



For Immediate Release

**MONTCLAIR FILM  
COMPLETES \$2.6 MILLION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN  
TO SUPPORT COSTS OF BUILDING A PERMANENT HOME +  
HEADQUARTERS FOR YEAR-ROUND ARTS PROGRAMMING**

**December 11, 2018, MONTCLAIR, NJ** – Montclair Film’s Founder & Chairman Bob Feinberg and President Evelyn Colbert today announced the successful completion of Montclair Film’s \$2.6 million Capital Campaign, which funded the construction of The Investors Bank Film & Media Center, the organization’s home and headquarters at 505 Bloomfield Avenue in downtown Montclair, New Jersey. Featuring year-round film screenings, community events, and a robust schedule of film and media education classes and workshops, The Investors Bank Film & Media Center has transformed Montclair Film into a thriving, year-round arts organization.

Kevin Cummings, CEO of Investors Bank, spearheaded the gift of a vacant bank branch to Montclair Film in 2014, and the non-profit organization undertook the renovation process immediately, completing the project on time and on budget, and opening the building’s doors in April of 2017. The Capital Campaign raised funds to cover the costs of the renovation project.

“We thought that having our own building would be transformative, not only for Montclair Film but for the many audiences we serve,” said Bob Feinberg, Founder and Chairman of Montclair Film. “That’s turned out to be true! With the Investors Bank Film & Media Center, we have a home for all the students who participate in our classes, for all the film lovers who attend screenings in Cinema 505, for our year-round administrative staff, and for everyone who attends a party, a panel discussion or a live theatrical event in our flexible, multipurpose space.”

The organization’s fundraising campaign, co-chaired by Montclair residents Tracy Higgins and James Leitner, and Lynn and Sengal Selassie, kicked off in December 2015. Montclair Film reached its goal thanks to the leadership of the committee chairs and the incredibly generous support from 450 donors from across Montclair, New Jersey, the Tri-State area, and beyond.

# MONTCLAIR FILM

The organization's Capital Campaign Committee featured volunteers who were critical to the campaign's success, especially Evelyn Colbert, Warren Ross, Matt Iversen, Shelley Phillips, and Don Zief. Major gifts starting at \$10K are recognized on the Donor Wall in the entryway lobby of the building, and on wayfinding signage throughout the space. A full list of top donors is attached.

As part of the capital campaign, Montclair Film competed in USA Today's *A Community Thrives* social media fundraising campaign this spring, attracting gifts of more than \$40K from 287 donors from across the nation, and winning a \$25K Fan Favorite grant award from The Gannett Foundation.

The popular Take a Seat Campaign raised nearly \$100K, with donors purchasing a cinema chair or table that features a sign with a special message to honor, remember, or celebrate a loved one or friend. That campaign is nearly complete, with just eight chairs left for purchase (\$1,500/each). To learn more about this very special initiative, visit: [MontclairFilm.org/Capital-Campaign/Take-A-Seat/](https://MontclairFilm.org/Capital-Campaign/Take-A-Seat/)

"We are so grateful to our entire community, everyone from our amazing design and construction team to our generous donors who have supported our renovation expenses. Their support has helped Montclair Film make this dream a reality," said Montclair Film Board President Evelyn Colbert.

Montclair Film's Cinema505, a 65-seat screening room in the building, features weekly presentations of the best in new independent film, including premieres by local emerging filmmakers, as well as restored classics. The Projection System is a gift from the Susan V. Bershada Charitable Fund. The cinema is also an active space for the organization to partner with non-profit organizations from all disciplines to use film and storytelling as a springboard to share stories and connect with the community.

This flexible, street-level space also converts into an intimate and inviting theater for conversations, book readings, a film club for young adults with special needs, Story Slams, Improv comedy, intimate musical performances, and theater presentations, as well as serving as one of downtown's most popular new lounge spaces for individuals, corporations and nonprofit organizations to host cocktail receptions, celebrations, and dinners.

