



Named One of *Time's* 2023 Women of the Year

## Activist Masih Alinejad Visits CSU and Shares ACT Film

By Adriana Avila McClintock and Emily Kilburg

Iranian-American journalist, author, and women's rights activist Masih Alinejad is scheduled to speak at Colorado State University on **Monday, April 3, 2023**. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Talk to begin at 5:30 p.m.

Recently named one of 12 women featured in *Time's* 2023 Women of the Year list, Alinejad was recognized for her significant global impact in activism and as a leader using her voice to fight for equality worldwide. Many women honored on the list face immense challenges that inspired them to push for change.

Alinejad is one of the pre-eminent voices of resistance against the Iranian regime. She has made waves on social media by protesting against the compulsory hijab, recording videos removing her own hijab, and spurring millions of her followers to do the same.

The "My Stealthy Freedom" campaign against compulsory hijab, began when she posted a picture of herself on Facebook running freely in the streets of London with her iconic billowing curls and a glowing smile. Little did she know, Alinejad would resonate with hundreds of women in Iran who wished to feel the freedom to have their hair in the wind.

In Iran, women who appear in public without a hijab risk being arrested, imprisoned, and fined. On the record as not being opposed to the hijab per se, Alinejad believes it should be a matter of personal choice and is a strong advocate for that choice and other civil liberties.

Her courage to use her voice against this oppressive regime hasn't been without its costs; Masih now lives in exile in New York and has had several targeted threats against her. Her bravery in continuing to speak out has made her a beacon of inspiration in the fight for freedom.



"My weapon is my voice," said Alinejad in an interview with MSNBC in January 2023. *The New York Times* describes Alinejad as "The woman whose hair frightens Iran." She used her life experiences to write a bestselling, widely acclaimed memoir, *The Wind in My Hair*. In it, she shares her extraordinary story about living in exile, leaving her country, challenging tradition, and sparking impactful change.

The lecture with Aliinejad is free and open to the public. Tickets are required for entry at [csutix.com](https://csutix.com). Several security measures will be implemented at this event to ensure safety for all.

Prohibited items include, but are not limited to:

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## Masih Alinejad Visit and ACT Film Screening (Cont.)

- Any bag of any size (purses, briefcases, fanny packs, cinch bags, or luggage of any kind)
- Computer bags and camera bags

Metal detectors will be in effect at all entrances. Alternative accommodations for screening will be provided to those who need them. Guests who refuse to screen will be denied entry. The metal detectors will be used by venue staff to detect security threats and prevent banned items from entering the facility. [This lecture will be available streaming live online.](#)

The ACT Human Rights Film Festival will also show Masih's film, 'Be My Voice' on Sunday, April 2 at the Lyric located at 1209 N. College Avenue in Fort Collins. Tickets are available at a discounted rate for CSU students, faculty and staff. ACT Human Rights Film Festival screens artistically excellent films from around the world and fosters conversations about social justice and human rights. Its mission is to (A)waken audiences to issues happening around the world, (C)onnect them to our film guests and each other in thoughtful conversations, and (T)ransform the ways in which audiences engage with people, communities, cultures, and ideas.



*These following organizations are proud to partner in this timely conversation — Asian Pacific American Cultural Center, Office for Inclusive Excellence, Office of International Programs, ASCSU, Ethnic Studies, Libraries, Journalism and Media Communication, University Marketing and Communications, Women and Gender Advocacy Center.*

**MASIH ALINEJAD**  
**MASIH ALINEJAD**  
**MASIH ALINEJAD**  
**MASIH ALINEJAD**

LSC GRAND BALLROOM

**APR 3**

DOORS: 4:30 PM  
 SPEECH: 5:30 PM  
 LIVE STREAM COL.ST/F8NQA

FREE ADMISSION  
 TICKETS REQUIRED  
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**NO BAGS ALLOWED  
 METAL DETECTOR  
 SCREENING ENFORCED**

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 ASCSU | Ethnic Studies | Libraries  
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**INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE**  
 COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

**INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**  
 COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN  
 CULTURAL CENTER  
 COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

## OIE House to be Named After Former VP Mary Ontiveros

The Office for Inclusive Excellence House will be renamed the Mary Ontiveros House in honor of Colorado State University’s first vice president for diversity and first Latina vice president. We invite our CSU community to the house on Wednesday, May 3, from 4 to 5 p.m. at 645 S. Shields in Fort Collins for a dedication ceremony and celebration.

