

Discover Your Inner Nerd at Geekdom, Qatar's Largest Pop-Culture Event at the 9th Ajyal Film Festival

- *Diverse range of activities to delight the entire community with Geekdom Talks, video game tournaments, film screenings and Ajyal Tunes*
- *Unique experiences for people to share their passion for motion arts and visual storytelling*

Doha, Qatar; 1st November, 2021: Connect with your inner gaming, comic and music geek! Qatar's largest pop-culture extravaganza, Geekdom, is back with an array of fun-filled in person events to spark the curiosity of everyone's inner child at the ninth Ajyal Film Festival presented by the Doha Film Institute.

From Nov. 8 to 13, from 2 to 11 PM, free tickets for Geekdom can be reserved at www.dohafilminstitute.com/pages/geekdom for the amazing events at Sikkat Wadi Msheireb which will include video game tournaments, unmissable film screenings, performances by talented artists, fun karaoke and much more.

Fatma Hassan Alremaihi, Festival Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Doha Film Institute, said: "Geekdom perfectly embodies the spirit of our festival's theme this year, 'Press: Play!' It connects the community through our common love for fun and fantasy as a group. The beauty of Geekdom is its marvellous diversity of ages and cultures, where all generations celebrate their collective appreciation for integrating fun into technical and intellectual pursuits. Geekdom allows us to embrace our inner child with its pop-culture ethos to strengthen the social bonds of our community."

A unique community engagement platform that provides audiences passionate about art, film, video games, comic books, animation and television with an intimate space to express themselves and connect with other fans and experts from the region, Geekdom is one of the most anticipated events of the year.

Excitement awaits visitors at the Geekdom Tournaments with an incredible selection of titles – from Pokémon GO to the league of Legends, Super Smash Bros Ultimate, Guilty Gear Strive, FIFA22, Valorant, Street Fighter V and Tekken 7.

Geekdom Screenings include four classic Disney hits and two anime features. Watch ***Mulan*** (USAS/1998), directed by Barry Cook and Tony Bancroft on Nov. 8 at 4 PM, about a girl who lives under a patriarchal regime and impersonates a man to prevent her ailing father from being drafted into the Chinese military. ***The Lion King*** (USA/1994) will be screened on Nov. 9 at 4 PM, in Arabic. An all-time favourite directed by Roger Allers and Rob Minkoff, the film charts the adventures of young lion Simba.

Watch ***Beauty and the Beast*** (USA/1991) directed by Gary Trousdale and Kirk Wise, about a young prince and his castle's servants who fall under a wicked spell for his arrogance, on Nov. 10 at 4 PM, and ***Tarzan*** (USA, UK/1999) directed by Chris Buck and Kevin Lima, is about the orphaned boy who grows up in the wilderness of Africa and is raised by the gentle gorilla Kala, on Nov. 13 at 4 PM.

Screening at VOX Doha Festival City are fantastic anime features *Josee, the Tiger and the Fish* (Japan/2020) directed by Kotaro Tamura (Japan/2020) about Tsuneo, a university student with dreams of diving abroad. While out walking one day, he gets a job assisting Josee, an artist whose imagination takes her far beyond her wheelchair. The screenings are on Nov. 9 at 5.30 PM and on Nov. 13 at 2.30 PM. *Poupelle of Chimney Town* (Japan/2020) a stunning anime directed by Yusuke Hirota, is about young Lubicchi, who lives in Chimney Town, a place where the sky is eternally grey due to the countless smokestacks that billow out soot into the air. It will be screened on Nov. 12 and 13 at 5.30 PM.

Geekdom's Official Partners include: Virtuocity, Fnac, Sony, Talabat, Qatar FGC, PokemonGO Qatar, Kanpaki, Anime café, Qatar Motor & Motorcycle Federation, Museum of Illusion and Nakama.

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About Doha Film Institute:

Doha Film Institute is an independent, not-for-profit cultural organisation. It supports the growth of the local film community through cultivating film appreciation, enhancing industry knowledge and contributing to the development of sustainable creative industries in Qatar. The Institute's platforms include funding and production of local, regional and international films; skills-sharing and mentorship programmes; film screenings; the Ajyal Film Festival; and Qumra. With culture, community, learning and entertainment at its foundation, the Institute is committed to supporting Qatar's 2030 vision for the development of a knowledge-based economy.

Doha Film Institute:

Twitter: @DohaFilm; Instagram: @DohaFilm; Facebook: www.facebook.com/DohaFilmInstitute

About Ajyal Film Festival:

Ajyal Film Festival is an annual celebration of film designed to nurture young minds and support the development of mindful global citizens and thoughtful future leaders. 'Ajyal', Arabic for 'generations', brings people of all ages together through screenings and events that inspire creative interaction and stimulate cinematic dialogue.

Ajyal Film Festival builds on the Doha Film Institute's history of community-based programming. Through its jury programme, youth between the ages of 8 and 25 are given an opportunity to watch, analyse and discuss global cinema and culture, developing self-confidence, independent critical thinking skills, self-expression, and an appreciation of cinema, while making new friends and discovering global cultures.

Twitter: @AjyalFilm; Instagram: @AjyalFilm; Facebook: www.facebook.com/AjyalFilm

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