

Sense the Wind

For Immediate Release

On Friday, July 7th, 7:00pm, a filmmaker screening will be held at the **Panida Theater** of *Sense the Wind: Blind sailors race across open water*. The hour-long documentary, sponsored by the Sandpoint Sailing Association, will be followed by a Q&A with NY based Producer/Director Christine Knowlton.

Six years in the making, *Sense the Wind*, which follows the journey of four blind sailors as they train and compete in national and international regattas, is making its way around the globe in outreach and beginning distribution. The film was given a Humanitarian Award at the Socially Relevant Film Festival NY, was recently brought to Tokyo, played many festivals and continues to show globally.

Information:

Location: Panida Theater, 300 N 1st Ave Sandpoint, ID 83864
Admission \$5 min. All ages are welcome. 54 min.

Event Contact:

Bruce Robertson, brobertson83864@gmail.com

About the Film:

In regattas across the US and abroad, visually impaired sailors learn not to fear what they cannot see. They sail by feel: sensing the breeze on a cheek or tension in the tiller, listening to the pattern of waves hitting the hull and sails luffing in the wind. Sighted guides describe the racecourse and give tactical race advice. On the water disability is no longer a focus.

Sense the Wind is a journey led by four blind sailors — Nancy, Inky, Philip and Matt — as they train and compete at the Blind Nationals and press toward Japan's Blind Sailing World Championships. It follows the evolution of these individuals over several years as they advance as sailors, through life's turns — medical challenges, marriage, retirement and the vicissitudes of their sport, still new and evolving. Over time they help shape the future of blind sailing.

The film provides a rich narrative content for viewers whether sighted, blind, vision impaired, disabled or for anyone in search of an inspiring story. It subtly challenges one to consider what is possible and to re-examine what disability means. A variety of international advisory partners and diverse community organizations are interested in screening the film. They include disability and

adaptive sports programs, libraries and educational institutions, and of course, sailing communities, as far as New Zealand as at home in Idaho.

Film Trailers

1 min Teaser <https://vimeo.com/66366307>

4 min Trailer <https://vimeo.com/58052894>

Photos will be sent upon request with photo credits.

Filmmaker Bio

Christine Knowlton, a Westchester resident completed her first feature, receiving a Humanitarian Award from the Socially Relevant Film Festival NY and has recently brought to Tokyo to present the film. She has created videos for nonprofit organizations, including the U.S. Disabled Sailing Championships and the Robie Pierce One-Design Regattas. Her award winning first short, *Going Blank: Alzheimer's Stories*, premiered at the Westchester Film Festival and played international festivals. *Sense The Wind* is her first feature documentary. Christine has also collaborated on experimental multimedia videos with international contemporary composers and produced successful multimedia events featuring dance, spoken word and video screened with live music performances.

In broadcast production Christine worked on the HBO hit *Bored to Death* and other network TV series and feature films. She was a selected filmmaker for the Celebrating Women Filmmakers Education Outreach at the Jacob Burns Film Center and taught video at the SUNY/WCC Summer Digital Labs. She was the Film Festival and Outreach Distribution Coordinator for the children of domestic violence documentary, *The Children Next Door*. Christine worked as an outreach advocacy consultant with CreativeFuture, an anti-piracy creative arts organization. She is a long-standing member of New York Women in Film and Television and is active on the Archives Committee project preserving stories of women.