

'Blinded by the Light'

Free movie night at the Co-Ed Cinema

By Chloe McGee
Arts & Life Editor

On Friday, Aug. 30, BC students attended a free movie night held at the Co-Ed Cinema in downtown Brevard to view the British comedy-drama "Blinded by the Light."

"Blinded by the Light" premiered at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and was released by New Line Cinema and Warner Bros. on August 16 in the United States.

Inspired by true events, the plot alludes to the life of Pakistani journalist Sarfraz Manzoor and his love for Bruce Springsteen. The film's main character, Javed Khan—played by actor Viveik Kaira—seems to embody the same rock-loving spirit of Manzoor.

The director Gurinder Chadha wrote the script with help from Manzoor himself and her husband Paul Mayeda-Burges.

The film "showcases Springsteen's music as the driving force in the life of a 1980s teenager," said Glenn Kenny of the New York Times. "Many musicians refer to themselves as storytellers, but few of them have the tales to back up the claim. Bruce Springsteen does," Kenny said.

"Blinded by the Light" borrows its title

from the name of a song written and recorded by Springsteen that first appeared on his debut album in 1972.

The film takes place in the London suburb of Luton, England during the year 1987 after Khan and his family relocated from Pakistan to flee from Russian oppression.

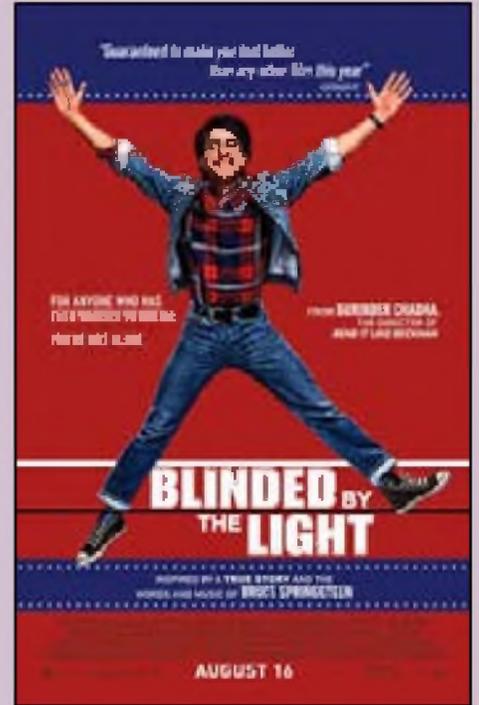
As Khan is one of only two Asian students at his new school, he feels isolated and experiences racism from his peers and neighbors, but finds solace through his newfound love for Springsteen.

In Khan's mind, Springsteen does not simply write lyrics, rather, he produces anthems to live by.

Through music, Khan finds clarity and develops his own support system of friends and teachers who accept Khan for who he is despite the color of his skin.

"Cynics won't thrill to this feel-good movie based on a true story, but the uplift is there for those who need a rebuke to racism," said Peter Travers of Rolling Stone Magazine.

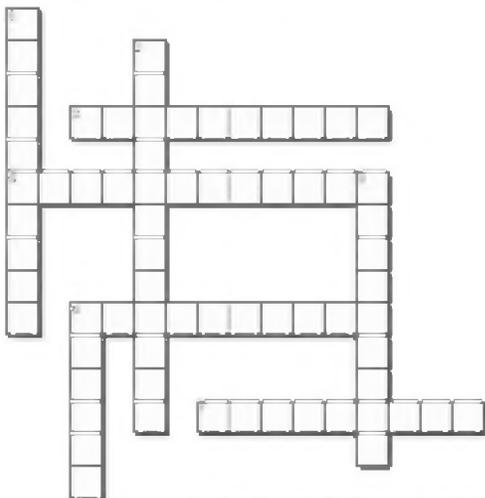
The film received favorable reviews from critics, as well as nominations for Best Actor (for Kaira) and Best Film at the 2019 SIFF Awards.



Crossword puzzle!

WNC Waterfalls

Test your waterfall wisdom by completing the crossword below. Answers will be provided in the next issue of The Clarion.



Across

3. Paddlers love the stuff
4. 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the...'
6. A slow reptile's spine
7. A short hike brings you to this 50 ft. waterfall in Pisgah National Forest, where you can spend some time in the shade.

Down

1. Clothing worn to a wedding by the woman in white
2. With long lines in the summertime, a trip to this place is best followed by a dose of Dolly's ice cream.
5. Watch your step, rocks are slippery when wet.
6. Not single, not double, but...

— Mary Lewe