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August Edition of "Cinematic Sisterhood" Spotlights Family, Culture, and Identity with Special Screening of *The Queen of My Dreams*

Curated by Milwaukee Film and funded by a special grant from the Women's Fund, the "Cinematic Sisterhood" series began in July and continues through January 2026



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MILWAUKEE – Monday, August 4th – Last month, Milwaukee Film and the <u>Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee</u> launched their new collaborative series Cinematic Sisterhood, a monthly program of films centered around women's stories as told by real women.

Cinematic Sisterhood, made possible by a grant from the Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee, continues the weekend of August 23rd, with a screening of festival audience favorite <u>The Queen of My Dreams</u> (MFF24 Centerpiece) with director Fawzia Mirza and producer Andria Wilson-Mirza in attendance to participate in an extended talkback about the film's production

and telling personal stories of family and culture with heart and passion. Doors will open at 6:30 for networking prior to the screening at 7 PM. Just last month, *The Hollywood Reporter* announced that <u>Fawzia Mirza was tapped to direct</u> the Mindy Kaling-produced feature film *Hana Khan Carries On*, adapted from Uzma Jalaluddin's 2021 novel.

"We're thrilled to bring Queen of my Dreams to Milwaukee audiences with director Fawzia Mirza and producer Andria Wilson-Mirza in attendance to discuss their process of bringing this film to life," expressed Milwaukee Film's Executive Director Susan Kerns. "The film's innovative use of a love of Bollywood films to explore the generational gaps between a mother and daughter is cinematically groundbreaking, emotionally touching, and a lot of fun. Fans of *The Sex Lives of College Girls* also will enjoy seeing Amrit Kaur in her first starring feature film role," she said.

The film follows Azra, who is worlds apart from her conservative Muslim mother. When her father suddenly dies on a trip home to Pakistan, Azra finds herself on a Bollywood-inspired journey through memories, both real and imagined, from her mother's youth in Karachi to her own coming-of-age in rural Canada. From MFF alum Fawzia Mirza (*Auntie*, *Noor and Layla*), *The Queen of My Dreams* is a touching dramedy exploring intergenerational connections between mothers and daughters, East and West, home and away.

Susan Kerns continued, "Filmmakers often tell us that Milwaukee Film attendees ask the most insightful questions, so sharing this film with such a passionate audience is guaranteed to make for a vibrant evening full of creative energy, and a perfect place to connect people with one another."

Events in this series will continue through January 2026, with an event occurring during Milwaukee Film's Dialogues Documentary Festival (September 18-21) and a tribute event featuring a luminary woman director as well.

Possible Press Conversation Themes:

- Film production
- Family histories
- Exploring personal culture

All Tickets and showtimes can be found online at mkefilm.org/comingsoon.

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About Milwaukee Film

Milwaukee Film is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to entertaining, educating, and engaging our community through cinematic experiences, with a vision to make Milwaukee a center for film culture. Milwaukee Film is committed to high-quality and accessible film programming through their operation of the magnificent Oriental Theatre, a historic cinema palace, and the iconic Downer Theatre, Milwaukee's oldest running cinema. The second Dialogues Documentary Festival presented by Potawatomi Casino Hotel will take place

September 18-21, 2025. The 18th annual <u>Milwaukee Film Festival</u> will take place April 16-30, 2026. For more information or to become a Member, visit mkefilm.org.

Milwaukee Film Board of Directors: mkefilm.org/board

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About The Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee

The Women's Fund is activating philanthropy that fosters unity for gender equity and stands at the forefront of the women's movement locally. Founded in 1986, and established as an independent organization in 2006, we are focused on protecting rights, removing obstacles, and creating ripples of change. We challenge the status quo through advocacy and policy work, relevant programming, strategic grant making and scholarship awards.

Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee Board of Directors: <u>womensfundmke.org/bod/</u> Facebook: <u>facebook.com/womensfundmke</u> | Instagram: <u>@womensfundmke</u>