



EMPOWER WOMEN MEDIA AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM & BUSINESS FOUNDATION



2021 FILM COMPETITION AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT



Empower Women Media (EWM) and the **Religious Freedom & Business Foundation (RFBF)** are pleased to announce the winners of the 2021 Religious Freedom Film Competition. The goal of the competition is to challenge filmmakers around the world to produce short films that showcase how inclusivity and multi-faith living in the workplace lead to innovation and thriving communities. The winning films are screened among world-class business and NGO leaders to help advance religious freedom and women's empowerment worldwide.

Grand Prize: *She Makes Everything Beautiful* (\$3,500)

Wagma Feroz (Pakistan)

A multi-faith salon in Swat, Pakistan dares to overcome cultural and religious divides to make all things beautiful.



1st Runner Up: *A Taste of Freedom* (\$1,000)

Terri Marie (USA) & Meshair Jirdeh (France/Saudi Arabia)

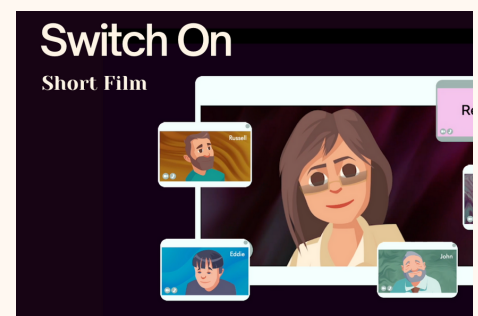
A young Muslim woman seeks religious freedom and travels to a new land. On her journey, she meets the love of her life, a chef, and they build a new restaurant business together.



2nd Runner Up: *Switch On* (\$500)

Yamini Ravindran (Sri Lanka)

A talented corporate woman faces a dilemma at work, when pursuing a business opportunity may expose her to religious discrimination.



Presidential Global Challenge Award: *A Call to Lead* by Machiko Sato (Japan)

Inclusivity Award: *Camp C414* by Aasra Mansour & Mohammed Abd Alamir (Iraq),

Pathways to Peace by Sana Zahid (Pakistan)

Honorable Mentions: *Asha* (Hope) by Arpudhamani (India), *We Are One* by Jennifer Pinto (India), *Drawing the Soul of a Woman* by Carla Salloum (Lebanon), *We* by Ahmar & Mariam Rehman (Pakistan), *Women Ablaze* by Alicia Crum (US), *Change Begins with Us* by Nivedita Devraj (India), *Afghanistan Fire Fighter Ladies* by Lina Qurbanzadz (Afghanistan), and *Treasure in Jars of Clay* by Abisha Manoj Kumar (India).

TO VIEW THE FILMS, VISIT EMPOWER WOMEN MEDIA ON YOUTUBE, WWW.EMPOWERWOMEN.MEDIA OR CONTACT SHIRIN@VISUALSTORY.ORG