



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Leading Latino Filmmaker to Attend Centro Hispano Screening

MADISON, Wis. – Sundance award-winning filmmaker Alex Rivera will speak at a screening party for his film *Papapapá* at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5, at Centro Hispano, 810 W. Badger Road. The event also features short films by Madison youths that were edited by Rivera.

Centro Hispano is participating in the *Tales from Planet Earth* film festival as a community partner, with hopes of linking its constituency to the Madison community. The films produced at Centro Hispano were crafted by Madison youths in an attempt to portray the Latino experience in America. As part of the project, Centro Hispano invited Rivera to share his stories.

Rivera has spent a large portion of his life dealing with the impact of immigration. As the child of Peruvian and Irish immigrants, he brings a unique perspective to the plights and triumphs of immigrants. In his film “Papapapá” he compares the travels of a Peruvian potato with the immigration of his father.

Inspired by Rivera’s work, youth at Centro Hispano have been given the opportunity to share their experiences. Working with students from the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at UW-Madison, which organized *Tales from Planet Earth*, the youth were invited to tell their immigration stories in their own words. Their films, featuring family photographs and life experiences, were edited together by Rivera and made into a short film. This film, in addition to Rivera’s other films, will also be presented at the *Tales from Planet Earth* film festival.

Jessica Halpern, a UW-Madison student involved with *the Tales from Planet Earth* project at Central Hispano, has high hopes for the collaboration.

“We hope that the films screened at the *Tales from Planet Earth* festival will foster a new level of dialogue and have a long-term impact on the community and the youth involved,”

Halpern said. She and her classmates also expressed hope for future mentoring programs with Central Hispano.

Tales from Planet Earth, to be held Nov. 6-8 at several venues in downtown Madison, will showcase about 50 films from around the world. For details: TalesFromPlanetEarth.com.

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If you come: Pre-Screening Party at Centro Hispano

810 W. Badger Road, Madison

5:30 P.M. November 5th

Food and drink provided by Taqueria Guadalajara. Music provided by local quartet Sonidos Suaves. Admission is free.