

TOP DOG FILM FESTIVAL

Bert Church Theatre
Saturday 7:00 pm

Tentative Program

Adventure Floof

4 minutes – Canada

Rodney's not much of an adventure dog. But he wants to be. Living in North Vancouver, he's got the the outdoor possibilities he could possibly need!

Come along for the ride as he makes his way around North Vancouver, taking inspiration from his buddies Moss, Moka, Hunter and friends, getting involved with paddleboarding, mountain biking, dirt biking, hiking, trail running and climbing!

The Race

9 minutes - Greenland

On the western coast of Greenland, a young boy dreams of winning the national championship of dog sledding, an ancient form of transportation which has turned into a highly competitive sport. For thousands of years the sled dog has shaped the life of the Inuit people. Today, global and local changes are threatening the future of the sled dog in Greenland, and the unique culture surrounding it. "The Race" is a portrait of 12 year-old Nick, who's stepping into the sport for the very first time. His story is joined by 72 year-old race legend Ville Siegstad, whose life has inspired many young dog mushers.

Healing Paws

10 minutes: USA

A film by: Keith Cohen

Experience the heartwarming impact that a new type of therapy dog has on hospital patients in Georgia, USA. These dogs are specifically bred to be warm, loving and emotionally strong facility dogs. Witness the profound effect these incredible canines have on healing the soul in the touching film 'Healing Paws'. Be nothing short of amazed as these furry heroes make a tangible difference in people's lives, offering a stunning display of love, comfort, and transformation.

The Missing Piece

5 minutes: Czech Republic

A film by: Luis Madrid

Jump straight into the scene of a cosy European home and follow an uplifting journey in "The Missing Piece". This delightfully fresh film emphasises the true significance of dogs as cherished members of our family as we experience the joy and love they bring, reminding us of the importance of treating them with the care and devotion they deserve.

You Can't Shrink Love

5 minutes: USA

A film by: Veena Rao

You Can't Shrink Love is an eye-opening portrayal of the unwavering love and devotion that dog owners carry even after their beloved pets have departed. This touching and creative masterpiece delves into one woman's self-found 'life calling' to immortalise the cherished memories and unbreakable bond between humans and dogs. A heartfelt exploration of a deep connection that transcends time and continues to inspire.

Salty Sea Dogs

27 minutes: Australia

A film by: Adventure Reels

Get to know three dogs whose lives revolve around the ocean. Buster, a miniature schnauzer, struts down the wharf in a small New Zealand village four days a week to go to work as a dolphin-spotting dog. Using his keen sense of hearing, he alerts cruise passengers when the rare Hector's dolphins are nearby - and tries not to fall overboard in his excitement. Spike, a rescue nearly 15 years old, has made a name for himself as a Noosa surf dog champion. Surprising his human one day, Spike took to the waves on his own, and after discovering Spike's natural ability to manoeuvre a surfboard, they never looked back.

And Trip, a six year old rescue Koolie living by the Ningaloo Reef couldn't imagine a day without being on the water with his humans, whose work as underwater cinematographers has taken him on some wild adventures - from living aboard a ship to close encounters with sharks! For these dogs, a life at sea can't be beat.

BREAK

A Glimmer of Hope: A Mutual Rescue Story

6 minutes: USA

A film by Mutual Rescue

North American Premier

When an animal loving Texan woman lost her 18-year old son to an overdose her grief was profound. At a loss on how to move forward she found solace and a renewed meaning of life to providing foster care for the dogs of people in rehab.

Better with Pets: Arleigh Reynolds

10 minutes: USA

A film by: Group Theory

Rural Alaska is a land of extremes. [The environment is harsh, and an influx of crippling social issues within some small communities don't make things any easier. The Frank Attila Youth & Dog Care program is designed to help. Through curriculum, training, cultural history, and hard work, at-risk youth re0gnite a passion for the heritage and learn many valuable life skills in the process, all while bonding with working dogs.

Connected to this initiative is Dr. Arleigh Reynolds, a World Champion dog musher living and working in Alaska. Keen on reserving the rich cultural bonds between people and dogs. Arleigh travels to rural villages to lend a hand. Join Arleigh as he visits the village of Huslia, the venerable home of some of Alaska's greatest mushers to contribute to the Frank Attila Youth & Dog Care Program.

Roxy

9 minutes USA

Roxy is a special kind of ranch dog that worked her magic at the TZ Ranch, wrangling elite bucking bulls.

Travelling This Road Together: A Mutual Rescue Story.

4 minutes: USA

A film by: Mutual Rescue

North American Premier

There is nothing like a shared experience to forge a rock-solid bond.

When a Colorado senior rescued her adorable dog, their parallel cancer journey's established an unbreakable connection like no other.

A Day in the Life of Schweitzer's Avalanche Search and Rescue Dog Team

12 minutes: USA

Spend a day with Schweitzer Mountain's talented Avalanche Search and Rescue Dogs and their incredible handlers to learn more about how these teams train for avalanche rescue scenarios. The SAR dogs: Abbey, Annie, and Murphy, practise live burials, ride chairlifts, and rip around the mountain on their handlers' shoulders. It's clear that these dogs love their jobs and now we can see why.

The Mountain Dogs

16 minutes: USA

A film by: Aynsley Floyd

Possibly one of the most incredible stories is of Sampson and Baylor, two cherished Gold Retrievers who conquer the majestic Pinnacle Trail in Stow, Vermont, day after day, all on their own. Witness their inspiring determination as they navigate the rugged terrain, igniting a sense of wonder and admiration for their unwavering spirit. Prepare for a heartwarming take of canine resilience and adventure that will leave you breathless.

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A Mountain Film Presentation