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'Child, Disrupted' returns to the Rheem Theatre for an encore presentation

By Derek Zemrak



"Child, Disrupted," the winner of the 2018 Best Short Subject Documentary at the California Independent Film Festival, returns for five encore screenings Nov. 3 (3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.) and Nov. 4 (5 p.m. and 7 p.m.). Filmmaker Krista Riihimaki will be in attendance and will conduct a question and answer sessions after each screening.

The 25-minute documentary explores the dangers of tablet usage among children. We've all seen it - children in restaurants staring at tablets, phones or other electronic devices for the entire meal, or parents handing their phone to a crying toddler in their stroller. It can be easy to judge the adults who make these choices, but are they really as bad as some say they are?

Photo provided

Riihimaki, a Montessori teacher and filmmaker, observed her students at increasingly younger ages spending large amounts of time tied to digital devices. She couldn't help but wonder whether there were any effects on their cognitive and physical development. Riihimaki would advise the parents of her students to limit device use, citing APA guidelines and Common-Sense Media, but she wanted to know just how much is technology overuse affecting children today?

In "Child, Disrupted," Riihimaki interviewed experts from the fields of neurological development, psychology, occupational therapy, sociology, and addiction, to reveal the truth behind her worries about screen time and child development. The film elucidates how time spent using technology specifically impacts children's behaviors and offers insight into how guardians can curb its influence while equipping children to develop healthy relationships with technology.

During the August film festival, "Child, Disrupted" sold out the middle upstairs theatre at the Rheem and it was moved to the main auditorium. It received rave reviews from the 250 attendees. Don't miss this second opportunity to see and discuss the film with the filmmaker this weekend. Tickets for the movie and Q&A are \$12. Tickets are available online at www.lamorindatheatres.com and at the Rheem Theatre box office. It is recommended that you get your tickets in advance. The screenings and Q&As will be hosted by Moraga resident Bill Brobeck.

The following movies are starting this Friday at Lamorinda Theatres:

"The Nutcracker and the Four Realms" (PG) (Rheem)

"Bohemian Rhapsody" (PG-13) (Orinda)

"The Guilty" (R) (Orinda)

Upcoming events:

Rheem Theatre

Nov. 3 - 4 - "Child, Disrupted" screening and Q&A with filmmaker (CAIFF Best Short Subject Documentary Winner)

3, 5 and 7 p.m. on Nov 3; 5 and 7 p.m. Nov. 4

Nov. 9 - 16 - "The Guilty" (International Film Showcase)

Nov. 17 - Magic Show with Timothy James (6 and 8 p.m.)

Nov. 23 - 30 - "Frank & Ava" (indie film about Frank Sinatra and Ava Gardner) Northern California Premiere Engagement

Dec. 1 - Psychotronic Film Festival

Dec. 8 - 9 - Three's Company Christmas Parody Play

Dec. 14 - 21 - "The Gold Seekers" (International Film Showcase)

Orinda Theatre

Nov. 8 Live at the Orinda Concert Series with Multi Grammy nominee, Maureen McGovern- 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 8 Free Movie Night - "Deliverance" 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 13 Free Movie Night - "A Christmas Story" 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 16 Live at the Orinda Concert Series with two-time Tony Award nominee, Karen Mason - 7 p.m.

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