Mary Renee Ontiveros, faculty emeritus, retired in December 2020 after over 50 years at Colorado State University. Mary arrived in the fall of 1969 from Pueblo, CO as a first generation college student, engaged and committed to social justice. Mary O loved CSU and her commitment to the university and the tangible changes she made to the institution continued when she transitioned from student to employee. She was part of the Project Go team, part of the team that brought the cultural and resource centers to Colorado State University.

Mary was part of the team behind the creation of our first generation scholarships, the First Generation University Initiative, the Alliance Partnership, the Native American Legacy Award, the Community for Excellence, the Principles of Community, and so much more.

Much of what defines Colorado State regarding diversity and access can be traced back to Mary O. Mary’s work is at the core of OIE and her memory always guide how we care for one another. Please join us to celebrate the naming of the Mary Ontiveros House and our future as a growing team.



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PROGRAM THEMES

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**SUSTAINABILITY**

**SUMMER 2024**  
**ROTATING THEME**

**FALL 2024**  
**ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE**

CONTACT

**ADVISING**  
Whitney.Ewing@colostate.edu

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TODOS SANTOS CENTER  
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ACT Human Rights Film Festival Returns March 29 — April 2

## Celebrating the Power of Film to Awaken and Transform

The eighth ACT Human Rights Film Festival returns to celebrate the power of film to bring human rights stories to life. From March 29 – April 2, ACT will present nineteen award-winning documentaries from five continents on campus and at The Lyric. Filmmakers from around the world will join to share their insights and connect with audiences.

Festival producer Greg Dickinson says “For the first time in several years, ACT will host more than a dozen filmmakers and film participants at the festival. Offering our audiences the chance to meet the people behind the films is a powerful way to add impact and insight to the stories the films tell. Welcoming these guests will enrich the festival, festival goers experience, and Fort Collins.”

The festival opens with a celebratory reception on Wednesday, March 29, starting at 5 p.m. in the Lory Student Center Theatre lobby. The reception will feature heavy appetizers and the 8th annual signature festival beer from Odell Brewing, ACT Screening Session Ale. This year’s opening night film *Subject* will begin at 6:15 p.m. in the Lory Student Center Theatre.

Hailed as must-see for anyone who enjoys

documentaries or non-fiction media, *Subject* explores the life-altering experience of sharing one’s life on screen through the participants of five acclaimed documentaries. As tens of millions of people watch documentaries in an unprecedented “golden era,” *Subject* urges audiences to consider the ethics in storytelling and the impact on documentary participants—the good, the bad, and the complicated.

Following the film, audience members can glean deeper insights from Susanne Reisenbichler, documentary film participant (*Subject* and *The Wolf Pack*, 2015), and from the film’s Impact and Outreach Producer, Stephanie Sunata.

CSU’s Student Leadership Involvement and Community Engagement office (SLiCE) is hosting a post-film facilitated discussion, including cookies, for those who wish to connect and talk more. In addition, SLiCE is sponsoring two free tickets for CSU Students to attend ACT. Students must book with their Rams email and use the discount code SLiCE23. Limited free, student tickets available and first come, first serve.

The festival continues Thursday, March 30 with a free, campus and community screening of the

DO YOU LIKE **MOVIES?**  
WHAT ABOUT **SOCIAL JUSTICE?**

8TH ANNUAL  
**act.**  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
FILM FESTIVAL

COMMUNICATION STUDIES  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

MARCH 29 – APRIL 2, 2023  
FORT COLLINS, COLORADO  
ACTFILMFEST.ORG

Discounted passes  
for faculty & staff

CSU student passes only \$40!

award-winning film [Into the Weeds: Dewayne “Lee” Johnson vs. Monsanto](#) in the Lory Student Center Theatre at 2:00 p.m. Snacks and film are provided free for all thanks to CSU’s Thematic Year, with an [RSVP here](#).

The post-film Q&A will feature film participant and mass tort attorney, Aimee Wagstaff, who was lead trial counsel in the federal Round Up trial resulting in an \$80 million dollar verdict.

