



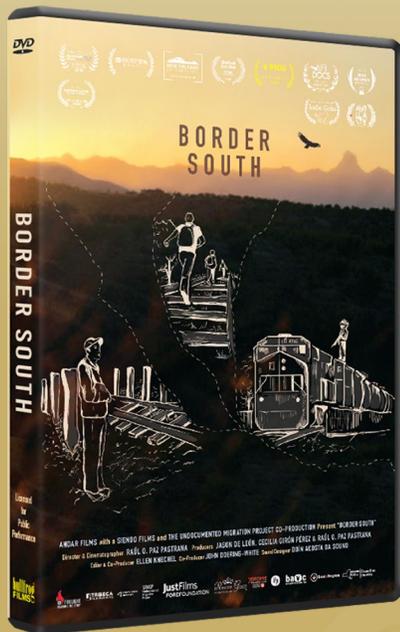
# Community Screening & Discussion Guide

## BORDER SOUTH

Use your screening of **BORDER SOUTH** as a tool for educating your community about the experiences of Central American migrants and the perilous nature of their attempts to reach the U.S. This guide offers some background information, helpful tips & discussion questions for an informative, rewarding screening. **Good Luck!**

### what you'll find inside!

- about the film & filmmaker
- ready to watch! screening guide
- ready to talk! discussion guide
- ready to act! handout



### About the film

Every year, hundreds of thousands of migrants make their way along the trail running from southern Mexico to the US border. Gustavo's gunshot wounds from Mexican police, which have received abundant press attention, might just earn him a ticket out of Nicaragua. Meanwhile, anthropologist Jason painstakingly collects the trail's remains, which have their own stories to tell. Combined with the fragmented stories from Hondurans crossing through southern Mexico, **BORDER SOUTH** assemble a vivid portrait of the thousands of immigrants who disappear along the trail, revealing the immigrants' resilience, ingenuity, and humor as it exposes a global migration system that renders human beings invisible in life as well as death.



### About the filmmaker

Raúl O. Paz Pastrana is a Mexican immigrant filmmaker, cinematographer, and multimedia creator. His work intersects contemporary art, political documentary, and visual ethnography to explore themes of "belonging" and "alienation" in immigrant communities. His films have screened worldwide, including at the Museum of the Moving Image (MoMI) and DocsMX. He is a 2018 Princess Grace Awards Special Project Grantee, an Art Matters/Jerome Foundation Cassis France Arts Fellow, a Tribeca Film Institute All Access grant recipient, a 2018 IFP Filmmaker Labs fellow, a 2018-20 Firelight Media Documentary Lab Fellow, and a 2018-19 Ford Foundation, JustFilms grantee.

# ready to watch!

## Ideas and best practices to help make your community screening a success!

**1. Publicize Your Event!** This is the most important step because it not only tells the world what you're up to, but it lets the Bullfrog Community team know what your plans are so we can help you publicize your event. Visit [http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/border\\_south](http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/border_south) to register and get the word out about your upcoming screening. You can also email us at [info@bullfrogcommunities.com](mailto:info@bullfrogcommunities.com) if you need help getting started!

**2. Visualize Your Goal!** What do you hope to achieve with your screening? Your goal could be to generate a lively post-film discussion about issues raised in the film, gain support or recruit volunteers for a local grassroots campaign, or raise funds for a group on your campus or in your community. Or, you can simply use the screening to provide an opportunity for your audience to watch and learn together.

**3. Where To Host?** Consider which locations in your area would be ideal for accommodating a community film screening of the size you anticipate: downtown movie theaters, churches and synagogues, town halls, community centers, public libraries, school auditoriums, university and college venues, warehouses at a business and outdoor screenings at parks and playgrounds, and even private homes have been venues for many successful community screenings.

**4. Find A Partner!** Give some thought to who is already working on this issue in your community. Can they help sponsor the event? Spread the word? Speak on a panel discussion after the screening? Some potential partners include: student groups at schools, universities and colleges; a local public or campus library; representatives from local religious congregations or faith-based community groups; local chapters of national/global activist or grassroots organizations; faculty members at nearby universities and colleges; reporters/journalists from local news publications such as newspapers and magazines; local nonprofits; and any community organizations that share goals or views with the film you are screening.

**5. Invite A Guest Speaker!** Guest speakers and panelists are a great way to encourage discussion and debate after a community screening. When people are engaged and thinking about the issues they will stay engaged long after the screening has passed. Contact representatives of local non-profits, faith groups, journalists and reporters from local media outlets, or teachers and professors who have expertise and/or insight into the issues raised by the film, and invite them to attend your screening and participate in a discussion or Q&A session with your audience.

