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WORLD PREMIERE OF HEARTLAND'S 250th EPISODE AT CIFF 2023!

CIFF partners with CBC to bring exciting Special Experience to this year's festival

Calgary, AB - The Calgary International Film Festival has partnered with CBC for an exciting special experience with the World Premiere of the 17th season and 250th episode of **HEARTLAND** at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium on September 28, which will also include a Q&A with lead cast members post-episode screening.

"At CIFF, we're excited to continually expand our programming to include incredible episodic content. It's exciting to bring the highly established and adored HEARTLAND to our festival. This programming comes with strong local ties and is sure to bring in massive and excited crowds!" said Brian Owens, CIFF's Artistic Director.

HEARTLAND SEASON 17 & 250th EPISODE WORLD PREMIERE

September 28, 2023 at 7 p.m. / Red Carpet at 6:15 p.m. Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium Hosted by CBC, SEVEN24 Films and Dynamo Films

To celebrate this huge milestone for **HEARTLAND,** the first episode of Season 17, which is also the 250th episode of the show, CIFF will be hosting the World Premiere at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium.

Stars **Amber Marshall**, **Michelle Morgan**, **Shaun Johnston**, and **Chris Potter** will be in attendance for the HEARTLAND event and will participate in a Q&A hosted by CBC following the screening of this milestone episode.

"There is always such an incredible energy when Heartlanders get together. Being able to share this experience with the cast, crew and fans from around the world makes what we do extra special," said Heartland star Amber Marshall. HEARTLAND is the longest-running one-hour drama in Canadian television history. The series was nominated for the Cogeco Fund Audience Choice Award at the 2023 Canadian Screen Awards, and has made its way into the hearts of viewers in more than 120 countries. In 2022, HEARTLAND fans watched 18 billion minutes to make it one of the most-streamed series in the United States. HEARTLAND is the only Canadian-made series to make the overall top-15 series watched by Americans across all streaming platforms.

In Season 17, Amy (**Amber Marshall**) and the rest of the Heartland family know better than most that while dreams can sometimes come true, more often life takes us in unexpected directions. The new season is all about embracing the unexpected. It's about new experiences and taking the path less traveled. In Season 17 the Bartlett-Fleming family find themselves excited for the future and ready to embrace new adventures, challenges, and relationships. But no matter how much things may change, Amy (**Amber Marshall**), Lou (**Michelle Morgan**), Jack (**Shaun Johnston**), and Tim (**Chris Potter**) will continue to fight for what they believe in while staying rooted in the land that has been in the Bartlett-Fleming family for generations.

Following the Heartland Season 17 World Premiere screening at CIFF, Heartland Season 17 will premiere on Sunday, October 1 at 7pm exclusively in Canada on CBC Gem and CBC TV.

Tickets for HEARTLAND: https://www.ciffcalgary.ca/

CIFF MEDIA IMAGES

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ABOUT THE CALGARY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Founded in 2000, the Calgary International Film Festival (CIFF) is a not-for-profit charitable organization that brings films and filmmakers from around the world to Calgary for its annual Fall festival and year-round programming. CIFF is now the largest event of its kind in Alberta, bringing audiences together for remarkable and engaging cinematic experiences. CIFF is proud to present its festival from September 21 - October 1, 2023 with in-cinema screenings, celebrating stand-out stories and offering once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

ABOUT CBC/RADIO-CANADA

CBC/Radio-Canada is Canada's national public broadcaster. Through our mandate to inform, enlighten and entertain, we play a central role in strengthening Canadian culture. As Canada's trusted news source, we offer a uniquely Canadian perspective on news, current affairs and world affairs. Our distinctively homegrown entertainment programming draws audiences from across the country. Deeply rooted in communities, CBC/Radio-Canada offers diverse content in English, French and eight Indigenous languages. We also deliver content in Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Punjabi and Tagalog, as well as both official languages, through Radio Canada International (RCI).

ABOUT SEVEN24 FILMS

SEVEN24 Films is an independent film and television production company whose work has spanned over two decades. Executive Producers Tom Cox and Jordy Randall have produced dramatic series, mini-series, television movies and feature films garnering over one hundred industry awards and nominations. SEVEN24's focus on integration of scripted programming with interactive content and social media has helped make *Heartland* and *Wynonna Earp* two of the most dynamic scripted television projects in the digital space. SEVEN24 Films was named Playback Magazine's Production Company of the Year in 2020.

ABOUT DYNAMO FILMS

Dynamo Films Inc. is an independent television production company founded in 2004 by Michael Weinberg. Dynamo purchased the television and ancillary rights to all the HEARTLAND books and created the television series of the same name. In 2006 the English broadcast rights for Canada were sold by Dynamo to CBC and subsequent sales to other markets have reached more than 120 countries. Beginning with the very first episode, Michael Weinberg has acted as Executive Producer for the HEARTLAND television show which is the longest running one hour dramatic series in Canadian history and currently has an unprecedented seventeenth season.

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