

Service-Learning and Political Engagement Project to Screen 'Limited Partnership' Film

Documentary to be Screened May 1 in Galloway, May 4 in Manahawkin

For Immediate Release

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Galloway Township, NJ – Stockton University's Office of Service-Learning and Political Engagement Project will host two screenings of the documentary film, "Limited Partnership," which celebrates the 40-year love story of one of the first gay couples to marry and their decades-long fight for legal status.

The first screening will be held on **Friday**, **May 1 at 12:45 p.m.** in room F-204 on the main campus in Galloway. Another screening will be held on **Monday**, **May 4 at 3 p.m.** in MIS 1 at the Manahawkin Instructional Site located at 712 E. Bay Ave. in Manahawkin.

"Limited Partnership" will premiere Monday, June 15 on Independent Lens Television, an Emmy Award-winning weekly series airing on PBS Monday nights at 10 p.m. The acclaimed series features documentaries united by the creative freedom, artistic achievement, and unflinching visions of independent filmmakers.

The documentary chronicles the 40-year love story between Filipino-American Richard Adams and his Australian husband, Tony Sullivan.

In 1975, thanks to a courageous county clerk in Boulder, Colo., Richard and Tony were one of the first same-sex couples to be legally married in the world. Richard immediately filed for a green card for Tony based on their marriage. But unlike most heterosexual married couples who easily obtain legal status for their spouses, Richard received a denial letter from the Immigration and Naturalization Service stating, "You have failed to establish that a bona fide marital relationship can exist between two [expletive deleted]."

Outraged at the tone, tenor and politics of the letter, and to prevent Tony's impending deportation, the couple decided to sue the U.S. government, initiating the first federal lawsuit seeking equal treatment for a same-sex marriage in U.S. history. -more-

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During a lifetime filled with health issues, money woes and legal challenges, Richard and Tony never wavered in their love, lost their senses of humor, or gave up their quest for justice. Their personal trajectory parallels the history of the LGBT movement from their meeting in 1971, through the Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality in 2013.

A poignant love story, "Limited Partnership" celebrates Richard and Tony's long path as they redefined traditional concepts of "spouse" and "family."

The event is free and open to the public. Please RSVP by emailing <u>servlearn@stockton.edu</u>.

For more information on the film, visit the "Limited Partnership" companion website (<u>http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/limitedpartnership/</u>) which features an interview with the filmmaker, preview clips, and more.

For more information on the Office of Service-Learning's upcoming events, visit <u>www.stockton.edu/servicelearning</u>.

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