



NEWS RELEASE

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ACNM TO HOST FREE FILM FESTIVAL AND BIRTH SYMPOSIUM *Attendees Will Witness the Beauty of Birth and Discover Choices for Childbirth*

SILVER SPRING, MD – Three top birth films, filmmakers, and experts from the films will come together in a unique free film festival and birth symposium at the American College of Nurse-Midwives Women’s Health Expo at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston on May 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. As part of ACNM’s first Women’s Health Expo, the film festival will provide women and their families with an interactive health and educational experience. The screenings will be followed by panel discussions with the filmmakers and experts from the films, including director Abby Epstein from Ricki Lake’s new documentary *The Business of Being Born*.

“Each of these films is inspiring and thought-provoking,” says Lorrie Kline Kaplan, executive director of ACNM. “But this is more than just a film festival. This is a unique opportunity to consider choices in childbirth, and discuss the culture of birth in this country with health experts, filmmakers, and women who have experienced birth.”

ACNM invites the public to witness the beauty of birth and discover choices for childbirth in three recently-released films:

- ❖ ***Born in the USA*, screening time 10:00 a.m.** – Three birth caregivers compare and contrast their approaches to childbirth. Get an insider’s view of a practicing obstetrician, licensed midwife, and certified nurse-midwife.
- ❖ ***It’s My Body, My Baby, My Birth*, screening time 11:30 p.m.** – Follow seven mothers and their partners through the emotional journey of natural birth.
- ❖ ***The Business of Being Born*, screening time 12:30 p.m.** – Executive Producer Ricki Lake and Director Abby Epstein question the way women give birth in America using scientific insights and shocking facts about U.S. maternity care.

In conjunction with the free film festival and birth symposium, participants can visit the Women’s Health Expo for free health screenings, a healthy living theater, book signings, “Ask Me” booths staffed by women’s health experts, and over 100 vendors showcasing the latest women’s health products and services. To learn more details about the film festival and the Women’s Health Expo, visit www.midwife.org/AM/women_health_expo.cfm.

Film seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The film festival is sponsored by Brigham and Women’s Hospital. Our Bodies, Ourselves and the

Massachusetts Friends of Midwives are partners in this event.

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For more information, please contact Rebecca Jacob, ACNM Communications Manager at (240) 485-1822 or via email at rjacob@acnm.org.

With roots dating to 1929, the American College of Nurse-Midwives is the oldest women's health care association in the U.S. ACNM's mission is to promote the health and well-being of women and newborns within their families and communities through the development and support of the profession of midwifery as practiced by certified nurse-midwives and certified midwives. Midwives believe every individual has the right to safe, satisfying health care with respect for human dignity and cultural variations. More information about ACNM can be found at www.midwife.org.

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