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## **THE AMERICAN FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL TO HOST 3000 STUDENTS FROM ACROSS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AS PART OF ITS 2022 HIGH SCHOOL SCREENINGS EVENT**

**This Year's Feature Film is *Two of a Kind* and will Include a Special Live Q&A Session with Filmmaker Wilfried Méance and Actor Bertrand Usclat Following Each Screening**

**Los Angeles, California – August 31, 2022** – [The American French Film Festival](#) (TAFFF) will continue its tradition of hosting students from across Southern California for a very special film premiere and discussion. [The High School Screenings Program](#) - now in its 15th year - will take place over a five-day period, beginning October 10 at the DGA Theater Complex in Los Angeles. The program, which is sponsored by ELMA (European Languages & Movies in America) will have 3000 students from 70 schools participating.

This year's High School Screenings Program feature selection will be ***Two of a Kind / Jumeaux Mais Pas Trop***, which is directed by Olivier Ducray and Wilfried Méance and stars Ahmed Sylla, Bertrand Usclat, Pauline Clement and Gerard Jugnot.

***Two of a Kind*** is the story of Anthony Girard, a struggling handyman who lives in a working-class housing project and learns he has a twin brother: Grégoire Beaulieu, a politician running for public office. Spoiled rich kid Grégoire has studied at Berkeley and Oxford. To everyone's great surprise, the two young men, who couldn't possibly be more different, turn out to have identical DNA profiles. In fact, they're twins! No one is more surprised by that news than the twins themselves. Even more remarkable is the fact that Anthony is black and Grégoire is white. It's a genetic phenomenon with a one-in-a-million chance of occurring. Once they get past the initial shock, how can they begin to deal with such a situation? ***Two of a Kind*** and its two engaging leads take that high-concept premise, breathe life into it and take us on an amusing, and ultimately quite moving, ride: one that actually leads to becoming a true family.

The screenings of ***Two of a Kind*** will be followed by a question and answer session with director Wilfried Méance and actor Bertrand Usclat. The film experience also comes with a curriculum developed by the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) for all the students.

"After more than two years of isolation, we are so happy to celebrate French cinema, community, imagination and creativity in person with our high schoolers. ***Two of a Kind*** is a robust comedy and it will be so wonderfully cathartic to hear the joined laughter of young

people again. The film reflects the core of what The American French Film Festival's High School Screenings program is: connection and a way for students from all backgrounds to intermingle with other students from across Southern California. The program is free to attend thanks to our educational partner ELMA," said Anouchka van Riel, Deputy Director, The American French Film Festival.

"One of the founding principles of the High School Screenings Program was not only to expose students to foreign cinema early in their young lives, but to open up their minds to ideas, people, and cultures outside their limited experiences. Many of the participants – over 30,000 in the last 15 years - are French students but this program is so much more than a language lesson," said Pascal Ladreyt, Founder, ELMA. "We are so pleased to work with The American French Film Festival again this year and find it especially gratifying as even more students will be able to participate in person."

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### **The American French Film Festival**

The American French Film Festival (formerly known as COLCOA French Film Festival) was created and is produced by the Franco-American Cultural Fund, a unique collaboration between the Directors Guild of America (DGA), the Motion Picture Association (MPA), France's Society of Authors, Composers and Publishers of Music (SACEM) and the Writers Guild of America West (WGAW). The American French Film Festival is also supported by Unifrance, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France's Society of Authors, Directors and Producers (l'ARP), Air Tahiti Nui, L'Oréal, TV5 Monde/Sling and Variety. The American French Film Festival Education Program is presented in partnership with ELMA.

**For additional information visit :** [www.theamericanfrenchfilmfestival.org](http://www.theamericanfrenchfilmfestival.org)

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