

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...THE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL IS COMING!

February 1, 2007



Live and Become - 143 minutes, French/Hebrew/Amharic with subtitles (made in France and Israel) 2004. In 1984, nine year old Salomon was living in a refugee camp in Sudan. His mother sees the Israeli-American airlift of Ethiopian Jews as the only way to save him from the misery, famine and civil war that were ravaging Ethiopia. She puts him on the plane with the words, "GO, live and become." Salomon is not Jewish. Thus begins the remarkable story of his life in Israel. Winner of the Audience Award at the 2005 Berlin International Film Festival and at Jewish Film Festivals across the USA including Boston, Washington, D.C. and Miami. Riki Mullu, a native of Ethiopia, who made "aliyah" to Israel and later moved to the United States will join us to speak of life for the Ethiopians in Israel and the United States. Dinner at the Heritage Center will be catered by Paula Binus and begins at 6:00pm. The film begins at 7:00pm.

Bee Season - 104 minutes, English (Made in the United States) 2005. Richard Gere stars in this gripping tale about a father obsessed with training his daughter for the National Spelling Bee. Eliza Naumann (Flora Cross) demonstrates such an amazing gift for spelling any word given to her that her father Saul (Richard Gere) insists on coaching her himself. But as Eliza's success continues, Saul's newfound devotion grows...causing huge changes for the entire family. The film touches on Kaballah, Mysticism and getting closer to God. Rabbi Ammos Chorny will lead a discussion on these topics before and after the film. Dinner at the Heritage Center will be catered by Paula Binus and begins at 6:00pm. The film begins at 7:00pm.

February 8, 2007



Everything is Illuminated - 106 minutes, English and Russian with subtitles (made in the United States and the Ukraine) 2005. "Everything Is Illuminated," adapted from the best-selling novel of the same title by Jonathan Safran Foer, refers to the way the past casts a glow of understanding onto the present. Taking place in Ukraine, It is a gentle comedy of understanding and forgiveness played in the shadow of the Holocaust. Elijah Wood's Safran Foer travels to Ukraine to discover the secrets contained in a photograph of his grandfather and an unknown woman. Who is she and what was her role in his grandfather's escape from the Nazi occupation? Dinner at the Heritage Center will be catered by The Phoenix and begins at 6:00pm. The film begins at 7:00pm.

February 15, 2007



February 22, 2007



Watermarks - 84 minutes, English, Hebrew, German with subtitles (made in Israel) 2004. "Watermarks" is the heartwarming story of seven remarkable Jewish women athletes, Austrian national swimming champions and members of the legendary Jewish sports club, Hakoah Vienna. Its members dominated Austrian national women's swimming competitions in the 1930's, at the height of European anti-Semitism. They fled the country when Hitler annexed Austria in 1938 and the Nazi's shut down their club. The film includes footage from the past, as well as introduces us to the surviving members of the team, now in their 80's. "Watermarks" was voted "Best Documentary" at the 2004 Boston Jewish Film Festival and has been a fan favorite wherever it has been shown. Dinner at the Heritage Center will be catered by The Phoenix and begins at 6:00pm. The film begins at 7:00pm.

Films are free to students. Dinners are \$10/person. Call *The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation* at 940-6001 for reservations or for more information.