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Contact: Margaret Murphy, Hull Bay Productions
Phone: 857-209-4774
Email: hullbayproductions@gmail.com

MORE THAN OUR SKIN Premieres this February 22, 2024, at Fitchburg State University!

Leominster, MA — February 7, 2024 — *More Than Our Skin* places as a finalist in this year's New York International Film Awards! Finalists!

The award-winning documentary is set to have its first film premiere at Fitchburg State University on Thursday, February 22, 2024! Scheduled to appear are cast members Millicent Meadows, Valarie Molyneaux, Patricia Rossy, Dr. John Harris of the UMass Chan Medical School, as well as State Representative Rob Consalvo and Fitchburg Mayor Samantha Squallia.

More Than Our Skin, the highly anticipated documentary focusing on five women living with the autoimmune disease Vitiligo, has already earned a Bronze Anthem Award for Outstanding Special Project, A Communicator Award of Excellence, and a Silver Davey Award.

The film explores the depths and effects of living with Vitiligo through the stories of Katrina, Millicent Valarie, Patricia, and Alicia. Vitiligo is an auto-immune disease in which the skin loses its pigment cells resulting in discolored patches throughout the body, leaving to experiences of depression, social stigmatization, and isolation. This film tells the story of these women who found strength after the pain; a newfound resilience; and the mission to help others find a way to live life to the fullest.

Three-time Emmy-award winner, and seven-time Emmy-award nominee Tonia Magras is the Producer and Director of *More Than Our Skin*. Gregory Magras, her husband, and production partner serves as Executive Producer. Tonia has over three decades of production and film experience, beginning with her 25-year career at PBS' flagship station, WGBH Boston.

In 2015, Gregory and Tonia launched Hull Bay Productions where they oversee projects and content development for several initiatives including the multi-award-winning podcast, *The PowerPLAY Show*, and their upcoming narrative film, *do you remember me?*, which has already garnered two prestigious awards: The 2022 LaCoy Production Fund, and quarterfinalist in the Scriptation Showcase.

This is Hull Bay's second feature documentary. In 2017, *100 Years, 100 Voices of Faith*, premiered at the prestigious Roxbury International Film Festival where it appeared in their documentary category.

“I am beyond thrilled to share this powerful story with audiences around the globe,” says Tonia. “The culmination of three years of compiling this story has been some of the most rewarding work of my life, and I know that it will change hearts and minds when it comes to how we see and treat each other.”

Hull Bay Productions will be scheduling additional screenings throughout the year and is in talks with WGBH’s WORLD Channel about possible distribution.

“We are working on screenings in Minnesota, North Carolina, New York, Connecticut, Florida and Boston, and have already submitted More Than Our Skin to several film festivals throughout the country.”

More Than Our Skin has been awarded two grants from the Incyte Corporation, totaling \$25,000. Other grants were provided by the Abundant Life Church in Cambridge, MA and VITFriends, a patient advocacy group that encourages, educates, and empowers those within the Vitiligo community.

For more information, please visit morethanourskin.org!
