ReelAbilities Houston Film & Arts Festival
February 16–24, 2021   A Virtual Film & Arts Festival

ReelAbilities Houston Film & Arts Festival is a FREE citywide event that promotes inclusion and celebrates the lives, stories and talents of people with disabilities, making an impact that lasts far beyond the Festival.

ReelPeople: UP Abilities
Dan Habib and Ali Stoker captivated an audience of more than 300 people with their extraordinary stories of resilience and perseverance. An engaging Q&A followed.

ReelFilm
Seventeen award-winning short and feature films were made available to ReelAbilities fans, including the world premiere of One Step at a Time featuring Houstonian Michael McCulloch.

ReelArt
ReelArt highlights the photography, original artwork and glass art of 23 Celebration Company artists on exhibit, both online at http://store.celebrationcompany.org/ and at the Bellaire NY Bagel Cafe.

ReelMusic
ReelMusic, a night of jazz, rock and more, where accomplished singers and songwriters with disabilities honor music’s universal power to lift us up. Special guest, Tony Award-winner Ali Stroker, made a guest appearance during the show. Over 2,500 views.

ReelWorkplace
A lunchtime panel discussion in collaboration with the Houston Business Journal helped close to 100 Houston Business leaders understand the role and future of inclusion in the workplace.

ReelEducation
The message of inclusion was brought to thousands of students. ReelEducation reached elementary to graduate students, including:

- Burruss Elementary
- The Emery/Weiner School
- Fleming Middle School
- Helfman Religious School
- Houston Community College–VAST
- The HUB Houston
- John E. Codwell Elementary
- Kehillah High
- Marshall Academy of Fine Arts

City of Inclusion Partners

See all of our Festival Sponsors at reelabilitieshouston.org

See reverse side for more ReelResults!
ReelResults

ReelSpeakers
ReelAbilities 2021 included local and national panelists:
Angela Berg, Partner and Global Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Consulting Leader, Mercer
Linda L. Burger, MSSW, CEO, JFS Houston
Bob Charlet, Market President & Publisher, Houston Business Journal
Declan Farmer, Paralympic Gold Medalist
Susan Fernbach, BA, RN, Director of Genetic Outreach, Baylor College of Medicine
Lex Frieden, Director, ILRU, TIRR Memorial Hermann
Jason Harris, Director of Strategic Operations, LADD
Dr. Cindy Ivanhoe, Director of Spasticity and Associated Syndromes of Movement, TIRR Memorial Hermann
Elliott Lapin, Reporter, Examiner Newspapers
Eli R. Lebowitz, Ph.D., Director of the Program for Anxiety Disorders, Yale Child Study Center
Dr. Danielle Melton, Director of the Amputee and Orthotics and Prosthetics Program, TIRR Memorial Hermann
Manizeh Mirza-Gruber, M.D., Certified Facilitator and Supervisor, Center for Mind-Body Medicine
Kristie Moore, Psy.D., Crisis Intervention & Mental Health, Katy ISD
Jim Sinocchi, Head of Disability Inclusion, JPMorgan Chase
Maria Town, President and CEO, American Association of People with Disabilities
Emily Van Laan, LCSW, RPT, Psychotherapist, JFS Houston
Jamie Weiner, LCSW, Manager of Disability Services and The Alexander Institute for Inclusion, JFS Houston

ReelFeedback
Making an impact that lasts far beyond the Festival is a goal of ReelAbilities. Here, in their own words, is how ReelAbilities 2021 made an impact on some who attended:


Although nothing is more impactful than having my students interact in person with ReelEducation speakers, I appreciate that ReelAbilities found a way to provide the program during this challenging year.

ReelAbilities 2021 was incredible. Each Festival gets better and better, as the movement grows and changes.

Major Media Coverage
ReelAbilities Houston was featured in print, online and TV media, including:
365 Things to Do in Houston
Buzz Magazines
Community Impact
CultureMap Houston
CW 39
Fresh Arts
GlasstireMagazine
Houston Chronicle

ReelNumbers
98% of attendees positively rated events and films
8000+ attendees from across the world represented a 33% increase over 2020
91% of attendees reported that the film and programs positively influenced their perceptions of people with disabilities
55 Sponsors
96% of attendees are likely to attend another ReelAbilities event in the future
18 schools, from preschools to colleges, participated in ReelEducation, bringing the message of inclusion to students
60+ Collaborating Partners joined Festival efforts and events
6,536,000+ impressions from print, broadcast and digital media

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