On Thursday evening, ACT moves to The Lyric for the remaining 17 films shown throughout 12 film blocks. Of note, [Hidden Letters](#) will make its Colorado premiere and award-winning director Violet Du Feng will be joining the festival lineup of participating filmmakers. Friday’s impactful films and film guests include Executive Producer, Eric Nichols, from Oscar® Nominated short documentary [Stranger at the Gate](#), which screens alongside [The Art of Un-War](#). Director Maria Niro will join to discuss the artwork of anti-war artist Krzysztof Wodiczko revealed in [The Art of Un-War](#).

“This year’s film slate is unique and impactful,” says festival managing director Beth Seymour. “We have filmmakers from around the world converging in Fort Collins to screen some of the most relevant, complicated, and acclaimed films produced in the last year.”

Friday’s lineup includes the Colorado premiere of “Who She Is” directed by Jordan Dresser and Sophie Barksdale. Following the short film’s screening, the festival will host extended conversation around the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women epidemic in partnership with CSU’s [Native American Cultural Center](#) and [Fort Collins Museum of Discovery](#). The directors along with a film participant will join the facilitated discussion.

The festival continues through the weekend with films on Russian civil society, the war in Ukraine, LGBTQ+ topics, and nation-building and democracy in South Sudan. Festival goers can enjoy guest mingles, facilitated conversations, plus several livestream Q&As, and memorable conversations with in-person filmmakers and film guests. The complete lineup as well as festival passes and individual film tickets can be found on [ACT’s festival hub here](#).

ACT concludes Sunday, April 2, with the Colorado premiere of *Storming Caesar’s Palace* starting at 7:00 p.m. at The Lyric. The film chronicles the life of Ruby Duncan, an activist who fights the welfare

system and becomes a White House advisor. A real-life superhero, she takes on both the Nevada political establishment and organized crime in a valiant and resolute act of civil disobedience. The film’s director Hazel Gurland-Pooler and Ruby Duncan’s daughter, film participant Sondra Phillips-Gilbert are anticipated in-person guests. A dessert reception will follow the film at The Lyric featuring live music from CSU student musicians.

[The complete festival schedule](#) is posted on the ACT box office website, as are film descriptions and trailers. Purchase festival tickets (\$10+) in advance through the ACT website, [act2023.eventive.org](#). Tickets may also be purchased day of show, pending availability.

Passes offer the most flexibility, priority seating, and special perks to best experience the festival. In addition to all regular screenings, passholders receive entrance to opening and closing night films and receptions, and a film ticket voucher to bring a friend to one film.

ACT is produced by the Department of Communication Studies at Colorado State University with generous support from CSU partners, including the College of Liberal Arts; Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts program; CSU Thematic Year; Lilla B. Morgan Endowment; Office of Inclusive Excellence; Women and Philanthropy; Departments of Economics, Philosophy, Anthropology and Geography, Ethnic Studies, English, History, Political Science, Sociology; Languages, Literatures and Culture; School of Music Theater and Dance; Journalism and Media Communication; Libraries; Impact MBA; Art and Art History. CSU SPUR is contributing partner.

CSU employees can take advantage of the Commitment to Campus discount to receive 20% off a festival pass or 20% off any individual tickets. Log into the c2c site for the discount code.

CSU Students can redeem the SLiCe sponsored discount code SLiCE23 to receive two free tickets using their Rams email address, student IDs will be checked at the festival.

*Off-campus partners include the City of Fort Collins Fort Fund; Colorado Creative Industries; The Lyric; Eye Center of Northern Colorado; Bohemian Foundation; the Colorado Office of Film, TV, and Media; Odell Brewing; KUNC 91.5 FM; The Armstrong Hotel. Individual sponsors include Wendy Poppen, Jo Anne Busch, and The Spokespeople Fund.*

## Giving Gratitude to a Passionate Leader, Fierce Fighter Dora Frias Leaves Behind a Lasting Impact in SDPS

Inside El Centro, it's not uncommon to find food, laughter and *comunidad* (community) for Colorado State University's Latinx/é students, faculty, and staff. From platicas or talks to support services and special events promoting student engagement, academic success, and empowerment, Dora Frias has been the driving force behind the center as its director since 2020. Moreso, she has been a passionate leader who championed the Latinx/é, queer, trans, and undocumented communities at Colorado State University since 2017, when she began as the director of the Pride Center. While Dora will be leaving CSU to start a new chapter, her impact on CSU will be long-lasting.