**6. Engage Your Audience!** Use this discussion guide to engage your audience. Included in this guide is a section called Ready to Talk! with a few suggested discussion questions to get the conversation started, and a section called Ready to Act!— which can be used as a handout — listing additional resources for further investigation about key issues raised in the film.

**7. Spread The Word!** Think about the best methods available to you for publicizing your film screening to people in your community. Sending emails to a contact list, creating event notifications on Facebook, Google+, Eventbrite or an online community calendar, using Twitter to announce your event, and placing screening announcements in local newspapers and newsletters is a good start. In addition to this guide, you can find and download a screening poster and press photos at [http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/border\\_south](http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/border_south) that can be used to help publicize your event.

**8. Tell Us How It Went!** Visit [http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/border\\_south](http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/border_south) to tell us about your event. Contribute to the film's discussion page to help other student groups, universities, non-profits, congregations and community groups further the discussion and put on successful screening events of their own. Where was your screening held? Who attended? What went well, and what was challenging? What did you discuss? Your feedback will help others to organize their own events, and will energize Bullfrog Communities as a whole.

# ready to talk!

**Your audience will be excited to discuss the issues raised by BORDER SOUTH.  
Here are some questions that will get people talking.**

- 1.** What would you do if you had to migrate due to violence, disease, or lack of employment?
- 2.** What dangers do migrants face along the North American migrant trail?
- 3.** Why do you think the United States has invested money to stop and/or deter Central American Migration?
- 4.** How effective do you feel the U.S. plan been at deterring undocumented migration?
- 5.** What role do you think Mexico plays in deterring Central American migration?
- 6.** What kind of skills do migrants must have in order to survive the North American migrant trail?
- 7.** Which character in the film did you connect the most? Why?
- 8.** What is anthropologist Jason De Leon's role in the film?
- 9.** What role do you play in the current immigration crisis? How do you benefit? At what cost?
- 10.** What can you do on a local and global level to protect immigrant rights?
- 11.** Do you have an immigration story? Have any of your relatives immigrated or migrated to or from a foreign country?

# ready to act!

handout

## **Undocumented Migrant Project** — <https://www.undocumentedmigrationproject.org>

The Undocumented Migration Project (UMP) is a long-term anthropological study of clandestine movement between Latin America and the United States that uses ethnography, archaeology, visual anthropology, and forensic science to understand this violent social process and raise awareness through research, education, and public outreach.

## **Colibrí Center for Human Rights** — <https://colibricenter.org/>

The Colibrí Center for Human Rights works to create a safe, humane, and effective process for families of missing migrants to find answers.

## **Movimiento Mesoamericano Migrante** — <https://movimientomigrantemesoamericano.org/>

The Movimiento Migrante Mesoamericano (MMM), initiated in 2006, aims to help mothers of disappeared migrants find their lost ones by travelling via caravan for several days along known routes used by migrants during the illegal trip to the United States.

## **Humane Borders / Fronteras Compasivas** — <https://humaneborders.org/>

Founded in the summer of the year 2000, Humane Borders, Inc. is a non-profit corporation that maintains a system of water stations in the Sonoran Desert on routes used by migrants making the perilous journey to the U.S. on foot. Their water stations are located on government and privately owned land with permission from the landowners.

## **No More Deaths / No Más Muertes** — <https://nomoredeaths.org/>

No More Deaths is a faith-based humanitarian organization based in southern Arizona. The mission of No More Deaths is to end death and suffering in the Mexico–US borderlands through civil initiative: people of conscience working openly and in community to uphold fundamental human rights.

## **Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project** — <https://firrp.org/>

The mission of the Florence Project is to provide free legal and social services to detained adults and unaccompanied children facing immigration removal proceedings in Arizona.

**Border Angels / Angeles De La Frontera** — <https://www.borderangels.org>

Border Angels is a non-profit organization that is dependent on volunteers. The group advocates for human rights, humane immigration reform, and social justice. This work is done in an attempt to reduce the number of fatalities along the US-Mexico border by educating and assisting the communities on both sides of the border. Services include free immigration and employee rights consultation, educational programs, water drops in the desert, day labor outreach, and Caravans of Love to Tijuana to support and aid migrants that are in need.

**National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights** — <https://www.nnirr.org/>

The National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR) works to defend and expand the rights of all immigrants and refugees, regardless of immigration status. Since its founding in 1986, the organization has drawn membership from diverse immigrant communities, and actively builds alliances with social and economic justice partners around the country.