

THE AFRICA CHANNEL

THE AFRICA CHANNEL to PRESENT INAUGURAL ZANZIBAR TV SERIES FESTIVAL 2018

April 3rd: The Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF) and DISCOP Zanzibar are proud to announce The Africa Channel, the largest broadcaster of Africa-themed content in North America, as the official sponsor of the inaugural TV Series Festival 2018.

ZIFF Festival Director Fabrizio Colombo said: "As the lines between TV, film and digital content blur, it is becoming more and more essential to recognize and promote the amazing work being done by TV producers and directors across Africa. Broadcast TV in Africa is still a rapidly expanding environment, and with the rest of the world eagerly looking to Africa for fresh and original content, platforms like The Africa Channel are ideally poised to share this content globally."

With some of Africa and the world's best known content producers and distributors on hand for ZIFF, taking place from the 7th – 15th July, and DISCOP Zanzibar, from the 11th – 13th, **The ZANZIBAR TV SERIES FESTIVAL presented by The Africa Channel** will be the official showcase for TV shows selected in competition for ZIFF.

Two days of competition screenings selected by the ZIFF Festival will screen from the 12th and 13th of July, and will be followed by a showcase day of screenings on the 14th where platforms such as The Africa Channel will highlight some of their newest and most exciting content.

Open to the public as well as industry guests, **The ZANZIBAR TV SERIES FESTIVAL presented by The Africa Channel** will celebrate excellence. The event strives to create a stage on which the foremost creators in the world of TV series come together, where tomorrow's talents are showcased and a prestigious international competition for a wide range of genres and for series of all shapes and forms is presented.

ZIFF's Colombo has spearheaded this vision of celebrating the TV content genre within the traditional film festival format. "Across the world TV content is now acknowledged for its quality production and importance for the industry," he said. "Here in Africa especially, many producers and directors get their start in TV production and it is a critical growth driver for the next generation of filmmakers. ZIFF is always innovating and looking to find ways to support the growth of the industry in Africa, and we are excited to partner with DISCOP and The Africa Channel in the important TV space."

Narendra Reddy, Executive Vice President & General Manager of The Africa Channel, said, "We are so proud to be the official sponsor of the inaugural Zanzibar TV Series Festival at this year's ZIFF event. The Africa Channel has been privileged to present content from and about Africa to North American audiences for over 10 years. Through our production arm TAC Studios, we have worked with amazing producers and talent from across Africa to help them create globally accessible content. This festival calls the world's attention to the incredible film and TV content coming out of Africa and is a fabulous opportunity for content creators from the continent to showcase their fine work and be recognized for their efforts."

DISCOP Market's General Manager Patrick Zuchowicki explains the rationale for this partnership: "We are proud to welcome The Africa Channel as the sponsor of the inaugural edition of The Zanzibar TV Series Festival. The Africa Channel is a veteran DISCOP delegate and a great supporter of the world's foremost creators of TV series".

During this year's ZIFF, the category for Best African TV Series will be open to any African produced or co-produced and broadcast within the last two years. Three episodes would need to be submitted for consideration via the on-line application process as below.

Deadline for submission has been EXTENDED to 15th April 2018.

Submission Procedures:

- All submission must be done through ZIFF platform on www.festhome.com (link is can be found on the website of the festival)
- A signed and fully completed application submitted by e-mail at filmdept@ziff.or.tz
- To be eligible for programming, the entire application MUST be completed and signed.
- The submission deadline is 15th April 2018.
- Freight costs of any film will be borne by the producer.
- Selection results will be available from May 15, 2018 on our Website: www.ziff.or.tz
- Any film at ZIFF may have five (5) public screenings at the most, including one press viewing. However, further screenings could be organized if the producer so agrees.
- No DVDs will be returned. They will be kept at ZIFF for archival purposes.
- ZIFF is committed to preserve the copy of film from any act of piracy and illicit business.

ZIFF

Ngome Kongwe (*Note: this is the physical Address*)

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ABOUT THE AFRICA CHANNEL (www.theafricachannel.com)

The Africa Channel and its production arm, TAC Studios, is a showcase for the African continent's most outstanding English-language television series, specials, documentaries, feature films, music, biographies and cultural and historical content. The channel's mission is to open up a daily window into modern African life and, in the process, help demystify Africa for viewers globally. The Africa Channel is based in Los Angeles and is available in approximately seven million homes in North America and the Caribbean on cable systems such as Comcast, Charter/Time Warner, Cox and the Caribbean Cable Cooperative. In

addition it's streaming subscription video-on-demand platform Demand Africa.com is available worldwide on the web, mobile and connected devices.