosevelt Administration. The Pare Lorentz Center creates and disseminates educational documentary materials and films to teach the history of the Age of Roosevelt and illustrate the enduring social issues (poverty, social equality and conservation) that President Roosevelt and Pare Lorentz cared so much about. Visit www.parelorentzcenter.org for more information.

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