

## **Starter Questions for further LUNAFEST Film Discussion—2022**

If we were to look for a common theme running through several of these films, it might be the idea of **human connection**. Keep that in mind as you discuss the eight films offered in the 2022 **LUNAFEST**.

### **How to Be at Home**

The isolation experienced during the pandemic was different for every person. How did the film affect you and what you have gone through during this time? Did you identify with any of the images and feelings expressed by the poet? Why does sharing an experience sometimes make it easier to bear?

### **Close Ties to Home Country**

The film starts on a humorous note by showing us the prejudiced and stereotypical attitudes and responses of the dog owning couple toward immigration, citizenship, travel. What were some of those? Soon, though, the film gets serious about immigration policy, separation from family and home, and the difficulty of maintaining family ties over time and distance. Which of these touched or impacted you? How do these ideas apply here? (Green Valley, Arizona, the USA)

### **Generation Impact: The Coder**

Jay Jay is an exceptional young lady. How and why has she addressed the idea of human connection? Her father, too, as an ex-con, is anything but a stereotype. Together they have succeeded in making something remarkable. How can we encourage and support young people like Jay Jay who are working to help others?

### **Proof of Loss**

Tragedy is common to the human experience. The father and his daughter approach and react very differently to their shared losses. What are their reactions and what finally brings them together? What is your idea of home? Will “home” be something they can ultimately share again?

### **When You Clean a Stranger’s Home**

Is there anything in your personal experience that compares to the mother and daughter in this film? Have you ever employed a house cleaner, yard worker, etc. If so, did you consider their circumstances and what brought them to you? How does the girl in the film clarify her values and future based on her experiences.

### **Between the Lines: Liz at Large**

Were you surprised that Liz was the first Black woman to become a New Yorker cartoonist and that it took so long? Black women have been able to slowly chip away at the employment disparity in this country. Are there other domains where “the first” is yet to come? How does “You don’t have to be the Rosa Parks of cartooning, you can just be yourself” help with the daunting burden of representation? Cartoons can

“communicate more than 1000 words.” Do you agree? Can you think of any examples? Did any of Liz’s cartoons resonate with you?

### **Wearable Tracy**

What was your first impression of Kim wearing her crown on the subway? How did your feelings change toward her? Have you ever started a conversation with a stranger over a comment about apparel? How did Kim’s project further the idea of human connection? Hannah, the wise child, urged Kim to keep on keeping on. Why? Maybe this film should have immediately followed the first one. What were the similarities? How did Kim’s hats ultimately mitigate the shared isolation of Covid?

### **To the Future, with Love**

How did your feelings about Hunter change as he told us his story? All teens lead complicated lives, but Hunter’s plate is overflowing. What challenges do he and his family face every day? How can we help teens find support and community? And, finally, what is this film doing in a program of films by and about women?