



For Immediate Release

MEDIA ALERT

MONTCLAIR FILM AND HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH MOUNTAINSIDE MEDICAL CENTER ANNOUNCE FREE SCREENING

MILK screening celebrates World Breastfeeding Month

July 19, 2018, MONTCLAIR, NJ - Montclair Film today announced a partnership with Hackensack Meridian Health Mountainside Medical Center for a free screening of **MILK** (2015) on Wednesday, August 29th at 10:30 am at Montclair Film's Cinema505. The screening, presented in celebration of World Breastfeeding Month, seeks to educate and promote breastfeeding among nursing and expecting mothers. Parents and their young and nursing children are invited for complimentary refreshments at this free community screening and panel discussion with professionals from Mountainside Medical Center. Nursing during the screening is welcome and attendees should expect and come prepared for intermittent sound from our younger guests. A post-screening discussion and Q&A will feature OB/GYN specialist Vanessa Parisi, D.O. and Laurie Barbalinardo, R.N., Certified Lactation Consultant.

Through an intimate and artistic lens, **MILK** brings a universal perspective on the politics, commercialization and controversies surrounding birth and infant feeding over the canvas of stunningly beautiful visuals and poignant voices from around the globe. Inspiring, informative, provocative and sensitive, **MILK** celebrates bringing a new life into this world with a strong call to action and reflection.

The World Health Organization (WHO) strongly recommends that mothers breastfeed their newborns for the first six months of life. According to WHO, breast milk is known to provide both nourishment and therapeutic benefits to an infant, yielding critical immunological and developmental support that cannot be replaced by using formula. In addition, breastfeeding women are less likely to develop breast and ovarian cancer and children are less likely to develop diseases such as obesity and diabetes later in life.

Visit montclairfilm.org to register for this free community program, presented in partnership and with support from Hackensack Meridian Health Mountainside Medical Center. To learn more about sponsoring a screening at Montclair Film, using film as a springboard to showcase your organization's mission while building new audiences, please contact Sponsorship@MontclairFilm.org.



ABOUT MONTCLAIR FILM

Montclair Film, a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, nurtures, and showcases the talents of filmmakers from around the region and world. Montclair Film unites, empowers, educates, and celebrates our region's diverse cultural heritage and robust artistic community by presenting engaging programs and events all year long. The eighth annual Montclair Film Festival will take place from May 3-12, 2019. Montclair Film's year-round and festival programming is made possible through generous support from Investors Bank; Audible; Hackensack Meridian Health; the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey; Ashenfelter, Slous, Trembulak, McDonough, Golia & Trevenen, LLP; Chubb; Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage; William H. Connolly & Co.; The Nature Conservancy, and others. Our programs are made possible by funds from the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism, as well as the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For information about Montclair Film, visit www.montclairfilm.org

Vanessa Parisi, D.O., OB/GYN

A graduate of New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Parisi completed her residency at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, NJ. While at St. Barnabas, she served as Administrative Co-Chief Resident and is the District III Junior Fellow Chair for the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, participating in community service, advocacy, and education of young physicians. Dr. Parisi currently serves as Vice Chair of the New Jersey Obstetrical and Gynecological Society. She is part of Mountainside Medical Group in Nutley, NJ.

Laurie Barbalinardo, R.N., BSN Certified Lactation Consultant

Laurie Barbalinardo is a specially trained staff nurse with 38 years of experience in Women's Health Care and Maternal-Child Health. She received her Bachelors of Science in Nursing from University of Rhode Island, College of Nursing. Laurie has been awarded certification by the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners and is a Certified Professional Childbirth Educator. She, along with colleague Elizabeth Buggeln, R.N., began the Breastfeeding Support Group at Mountainside Medical Center in 1998.

For more information, please contact

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