



OFFICE OF MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL  
CITY OF CHICAGO

October 20, 2016

Dear Sustainability Leader:

This letter voices my continued support for One Earth Film Festival, the Midwest's premier environmental film festival, as it prepares for its 6th annual event on March 3-12, 2017.

Combining the arts and community engagement for social and environmental change, One Earth Film Festival employs the power of film, well-developed programming, and partnerships with dozens of local organizations, institutions, businesses, and municipalities – to raise awareness about sustainability challenges and solutions. It also provides citizens concrete pathways for taking environmental action through local, regional, and national environmental advocacy groups.

The only event of its kind and reach in the region, One Earth Film Festival has gathered more than 10,000 attendees since its launch in 2012. During its 2016 event, viewers from every part of the Chicago region and 4 states were counted among its audiences. Additionally, One Earth Film Festival enacts its mission for “Moving Planet, Moving People” through increased awareness of sustainability, climate change, and the power of people by collaborating with more than 150 partners and sponsors, and over 200 volunteers.

One Earth Film Festival includes screenings with partners throughout Chicagoland -- from Lincoln Park to Hyde Park, from West Town to Uptown, from Pilsen to Bronzeville – as well as in neighboring Lake County and DuPage County. It seeks to continue its trajectory of involvement as an environmental leader in the Chicagoland region.

One Earth Film Festival once again demonstrates its commitment to all seven topic areas in the city's Sustainable Chicago 2015 Action Plan, with the offerings planned for the March 2017 film program.

One Earth Film Festival has become a leader in bringing citizens, filmmakers, and local advocacy groups together in community -- in dialogue as well as action -- around a multitude of sustainability topics, in order to bring about concrete and measurable change. As such, the City of Chicago is pleased to express its continued support and to partner with the Festival once again.

Sincerely,

Chris Wheat  
Chief Sustainability Officer