Both El Centro and the Pride Center are cultural centers in the Office for Inclusive Excellence. The cultural and resource centers support student success and promote a sense of belonging for marginalized students through programming, education, and advocacy.

"Being the Director of El Centro is a position I've dreamt about since I was a graduate student in the CSU School of Education's Student Affairs in Higher Education Program," Dora said. "It has been a labor of love to serve in this capacity during a difficult time nationally and on campus. I am forever grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the CSU community this way."



**Central/South  
American &  
Caribbean  
Meet Ups**

Wednesday, February 1st  
Wednesday, March 8th  
Wednesday, April 12th  
@ 4:00-5:00pm

**IN PERSON @ EL CENTRO (LSC 225)**

This space is intended for students who identify as  
Central/South American and Caribbean.  
Join us in conversation!

 **EL CENTRO**  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dora approached the Pride Center and El Centro with the same drive and vision. She built each center up from a staff of one to a full-functioning team, putting students front and center at every step. Dora created the annual Borderlands event highlighting Queer Latinx experiences at the overlap between Latinx Heritage and LGTBQIA+ History Months, established the Leah Emergency Fund for queer and trans students, brought national award attention to El Centro's La Conexión mentoring program, and revived CSU's Safe Zone curriculum. Students and colleagues who have worked closely with Dora know she deeply loves and cares for her communities and that her vision, voice, and heart are always centered on students.

Inclusive Excellence Assistant Vice President Bridgette Johnson said, "Dora was my colleague when she was the director of Pride. I have witnessed her brilliance firsthand. She continuously encouraged students to define success for themselves and to take up space unapologetically on campus as they shared their stories. Dora always reminded us most of our mission to serve our marginalized students."



*El Centro Interim Director Aaron Escobedo Garmon begins his position on Monday, April 3.*

CSU's Queer Umbrella Presents

# QUEER PEERS

Resiliency Workshop

A peer-driven group to build queer and transgender resiliency

For CSU students

To apply, scan the code or email [queerumbrella@colostate.edu](mailto:queerumbrella@colostate.edu)

"I will always admire Dora's fierce dedication to students and ending systems of oppression," said OIE's Associate Vice President Shannon Archibeque-Engle. "Professionally, I have learned much from Dora, including the importance of how an event, a space feels. Last year's amazing SOMOS Latinx/é Graduation felt incredible. I credit Dora's leadership and the team in El Centro."

Aaron Escobedo Garmon will serve as the interim director in El Centro. Aaron has worked with CSU's Key Communities and Community for Excellence, where he improved campus life for students. His impact and collaborative approach will be instrumental in continuing El Centro's programs and daily operations.

"I hope students know I care about the center, the students, the student staff, the center's initiatives and la comunidad, and I am deeply committed to serving them in all the ways they need right now and moving forward," said Aaron, who is ready to be a supportive, trusted advocate for students.

Aaron will begin on Monday, April 3. The center will be open for students during normal operating hours thanks to our generous campus partners and student staff.

# SDPS End of Year Events

- April 20**      **Asian Pacific A Cultural Center**  
7 p.m.            APACC Award Ceremony  
LSC Ballroom D, Register by April 13
  
- April 28**      **Native American Cultural Center**
  
- April 29**      **Black African American Cultural Center**  
3 p.m.            LSC, Dinner
  
- May 1**         **Women and Gender Advocacy Center**  
*Invited Guests Only*
  
- May 4**         **Pride Center**  
5:30 p.m.        Lavender Graduation  
[RSVP Now](#)
  
- May 5**         **El Centro**  
6 - 9 p.m.        SOMOS Graduation



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**REGISTER TODAY**  
[csudemoday.org](https://csudemoday.org)



**APRIL 18, 2023**  
**12PM - 7PM**  
Lory Student Center Grand Ballroom  
Colorado State University

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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

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- COLLEGE TASSEL
- ALUMNI ASSOC. MEMBERSHIP



