



## SCHEDULE & LOCATIONS

### Sunday, February 8

1:00 pm: Film

12:30-2:00 pm: Special presentations by The Seeing Eye, Inc. featuring real-life guide dogs will be held for all museum goers.

**Children's Museum of Houston: 1500 Binz Street**

**Free Admission (includes Museum admission); registration required**

#### **DOLPHIN TALE 2**

**Rated G**

**Charles Martin Smith | USA | 2014 | 107 min. | Narrative | English**

Several years after the rescue and development of a unique prosthetic tail for Winter, the dolphin, characters from *Dolphin Tale* return to continue their adventures. Attendance includes free cookies and milk, reduced parking fee, entrance to the museum and a photo magnet of your photo taken with guide dogs.

### Sunday, February 8

5:00 pm: Open for Registration

5:30 pm: Program & Film

**Edward's Theater Grand Palace Stadium 24: 3839 Wesleyan St.**

**Tickets: \$25**

#### **25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act:**

*Homage to President George H. W. Bush's Role in Securing Rights for Individuals with Disabilities*

#### **IT'S ALL ABOUT FRIENDS**    **Rated PG-13**

**Lena Koppel | Sweden | 2013 | 91 min. | Narrative | Flemish/English**

Drama, laughter, love, and friendships unfold, as Max, a depressed NYC cinematographer, opens his heart and mind to people with disabilities in this heartwarming sequel to *The Importance of Tying Your Own Shoes*, last year's opening night film.

### Monday, February 9

6:00 pm: Wine reception

7:00 pm: Film

**MFAH: 1001 Bissonnet**

**Tickets: \$10**

#### **LITTLE WORLD**    **Rated PG-13**

**Marcel Barrena | Spain | 2013 | 83 min. | Documentary | Spanish**

Albert loves his life in Barcelona, and he won't let anything get in his way, least of all his wheelchair. At 19, he's made a sport of traveling the world with only 20 euros in his pocket. This time he and his girlfriend set out on an adventure to the opposite end of the earth: a lighthouse in New Zealand. Albert's resilience and unique point of view hold strong despite his tough beginnings.

Post discussion with Michigan Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein who this year became first state judge in America who is blind. An avid marathon runner and triathlete, he is a testament to reaching beyond disability.

**Monday, February 9**

**6:15 pm: Light reception**

**7:00 pm: Film**

**The Health & Medical Science Museum: 1515 Hermann Drive**

**Tickets: \$10**

**FIXED**      **Rated PG-13**

**Regan Brashear | USA | 2013 | 60 min. | Documentary | English**

Told through the perspectives of five individuals with disabilities, the implications of emerging biological and human technology enhancement are analyzed. Economics and agendas help shape a conversation on what it means to be human in the 21st Century.

Post-screening discussion led by Dr. Cindy Ivanhoe, specializing in brain injury and neuro rehabilitation.

**Tuesday, February 10**

**7:00 pm: Doors Open**

**7:15 pm: Film**

**The Monarch Institute: 2815 Rosefield Drive**

**Tickets: Free; registration requested**

**HERE ONE DAY**      **Rated PG-13**

**Kathy Leichter | USA | 2013 | 76 min. | Documentary | English**

When filmmaker Kathy Leichter moved back into her childhood home after her mother's suicide, she discovered a hidden box of her mother's audiotapes. *Here One Day* is an emotionally candid film about a woman who struggles with bipolar disorder, her relationships with her family, and the ripple effects of her suicide on those she loved. In the end, the film chips away at the stigma of mental illness and elicits a feeling of hope even when living with a disability. Post-film panel discussion provided by NAMI. This event is presented in collaboration with The Monarch Institute and NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

**Wednesday, February 11**

**7:00 pm: Film**

**Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center: 5601 S. Braeswood Blvd.**

**Tickets: Free; registration required**

**A WHOLE LOTT MORE**      **Rated PG**

**Victor Buhler | USA | 2013 | 83 min. | Documentary | English**

From the moment Kevin types (with difficulty,) “I want to earn my way in the world”, we feel the passion behind his words. Lott Industries in Toledo, Ohio, has employed him and more than 1200 workers, all with developmental disabilities, for decades; however, with the decline of the auto industry in neighboring Detroit, Lott is threatened with closure. This moving film shows how Kevin, T.J., and Wanda can make incredible contributions in the working world. It is a call to action to lower barriers to employment for our friends and neighbors with disabilities.

