

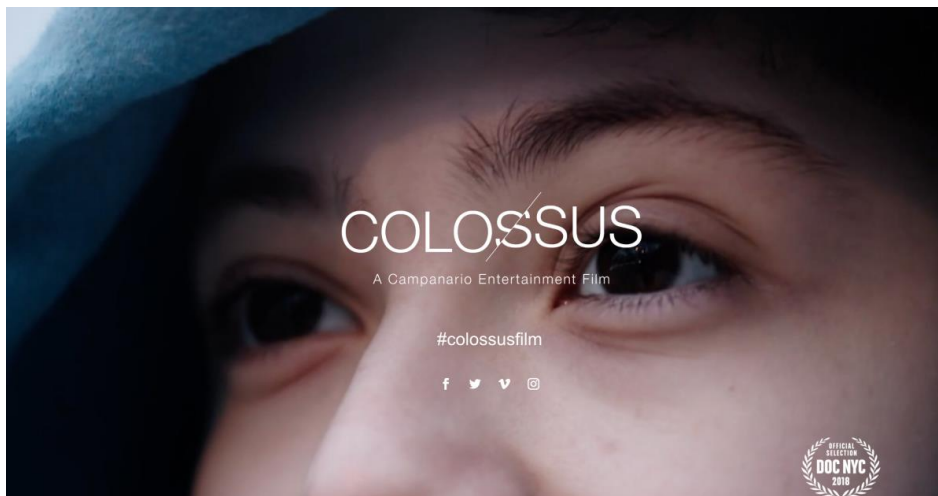
Website: burnsfilmcenter.org
Tickets: \$10 (JBFC members), \$15 (nonmembers)
Event Date: Thursday, Mar. 14, 7:00 pm

Westchester Community Foundation Sponsors *Colossus* Event at the Jacob Burns Film Center

Film Followed by Discussion with Film Subject, the New York Immigration Coalition, and Westchester Community Foundation, plus a Reception

Pleasantville, NY – 02-07-19 – As issues of rising xenophobia and racism become more visible, Jacob Burns Film Center (JBFC), in partnership with the Westchester Community Foundation (WCF), will screen the devastating documentary *Colossus* on March 14. The film offers a rare and timely look at the aftermath of deportation and family separation amid the current backlash against America’s immigrants.

Immediately after the screening the film’s subject, Jamil Sunsin, and Steven Choi, New York Immigration Coalition executive director, will join Laura Rossi, executive director of Westchester Community Foundation, onstage for a discussion about the film’s complicated subject. A reception will follow in JBFC Theater’s Jane Peck Gallery.



Seen through the eyes of 15-year-old Jamil Sunsin, *Colossus* reveals the devastating personal impact of America’s immigration policies on one Jersey City family. When Jamil’s parents and sister are deported, he becomes an activist whose personal experience and courage in advocating for family reunification provide an intimate, inspiring lens on a hot-button issue.

Colossus is part of the Community Matters series at the Jacob Burns Film Center, a film series sponsored by the Westchester Community Foundation that focuses on local issues, discussion, and action.

Speaker Information

Jamil Sunsin is the subject of the documentary *Colossus*. Born in the US, Jamil only found out his parents and older sister were undocumented when they were deported to Honduras following a routine traffic stop. Traumatized by the violence there, Jamil’s family made the excruciating choice to send Jamil back on his own, where he now courageously fights against a broken immigration system. Jamil returned to Jersey City to stay with relatives and seek a better life, but this imposed separation weighs heavily on all members of the family.

Steven Choi is currently the Executive Director of the New York Immigration Coalition, a coalition of nearly 200 member groups that represents New York State’s immigrant communities. Mr. Choi has doubled the size of the organization’s budget and staff, now overseeing the nation’s largest state immigrant rights coalition and serving

as New York's chief advocate on immigrant rights, education, civic participation, and health care access on the Federal, state, and local levels.

Laura Rossi is the Executive Director of the Westchester Community Foundation, which envisions a community that is vibrant, compassionate, and resilient. Through the generosity of those who love our community, it seeks to strengthen our communities and inspire greater giving by connecting donors with effective organizations that improve our quality of life. Formed in 1975, it is a division of the New York Community Trust, one of the nation's oldest community foundations.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

WHAT

Colossus followed by an on-stage discussion and community reception

Seen through the eyes of 15-year-old Jamil Sunsin, *Colossus* reveals the devastating personal impact of America's immigration policies on one Jersey City family. When Jamil's parents and sister are deported, he becomes an activist whose personal experience and courage in advocating for family reunification provide an intimate, inspiring lens on a timely issue.

On-Stage Discussion and Community Reception with film subject Jamil Sunsin, Executive Director of the New York Immigration Coalition Steven Choi, and Laura Rossi, Executive Director of the Westchester Community Foundation.

WHEN

Thursday, Mar. 14, 7:00 pm

WHERE

Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Road, Pleasantville, NY 10570

Exit 30 Saw Mill River Parkway N/ Exit 29 Saw Mill River Parkway S or the Pleasantville stop on Metro-North Harlem Line

TICKETS

Tickets: \$10 (JBFC members), \$15 (nonmembers)

Tickets are available online at burnsfilmcenter.org or at the Box Office

Box office opens at noon on weekdays and 11:00 am on weekends

For information and group sales, call 914.773.7663, ext. 6

PHOTOS

Photos of the event will be available the day following the screening.

The Westchester Community Foundation is Westchester County's community foundation, founded in 1975 by and for the people of Westchester. It works to improve the quality of life in Westchester by addressing community issues, promoting responsible philanthropy, and connecting donors to critical, local needs. Visit: www.wcf-ny.org.

[Jacob Burns Film Center](http://www.jacobburns.org) (JBFC) is a nonprofit arts and education hub located on a three-building campus in the New York Metro area. The JBFC brings the transformative power of film to the surrounding community through unique programming and discussion, shared experiences, and educational initiatives. Since opening in 2001, over

3,000,000 people have enjoyed the best of current American and foreign cinema, unique film series, and special events at the five-screen theater complex. A pioneer in visual literacy education, the Jacob Burns Film Center offers courses in filmmaking, screenwriting, and animation for students of all ages at our state-of-the-art Media Arts Lab, and develops curricula for public schools throughout the region.

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