



PRESS RELEASE

WHAT: Science Film Festival Philippines 2019

WHEN: November 07 to December 06, 2019

WHERE: SM Megamall Cinema 2 and nationwide organized screenings

“Science Film Festival Celebrates its 10th Year Anniversary in the Philippines”

The Science Film Festival is now on its **10th edition** in the Philippines this 2019. Organized by the Goethe-Institut in Manila, the Festival, which is celebrated as one of the biggest and longest running science event in the Philippines, was made possible through the support of our long-standing partners from the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST).

This 2019, aside from the 10th year anniversary of the Science Film Festival in the Philippines, the Goethe-Institut will also be celebrating the 250th birth anniversary of **Alexander von Humboldt**. Alexander von Humboldt revolutionized the conception of nature by defining it as an interconnected living web - and in doing so, inspired countless scientists, environmentalists, writers and artists alike. So on his 250th birth anniversary the Science Film Festival 2019 aims to highlight the relevance of this view in the 21st century in regard to environmentalism, climate change and sustainability.

With the theme **“Humboldt and the Web of Life”**, the Science Film Festival presents a selection of **31 science films** and **15 science activities** which aims to illustrate the relevance of Humboldt’s complex approach to the 21st century, in particular for students and young people, and raise awareness of environmental issues, climate change and sustainability.

The festival officially opens on **November 05, 2019, 9am to 12nn**, at **SM Megamall Cinema 2** with a special screening of the film **“Anoté’s Ark”** which takes a look at the devastating effects that climate change has on the people living on Kiribati, a low-lying atoll in the Pacific.

From November 07 to December 06, 2019, organized film screenings will follow at Museo Pambata, The Mind Museum, Philippine Science Centrum, The National Libraries of the Philippines, Quezon City Science Interactive Centre, Xavier University, Liceo de Cagayan University, ABLAN Foundation, and Philippine Society of Youth Science Clubs throughout the country during the festival period. There will also be screenings in select public schools and science high schools nationwide through the facilitation of DepEd and DOST-SEI.

For more information, visit Goethe.de/Manila or send your inquiries to ScienceFilmFestival@Manila.goethe.org.

ABOUT THE GOETHE-INSTITUT PHILIPPINEN – The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany’s cultural institute, promoting the study of the German language abroad, and encouraging international cultural exchange.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



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About the Science Film Festival

The Science Film Festival is a celebration of science communication in Southeast Asia, South Asia, Africa and the Middle East: In cooperation with local partners it promotes science literacy and facilitates awareness of contemporary scientific, technological and environmental issues through international films with accompanying educational activities. The festival presents scientific issues accessibly and entertainingly to a broad audience and demonstrates that science can be fun. The event has grown considerably since its first edition in 2005, becoming the largest event of its kind worldwide.

The Science Film Festival is organized in each country by the Goethe-Institut in close cooperation with local partners. The festival relies on the collaboration and active participation of science education institutions, schools, universities, ministries and cultural centers in each of the host countries, as well as the enthusiasm of their staff and other partners, such as NGOs, educators and student volunteer groups, who facilitate the screenings and activities.

About the Theme of The Year

What has Alexander von Humboldt, who was born 250 years ago (1769 - 1859), to do with global climate change and sustainability today? Alexander von Humboldt revolutionized the conception of nature by scientifically approaching it as an interconnected living web - and in doing so, inspired countless scientists, environmentalists, writers and artists alike. On the 250 Year Anniversary of Humboldt's birth, we need such a global perspective more today than ever: an appreciation that all things are connected and that harm caused in one place, always has implications elsewhere and for the whole. Perhaps these ideas can help to stimulate alternatives - whole-system thinking and the pursuit of endeavors that rejuvenate the natural world. Humboldt had respect for nature, for the wonders it contained, but also as the system in which we ourselves are an inseparable part.

In a time when scientists are trying to understand and predict the global consequences of climate change, Humboldt's interdisciplinary approach to science and nature is more relevant than ever. He refused to be tied to one discipline and insisted that all and everything was linked — humans, land clearing, plants, oceans, biodiversity, atmospheric changes, temperature, and so on. Humboldt's nature was a global force. Time and again he examined the connections between nature and science, art and society, and has taken a cosmopolitan perspective on the world as a whole. When nature is perceived as a web, its vulnerability also becomes obvious. Everything hangs together. If one thread is pulled, the whole tapestry might unravel.

The Science Film Festival 2019 aims to illustrate the relevance of this complex approach to the 21st century, in particular for students and young people, and raise awareness of environmental issues, climate change and sustainability.

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