# MONTCLAIR FILM

The concourse level of the building includes a rear entrance and patio, a gift of the Dara + Jedd Canty, located off the Fullerton Parking Deck. This ground floor encompasses our Education Center, a gift of the Silver Family Foundation, which serves as the hub for our growing offerings in film and media education. Filmmaking Academy classes for middle and high school students and adults take place in the Mindy Cohen + David Bershada Media Lab classrooms, a space that is also home to our Storytelling Studio, a podcast studio that houses hand-on classes and workshops. The space is also available to rent by professionals and others from the general public.

The LEED Certified building is fully ADA accessible with a new elevator, a gift of Bobbi Brown + Steven Plofker, that connects all three floors of the building, including staff offices for Montclair Film's growing team of nine full-time and six part-time employees, as well as a seasonal festival staff the builds to more than twenty more professionals and hundreds and hundreds of volunteers who make all we do possible. The third-floor administrative offices are a gift from Shelley + Keith Phillips. The concourse level Pantry is a gift from Jay + Betsy Schweppe and the Welcome Desk a gift from Tracy Higgins + James Leitner. The Women's Room, featuring the bank vault original to the building, is a gift from Jameson, Liam + Declan Canty.

The organization owes thanks to the extraordinary Montclair-based renovation team led by the incomparable **Bob Silver** of The Bravitas Group who served as Project Director. Team members included: **Larry Slous** (Partner: **Ashenfelter, Slous, Tembulak, McDonough, Golia & Trevenen, LLP**); **Katie Long** (Project Manager: **The Bravitas Group**); **Paul Sionas** and **Rich Jarzembowski** (Architects: **Sionas Architecture, PC**); **Rachael Grochowski** (Designer: **RHG Architecture + Design**); and **Jack Finn** (Contractor), **Lance Hoffman** (Project Manager) and **Ken Jarvis** (Project Manager) of **Jack Finn & Company, Building Contractors, LLC**.

While Montclair Film has reached its financial fundraising goal to cover its construction and renovation expenses, a select number of unique naming opportunities still exist for gifts of \$50K and up, including the chance to name Cinema505, Montclair Film's Box Office or Snack Bar, the Storytelling Studio, or the Vault Lounge. To learn more about how you can support the next phase of Montclair Film's bright future, please contact Aran Roche, Director of Development at [Aran@MontclairFilm.org](mailto:Aran@MontclairFilm.org) or (973)783-7644 x 5.

## ABOUT MONTCLAIR FILM

# 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; The Bravitas Group; 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](http://www.montclairfilm.org)

**For more information, please contact**

**FRANK PR:**

**Phone: 646-861-0843**

Lina Plath

[lina@frankpublicity.com](mailto:lina@frankpublicity.com)

Clare Anne Darragh

[clareanne@frankpublicity.com](mailto:clareanne@frankpublicity.com)



## Appendix A Capital Campaign Donors as of December 1, 2018

### **\$1 million+**

Investors Bank

### **\$250,000-\$499,999**

Evelyn and Stephen Colbert

The Silver Family Foundation

### **\$100,000-\$249,000**

Susan V. Bershada Charitable Fund

### **\$50,000-\$99,000**

Anonymous

Bobbi Brown and Steven Plofker

Rose Cali

Dara and Jedd Canty

Mindy Cohen and David Bershada

Leslie Larson and Don Katz

Patty and Jonathan Strain

### **\$25,000-\$49,999**

Kristina and James Bromley

Christina Cotton and Brian Clarkson

Melinda and Bill Connolly



Molli and John Dowd

Dorothea and Peter Frank

Gannett Foundation

Tracy Higgins and James Leitner

The Employees of Investors Bank

Mary and Michael Johnson

Blanche & Irving Laurie Foundation

Kate Logan and Edmund Rung

New Jersey Cultural Trust

Shelley and Keith Phillips

Betsy and Jay Schweppe Foundation

Lynn and Sengal Selassie

Margo and Frank Walter

Judy and Josh Weston

In memory of John C. Whitehead

**\$15,000-\$24,999**

Lisa and Joe Amato

Maggie Drucker and Bob Feinberg

Harold I. and Faye B. Liss Foundation

Zandi and Tom Nammack

Nancy Northup and James Johnson

Optima Engineering, P.A.



