

(This link will be populated with video/stills at 10 AM February 17) <http://bit.ly/Tribeca2020PressMaterials>
UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT 10 AM ET



**19TH TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL® TO OPEN APRIL 15 WITH WORLD PREMIERE OF
*JIMMY CARTER ROCK & ROLL PRESIDENT***

Special performance by music legend Willie Nelson and others

TRIBECA ALSO CELEBRATES EXPANSION TO HOBOKEN

NEW YORK, NY – February 17, 2020 – The Tribeca Film Festival, presented by AT&T, will open its 19th edition on April 15 with the world premiere of *Jimmy Carter Rock & Roll President*. It will set the stage for a festival featuring works that celebrate the power of change through art, politics and community. The 2020 Tribeca Film Festival will run April 15-26.

From award-winning director Mary Wharton, producer Chris Farrell and writer Bill Flanagan, the documentary catalogues the role of popular music in helping to propel a peanut farmer from Georgia all the way to the White House.

The world premiere of *Jimmy Carter Rock & Roll President* will be followed by live performances from music legend Willie Nelson, Musical Director Paul Shaffer, and others. The event will take place at the Beacon Theatre as part of the City National Bank Screening Series during the Festival.

This rockumentary-style presidential portrait shows how Jimmy Carter's lifelong passion for music gave him an unexpected edge as a presidential candidate. Through folk, soul, gospel, jazz, and rock 'n' roll, Carter tapped into a force that transcended racial and generational divides, and often party lines. Carter's appreciation for all genres of music and friendships with the likes of Bob Dylan, the Allman Brothers, and Willie Nelson helped to define his campaign. *Jimmy Carter Rock & Roll President* combines intimate interviews with Carter along with rare archival era-defining live performances from: Willie Nelson, Aretha Franklin, Jimmy Buffett, and Paul Simon among others. Director Mary Wharton traces how Carter's genuine approachability and the unifying power of music became key to his political appeal, and allowed him to connect with voters who may only have known him as a small town peanut farmer.

Director Mary Wharton won the 2004 Grammy Award for Best Music Film for her documentary feature *Sam Cooke: Legend*. Other notable feature film credits include *Joan Baez: How Sweet The Sound*, the platinum-selling concert film *Phish: IT*, and *Farrah Fawcett Forever*.

"The film accurately captures my love for all music and the importance music has played in my personal and professional life. I remain hopeful and believe that music can serve to bring us together as a nation. Rosalynn and I are pleased with the fine film Mary and Chris have made and thank all those involved for telling this story. We are thrilled that it will debut at the Tribeca Film Festival," said President Jimmy Carter.

"We witness the power of art inspiring change and the positive impact of citizens raising their voices against injustice everyday," said Jane Rosenthal, Co-Founder and CEO of the Tribeca Film Festival. "As filmmakers, we were inspired to create the Tribeca Film Festival after 9/11 because we believe in the power of art to restore community and inspire change. Mary and Chris' film, likewise, is a testament to that power."

To further fortify that movement, Tribeca is partnering with Democracy Works and Civic Alliance, America's premier nonpartisan coalition of businesses working together to build a future where everyone can vote, volunteer, and take action to shape the country. Tribeca Film Festival audiences will be given access to online tools that make voting easy; sending them text updates and educating them about ways to get involved in their local elections. Tribeca also provides staff with paid time off to vote, working to strengthen employee engagement.

Tribeca expands across the Hudson River to Hoboken

Last year, Tribeca's opening night brought *The Apollo* uptown to its namesake theater in Harlem, and this year, the Festival will continue to use cinematic storytelling and experiences to connect communities across the Hudson river to the city of Hoboken, NJ. The city's rich cinematic history includes scenes filmed from Oscar winner *On the Waterfront*, *Julie & Julia*, *Funny Girl*, *The Station Agent*, among others.

"It's wonderful to embrace new audiences with our neighbor across the river," said Rosenthal.

"We are incredibly thrilled to bring the renowned Tribeca Film Festival to Hoboken," said Ravi Bhalla, Hoboken Mayor. "There's no better location to host the Festival than our Mile Square, offering a wealth of culture with our local artists, galleries, and The Mile Square Theatre Company, and further cements our City as one of the major cultural destinations in the tri-state area."

About *Jimmy Carter Rock & Roll President*:

Jimmy Carter Rock & Roll President was also produced by Dave Kirkpatrick and Executive Producers include Dan Braun, Peter Conlon, and David Crawford. Submarine will handle sales for the film.

Tickets:

All passes and ticket packages are on sale now. Single tickets to attend the Festival go on sale on March 17, 2020.

#Tribeca2020

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About the Tribeca Film Festival:

The Tribeca Film Festival, presented by AT&T, brings artists and diverse audiences together to celebrate storytelling in all its forms, including film, TV, VR, gaming, music, and online work. With strong roots in independent film, Tribeca is a platform for creative expression and immersive entertainment. The Festival champions emerging and established voices; discovers award-winning filmmakers and creators; curates innovative experiences; and introduces new technology and ideas through premieres, exhibitions, talks, and live performances.

The Festival was founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal, and Craig Hatkoff in 2001 to spur the economic and cultural revitalization of lower Manhattan following the attacks on the World Trade Center. Now in its 19th year, the Festival has evolved into a destination for creativity that reimagines the cinematic experience and explores how art can unite communities. The 19th annual edition will take place April 15-26, 2020. www.tribecafilm.com/festival @Tribeca

About Presenting Sponsor AT&T:

As Presenting Sponsor of the Tribeca Film Festival, AT&T is committed to supporting the Festival and the art of filmmaking through access and innovation, while expanding opportunities to diverse creators around the globe. AT&T helps millions connect to their passions – no matter where they are. This year, AT&T and Tribeca will once again collaborate to give the world access to stories from underrepresented filmmakers that deserve to be seen. AT&T Presents: Untold Stories -an Inclusive Film Program in Collaboration with Tribeca, is a multi-year, multi-tier alliance between AT&T and Tribeca along with the year-round nonprofit Tribeca Film Institute.

About the 2020 Tribeca Film Festival Partners:

The Tribeca Film Festival is pleased to announce its 2020 Partners: Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC), BVLGARI, CHANEL, City National Bank, CNN Films, Diageo, ESPN, Montefiore, National CineMedia (NCM), New York Magazine, NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, P&G, PwC, Spring Studios New York, and Squarespace.

Press Contacts:

Alyssa Grinder / agrinder@tribecafilm.com / 212.941.2015

Sunshine Sachs / Tribecafilmfestival@sunshinesachs.com