Presented in collaboration with Congregations: Beth Israel, Beth Yeshurun, Emanu El, and Brith Shalom.

Light reception to follow in the Joe Frank Theatre, accompanying Rick Guidotti’s Houstonians with Positive Exposure photography exhibition. All are welcome and encouraged to view the exhibition following the film.

**Wednesday, February 11**

**6:00 pm: Reception**

**7:00 pm: Film**

**Asia Society Texas Center: 1370 Southmore Blvd.**

**Tickets: \$10**

***TOUCH OF THE LIGHT*      Rated PG**

**Rong-ji Chang | Taiwan | 2013 | 110 min. | Narrative | Mandarin**

Based on the true life story of Huang Yu-Siang, who stars as himself, Touch of the Light tells the story of a blind piano prodigy from rural Taiwan and his relationship with Xiao Jie, a young woman who dreams of becoming a dancer despite enormous challenges. Critically acclaimed and warmly received worldwide, Touch of Light recognizes the challenges parents face in letting go while celebrating the triumphs of those who dare to dream. Post screening discussion featuring parents and young adults with disabilities: Letting Go: A Candid Discussion.

**Thursday, February 12**

**Airing on HTV-HD; visit [www.houstontx.gov/htv](http://www.houstontx.gov/htv) for details**

***Houston: Epicenter in the Fight for Disability Rights***

**A Presentation by Lex Frieden, Southwest ADA Center**

To celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the passage of the ADA, HTV-HD and *Focus on Abilities* have produced a video tribute, memorializing the roles of Houstonians and Texans in the passage and enactment of the ADA. The program features archival news clips and videos. It provides a compelling insight into the physical, social and political challenges faced by people with disabilities in their struggle to overcome discrimination and achieve equal rights. This documentary will include a presentation made at City Hall to mark this significant moment in the development of a more just society.

**Thursday, February 12**

**5:15 pm: Reception**

**6:00 pm: Program**

**The Council on Alcohol and Drugs Houston: 303 Jackson Hill Street**  
**Tickets: \$100**

***An Extraordinary Evening of Extraordinary Experts***  
**UP Abilities: In Partnership with The UP Experience**

Join ReelAbilities for a fascinating evening with four engaging experts pushing the boundaries of physical and emotional limits. Twenty minutes from each speaker will leave you educated, challenged, inspired.

**Hugh Herr:** The Human Spirit: Merging Body & Machine

**Elliot Kotek:** Not Impossible: Technology for the Sake of Humanity

**Kevin Breel:** The Stigma Surrounding Mental Health

**Amy Purdy:** Living Beyond Limits

**Presenters:**



**Hugh Herr**

**Topic: The Human Spirit: Merging Body & Machine**

Hugh Herr is the founder and director of The Herr Institute for Human Rehabilitation in Cambridge, MA. The purposes of the Herr Institute for Human Rehabilitation are: to develop assistive technologies for the elderly and the disabled; to develop manufacturing processes that reduce the costs associated with the production of assistive technologies; and to promote the distribution of assistive technologies throughout the world. Hugh also directs the Biomechatronics group at The MIT MediaLab. His research program seeks to advance technologies that promise to accelerate the merging of body and machine, including device architectures that resemble the body's musculoskeletal design, actuator technologies that behave like muscle, and control methodologies that exploit principles of biological movement.



**Elliot Kotek**

**Topic: Not Impossible: Technology for the Sake of Humanity**

The co-founder and content chief of Not Impossible, and editor-in-chief of NotImpossibleNow.com, Elliot has become a recognizable figure in taking stories based in the sphere of science and technology, and ensuring that they are not only accessible, but that they serve to inspire. By utilizing crowd-sourcing to crowd-solve healthcare issues, Not Impossible aims to provide low-cost and DIY solutions, and to enable high-tech devices to reach people in need all over the world. Not Impossible is disrupting the status quo of accessibility by creating a sustainable cycle where collaboration inspires innovation, and content compels action.



**Kevin Breel**

**Topic: The Stigma Surrounding Mental Health**

Kevin Breel is a standup comic, a mental health activist and a teenager. Bringing warmth and unparalleled honesty into topics people tend not to talk about, Kevin has become a sensationally popular speaker and performer. In 2012, Kevin toured western Canada speaking at high school and events about mental health. The tour got media attention both locally and internationally for taking a bold stance on such an ignored issue. These presentations paved the way to giving a talk titled "Confessions of a Depressed Comic" that got a standing ovation and instantly went viral to more than 1.8 million viewers.



