For Immediate Release

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Over-the-Rhine International Film Festival Signs Gender Parity Pledge

August 2019 – The Over-the-Rhine International Film Festival (OTRFF) is taking tangible steps towards their mission of diversity and inclusion. The OTRFF announced that they have signed the **50/50 by 2020** Gender Parity Pledge, ahead of the second year of the festival. By signing — and joining the likes of Toronto, Berlin, [Venice](https://womenandhollywood.com/amidst-backlash-over-lack-of-women-directors-venice-film-fest-signs-gender-parity-pledge/), [and more](https://womenandhollywood.com/resources/festivals-that-have-committed-to-the-gender-parity-pledge/) — OTRFF is vowing to having better gender representation in not only their lineup of films but also in their selection process by the year 2020.

Since first being introduced at the Cannes Film Festival in 2018, the **#5050by2020** pledge has been signed by 32 film festivals around the world. The OTRFF is leading the charge by being the first in the region to sign this important promise.

By taking the Pledge, festival signatories promise to do the following:

1. **Compile statistics of gender and race of the cast and crew of all the films submitted to selection.**
2. **Make public the gender and race of all the members of film selection committee as well as executive boards and/or boards of directors.**
3. **Commit to a schedule to achieve parity in these bodies.**

The OTRFF is dedicated in building a platform that reflects and values everyone in front of, as well as behind the camera. The festival has even taken this promise a step further by including those with disabilities. The films shown during the festival will be captioned and audio described. Additionally, they are hosting an **open casting call** during the film festival as a way to get performers with disabilities added to the national casting database. This will take place on October 3rd at the Ensemble Theater. Sign-ups will begin later this month.

The OTR Film Festival returns October 2-6, 2019.

For more information, visit [www.otrfilmfest.org](http://www.otrfilmfest.org)

For more information on the pledge, visit <https://5050by2020.com>