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FOR THE LOVE OF RUTLAND PREMIERES ON AMERICA REFRAMED

Jennifer Maytorena Taylor's new documentary exploring culture, class and community in America will air on WORLD Channel on March 3

BOSTON (February 14, 2022) — [America ReFramed](#), the Peabody Award-winning documentary series coproduced by [WORLD Channel](#) and [American Documentary \(AmDoc\)](#), takes viewers to scenic New England where a battle rages over refugee resettlement in Jennifer Maytorena Taylor's *For the Love of Rutland*. As passions heat up nationally over race, economics and immigration in 2016, the film captures the fallout in the blue-collar town of Rutland, Vermont, where residents grapple with the resettlement of Syrian refugees while facing the devastation of a stagnating local economy and a growing opioid crisis. The film will have its national broadcast premiere on WORLD Channel on Thursday, March 3, at 8 p.m. EST (7 p.m. CT/9 p.m. PT) and will stream on worldchannel.org and other platforms.

An intimate, vérité-style documentary, *For the Love of Rutland* explores issues affecting communities across the nation in the microcosm of one small Vermont town. As tensions over the attempt to relocate Syrian refugees to the predominantly white town of Rutland grow, cultural, racial and political divides deepen amongst the town's citizens. Despite a lifetime of feeling invalidated and shamed for her poverty and addiction, Stacie, a long-time Rutland resident, emerges as an unexpected and resilient leader. As she works to maintain her sobriety and struggles to provide for her family, her own evolution allows her to see parallels between her life and those of the newcomers to Rutland.

A filmmaker of Mexican and Anglo descent, Taylor — whose credits include *New Muslim Cool* (POV 2009) and *Paulina* (Sundance Channel 2000) — moved to Rutland from Southern California as an elementary school student. She drew on her own perspectives as a one-time newcomer in making this film about people who are considered outsiders. "Although it's been more than 35 years since I lived in the Rutland area, I have always wanted to tell a story about small town life from the perspective of someone who's felt pushed aside and squashed by the harsh class dynamics that are the sort of underbelly of an otherwise beautiful place, that confounding duality of kindness and cruelty."

For The Love of Rutland had its world premiere at the 2020 Hot Docs International Film Festival, where it was named one of Indiewire's "10 Most Exciting Films" and one of 2020's "Best 10 Documentaries" by POV magazine.

"We are happy to have this film join the *America ReFramed* family of documentaries. It is a pivotal exploration of how communities across our country continually change and adapt, as do the residents within them when they are allowed the grace to learn and grow from their mistakes," said **Chris Hastings**, executive producer/managing editor of WORLD Channel at GBH in Boston.

"This is the quintessential *America ReFramed* film, offering a glimpse of the 'other America' while opening viewers' hearts and minds in unexpected ways," said Chris White, executive producer for the

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series at the New York-based nonprofit American Documentary. “We were first introduced to Jennifer’s style of compassionate storytelling with *New Muslim Cool* on *POV* and are proud to present her latest film as part of this special tenth season.”

The film is a co-presentation of Vermont PBS’ curated film series, *Made Here*, which showcases the best locally-based content from Vermont, Montréal, Upstate New York and Northern New England. In addition to the broadcast on WORLD Channel, the film will begin streaming on March 3 on worldchannel.org, WORLD Channel’s YouTube Channel and on all station-branded PBS platforms, including PBS.org and the PBS Video app, available on iOS, Android, Roku streaming devices, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO. For more information, visit www.WORLDchannel.org.

About *America ReFramed*:

America ReFramed centers the stories of those who are often pushed to the sidelines of the country’s narrative. The series has been nominated for duPont-Columbia, International Documentary Association and News & Documentary Emmy Awards. An essential platform for diverse artists and audiences, the series is the recipient of the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award, and has been honored by the Gracie Awards, Imagen Awards, Kaleidoscope Awards, Asian American Journalists Association, Native American Journalists Association, The Association of LGBTQ Journalists and the National Association of Black Journalists.

About American Documentary, Inc.:

[American Documentary, Inc.](http://www.AmericanDocumentary.org) (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Additional funding for *America ReFramed* is provided by the Open Society Foundations, Reva and David Logan Foundation, Acton Family Giving, Park Foundation and Perspective Fund.

About WORLD Channel:

WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries and programming. WORLD’s original series examine the issues and amplify the voices of those often ignored by mainstream media. The multicast 24/7 channel helps audiences understand conflicts, movements and cultures from around the globe. Its original work has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, a National News and Documentary Emmy Award, two Webby Awards and many others honoring diversity of content and makers. WORLD is carried by 195 member stations in markets representing 75.1% of US TV households. Funding for WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Wyncote Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts and Artworks. WORLD is produced by GBH in partnership with WNET and is distributed by American Public Television (APT). Find out more at WORLDChannel.org.

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