**Amy Purdy**

**Topic: Living Beyond Limits**

Amy Purdy is an American actress, world class snowboarder, designer, author and co-founder of Adaptive Action Sports. In 1999, she contracted bacterial meningitis at the age of 19 and was given

less than a 2 percent chance of living. She survived, but lost both of her legs below the knee. She began snowboarding seven months after she received her prosthetics and developed into one of the top adaptive riders in the world. In March of 2014 she won the bronze medal at the Paralympic Games in Sochi, Russia. Three days later she made her debut on ABC's *Dancing with the Stars* and eventually became the show's runner-up. In December she released her first book, *On My Own Two Feet – From Losing My Legs to Learning the Dance of Life*.

## **ReelArt: Festival Exhibitions**

**January 17–February 14, 2015**

***The Art of Celebration***

**Nicole Longnecker Gallery**

2625 Colquitt Street, Houston, TX 77098

713-591-4997 [www.LongneckerGallery.com](http://www.LongneckerGallery.com)

**January 17 opening 5:00 – 9:00 pm; 7:00 pm reception**

**February 10–12, 11:00 am–5:00 pm:** A series of short films from ReelAbilities will be running during gallery hours.

In *The Art of Celebration*, Nicole Longnecker Gallery proudly features work from the participants of Houston's Celebration Company. The group is composed of 18 participants who create art as an expressive outlet taught to be a leisure activity and life skill. The artists create hand made paper, paint acrylic on both paper and canvas, and take photographs using adaptive cameras.

Celebration Company is an entrepreneurial program for adults with disabilities, leading the way in redefining what it means to have a disability and to be a part of the community. The program's focus is on personalized development to improve skills in the core areas of vocation, academics, wellness, and socialization. Celebration Company is a program of JFS's Disability Services; learn more at [www.jfshouston.org](http://www.jfshouston.org)

**February 10–26, 2015**

***Houstonians with Positive Exposure***

**Photo exhibit by Rick Guidotti**

**Joe Frank Theatre, Evelyn Rubenstein JCC**

5601 S. Braeswood, Houston, TX 77096

713-729-3200 [www.erjcchouston.org](http://www.erjcchouston.org)

**Feb 10–12, 9:00 am-6:00 pm:** Ongoing screenings

**Film: *ON BEAUTY***

Rick Guidotti, a former fashion photographer, challenges our vision of beauty with his joyous and stunning photographs of individuals who have genetic differences in his *Positive Exposure* exhibition. His

photographs of Houstonians taken at ReelAbilities 2014 will be on display, as well as a special opportunity to see the recently released documentary film about the impact of Guidotti's work, *On*

*Beauty*. created by Kartemquin Films and Emmy-nominated filmmaker Joanna Rudnick. For more

information on the photographer, visit [www.PositiveExposure.org](http://www.PositiveExposure.org).

### **Short Film Screenings Around Town**

**Mid January-February 12**

**Houston Airport Systems**

**2800 North Terminal Road, Houston, TX 77032)**

Houston George Bush International Airport, Terminal D

Ongoing screenings of short films.

**February 10-12, 11:00 am-5:00 pm**

**Nicole Longnecker Gallery**

**2625 Colquitt Street, Houston, TX 77098**

Ongoing screenings of short films

### **Ongoing Short Films:**

**46/47** explores concept that everyone has Down Syndrome; those with only 46 chromosomes are considered handicapped. The film asks the question “What is normal?” Nadine Heinze und Marc Dietschreit | Germany | 2011 | 8 min. | Documentary | German

**A Life With Asperger’s** demonstrates that Asperger’s is not simply “being a little awkward”; rather it is about adapting to one’s limitations within anxiety and isolation. Jaime Ekkens | USA | 2013 | 4 min. | Animation | English

**Autism in Love** A man with autism and his wife discuss their unconditional love.

Michelle Friedline | USA | 2012 | 9 min. | Documentary | English

**The Commute** A wheelchair user tries to get home using public transportation – an arduous journey. Jake

Alexander-McAfee | USA | 2013 | 4 min. | Documentary | English

**Keep the Change** A coming-of-age love story about a wealthy young man with social disorders who meets a woman with intellectual disabilities. Rachel Israel | USA | 2013 | 16 min. | Narrative | English