**DEADLINE TO ORDER:**  
*March 28*



# Inclusive Excellence Diversity Calendar Events

## MARCH

### Women's History Month

**March 21**

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Summer Session 2023 Registration Begins

**March 22 to April 21**

**Ramadan**

The start of Islam's sacred month — during this time Muslims abstain from eating and drinking from dawn until dusk

## APRIL

### Diversity Month

**April 2**

**World Autism Awareness Day**

Raises awareness for those with autism that seek to improve their lives and the acceptance of them in society

**April 3**

CSU Fall 2023 Registration Begins

**April 7**

**Good Friday**

A Christian holiday, which celebrates Jesus' resurrection

**April 7**

**Palm Sunday**

A Christian holiday, which celebrates Jesus in Jerusalem

**April 5 to April 13**

**Passover**

A Jewish festival that celebrates the freeing of Israeli slaves

**April 9**

**Easter**

A Christian holiday, which celebrates Jesus' resurrection

**April 22**

**Earth Day**

Earth Day is observed by more than 192 nations

## MAY

Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Jewish American Heritage Month

Mental Health Awareness Month

Older Americans Month

**May 5**

**Cinco de Mayo**

Mexican-American holiday that celebrates Mexico's defeat of the French Army

**May 10**

**Dia de la Madre**

Mother's Day (Mexico)

**May 12**

CSU Graduation Day



**May 14**

Mother's Day

**May 17**

International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia

**May 19**

**Malcolm X's Birthday**

Muslim minister and civil rights activist, who was assassinated in 1965

**May 26**

**Shavuot**

Jewish celebrates the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai as well as the grain harvest for the summer

**May 26**

**Buddha's Birthday**

Celebrates Buddha, who founded one of the world's most practiced faiths



### Inclusive Excellence in Athletics

#### Softball Games

March 31  
April 1  
April 2

#### Track & Field

April 28  
April 29

Everyone at CSU is  
Welcomed, Valued and Affirmed

## APACC Award Ceremony

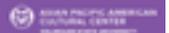
04.20.2023 @ 7.00PM

Join us in celebrating and honoring students and faculty achievements from the past academic year, as well as honoring our 2023 graduating seniors!

Where: LSC Ballroom D

Wear: Anything that will make you feel comfortable and confident!

RSVP by April 13th



### OIE Newsletter Submissions Due

First Tuesday of Each Month

We welcome submissions for any DEI/J events or initiatives from your units.

Email [adriana.mcclintock@colostate.edu](mailto:adriana.mcclintock@colostate.edu) for more info.

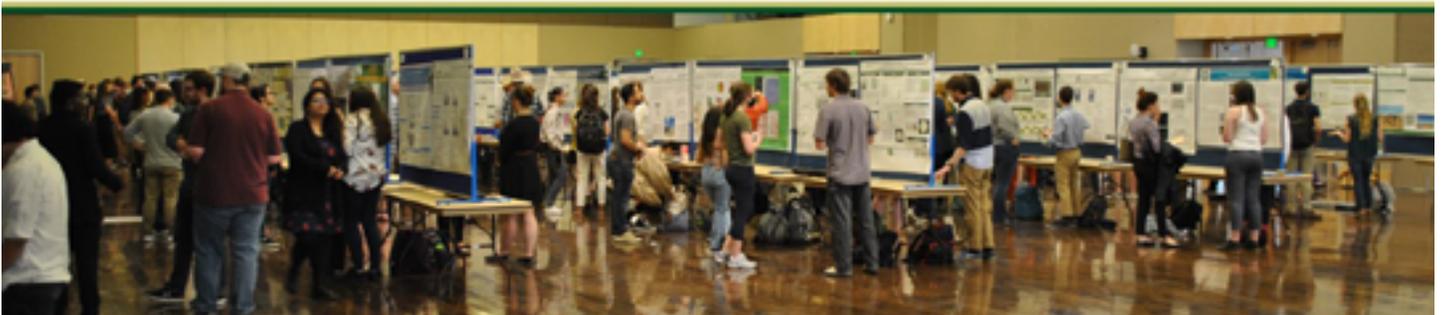


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2  
3

CELEBRATE UNDERGRADUATE  
RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY



More Info



## Thursday April 20, 2023

8am – 5pm

@ the University Center for the Arts

Register here

