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JACOB WETTERLING DOC 'ECHOES IN THE NIGHT' LAUNCHES DULUTH ENGAGEMENT WITH SPECIAL EVENT SCREENING

*After national spotlight from '**20/20'** episode and a robust limited release across MN*

DULUTH, Minn. — October 15, 2026 — The documentary *Echoes in the Night: The Search for Jacob Wetterling* will expand its regional theatrical run with a two-week engagement at the Zeitgeist Zinema 2 in Duluth, beginning on Oct 23.

The film's producers and the Zinema 2 are partnering with local non-profit First Witness Child Advocacy Center to celebrate the film's Duluth launch with a special event screening at 4pm on Saturday, Oct 24, featuring a post-film panel and Q&A.

"The legacy of the Wetterling family and their love for their son have kept us motivated during the ten years needed to tell the story in *Echoes in the Night,*" said director Chris Newberry. "We're so proud to finally be able to share the deepest account of what happened not only to a family but to a community. It was incredibly lucky that we started filming just as the perpetrator responsible for Jacob's abduction was apprehended, and it's a real privilege to have the Wetterling family embrace the film as we share how their work made the world a safer place for the next generation of children."

Excerpts from *Echoes in the Night* found a national audience as ABC's flagship investigative series *20/20* devoted a two-hour episode to the Jacob Wetterling story in July. The broadcast revisited the case with new insights, and featured an interview with Newberry. It is now available to stream on Hulu and Disney+.

Despite the film's humble origins, several factors such as broad interest in the Wetterling story, strong reviews, and great word-of-mouth have propelled *Echoes in the Night* through a thirteen-week regional release. The film has reached 48 screens across Minnesota and neighboring states. The run has featured engagements extended by popular demand and several sold-out screenings.

The documentary will run at the Zinema 2 from Oct 23 through Nov 5, but the special event screening the afternoon of Oct 24 will be a unique experience, as the audience will hear about the making of the film directly from Newberry, and hear how some of the issues and themes presented in the film are playing out in the Duluth area. The event will also serve as a fundraiser for First Witness, with a portion of ticket sales going to fund the important work being done in the local community.

First Witness Child Advocacy Center and their dedicated partners work every day to strengthen the community's prevention and response to child safety. Together with their partners, First Witness provides a community-based multidisciplinary approach to this work with local law child protection services, law enforcement, local schools and community agencies, churches, county attorney's offices, hospitals and mental health agencies.

“First Witness is honored to work with the producers of *Echoes in the Night: The Search for Jacob Wetterling* and Zinema 2 to host this community event,” said Tracie Clanaugh, Executive Director of First Witness. “Everyone has a role to play in keeping our children safe from harm. We look forward to a community viewing of *Echoes in the Night* and the post-film discussion.”

Joining Newberry on Oct 24 as part of the post-film panel will be Eric Sathers, Coordinator of St. Louis County Child Abduction Response Team; Gracie Getschel, First Witness Prevention Education and Advocacy Manager and Facilitator of our local Child Abuse Prevention Coalition; and Amy Voss, Carlton County Assistant County Attorney.

More information about the film’s engagement at the Zinema 2, including showtimes and tickets, can be found here.

Tickets for the Oct 24 special event screening can be purchased here.

Minneapolis-based filmmaker Chris Newberry is an acclaimed documentary director whose work has aired on two acclaimed PBS series, *America ReFramed* and *Independent Lens,* as well as several national and international television networks. A 2014 regional Emmy Award winner, his first feature-length documentary, *American Heart*, took home six film festival prizes and made its nationwide broadcast debut in 2015 on the PBS World Channel. His follow-up as director, *Trusted Messenger*, was translated into multiple languages and aired internationally on the Al Jazeera Documentary Channel. His feature as producer and cinematographer, Norah Shapiro’s *Time For Ilhan*, premiered at the 2018 Tribeca Film Festival and earned an NAACP Image Award nomination, among other accolades.

To see a trailer, and learn more about *Echoes in the Night: The Search for Jacob Wetterling*, visit: https://www.jacobwetterlingfilm.com/

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