Karen and Warren Ross

**\$10,000-\$14,999**

Melissa and Robert Bigelow

Susan and Thomas Dunn

Radika Eccles and Steven Weddle

Philippa Girling and Joe Fiorentino

Martha and Dan Gregory

Sue Hollenberg and Joel Stillerman

The Hyde and Watson Foundation

Alice and Matthew Iversen

Meredith and Jonathan Ladov

Marcia Marley and Peter Rappoport

JoAnn and John McCullough

The Montclair Foundation

George A. Ohl, Jr. Trust

Aran Roche and Matthew Podwoski

Katherine and Robert Ruberton

Mary Anne and Peter Vaughn

Beth and Craig Wilensky

Joan and Don Zief

# MONTCLAIR FILM

## **\$5,000-\$9,999**

Sarah and Craig Barrack

Luce and Daniel Battsek

Rosemarie Ciccarello and Christopher Harnett

Dominick DeChiara and Brad Vaiana

Tanja and James Dixon

Cathy and Conrad Fink

Alexis and Clifford Finkle

Karen and Robert Gulliver

The Hopson Family

Korin and Larry Korman

Glenda McNeal

Richmond and Josh Rabinowitz

Rose Brand

## **\$2,500-\$4,999**

Alison and Douglas Bauer

Sandra Chamberlin and Paul Michaels

Molly and David Ervin

Linda Fan and William Schaefer

Diana and John Fennelly

Holly and Robert Gregory





Ellen and Steve Higgins

Tina Jordan and Kevin Rendino

Bruce P. Keller

New Jersey Beer Co.

Mary Jo Wrenn and Raj V. Tahl

### **\$1,000-\$2,499**

Anonymous, in honor of Evelyn Colbert

Emily and Steve Becker

Kathleen Beebe and Jeffrey Szilagyi

Andie and Co Bertsche

Elizabeth and Tim Bozik

LeeAnn Carlson and Steve Van Kuiken

Bonnie and Michael Carter

Jennie and Tom Cherry

Kahane and Jeff Cooperman

Dagmara Dominczyk and Patrick Wilson

Everson Family Charitable Fund

Betsy and Brian Harris

Gwenyth H. Hurling

Edgar Kaplan

Jennifer and Todd Ladda

Marie and Wade Layton



Lorri Maake and Philip Bahramipour

Michael P. Maher

Maureen and Brad Ohlmuller

One-on-One with Steve Adubato

Kathy and Sly McClearn

Raphaela Neihausen and Thom Powers

Parker Bowles Family

Deirdra and Alex Picou

Bridget and David Placek

Valerie and Wesley Puryear

Marci Schulman Gruber

Jessica Sporn and Fred Cordero

Laura and Willard Tressel

Tyson Foods, Inc.

Claire Walls and Banks Tarver

### **\$500-\$999**

Catalina Bajenaru

Benjamin Barbro

Joyce and Mark Friedman

Steven Fox

Christine James

Lynn Kasner Morgan

# MONTCLAIR FILM

Kristen Kusama-Hinte

Sara Rutkowski

Mimi and Ted Scott

Maggie and Tom Vaughan

Mimi and Steve Wrede

**\$250-\$499**

Dot and Bob Allcorn

Linda and Bobby Bowers

Sharon Burton Turner and Lincoln Turner

Tanya Carter and Frank Barnes, Jr.

Kathleen Denny

Joe Donahue

Linda and Vincent Flanagan

In Memory of Hal Drucker

Joyce and Dennis Kaffel

Kianni Madison Keys

Joanne and Fred Langbein

Kimberly and Peter Ligotti

Laura Linn and Matthew Frankel

Jo and Frank Martone

Tracy McVeigh and Andrew Melitz

Amy and Don Putman

# **MONTCLAIR** **FILM**

Lyn Rosenweig and Bruce Schnelwar

Jodi and Gary Rudoren

Nina and Rich Tucker

Julie Winokur and Ed Kashi