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*News Release*

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## **Community Screening for *Holden On* Scheduled for Wednesday, October 18th**

***LaGrange, Ga. October 17, 2017*** – The community screening for the award-winning film “Holden On”, the true story about a LaGrange teen suffering from mental illness and addiction, will be Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at Sweetland Amphitheatre.



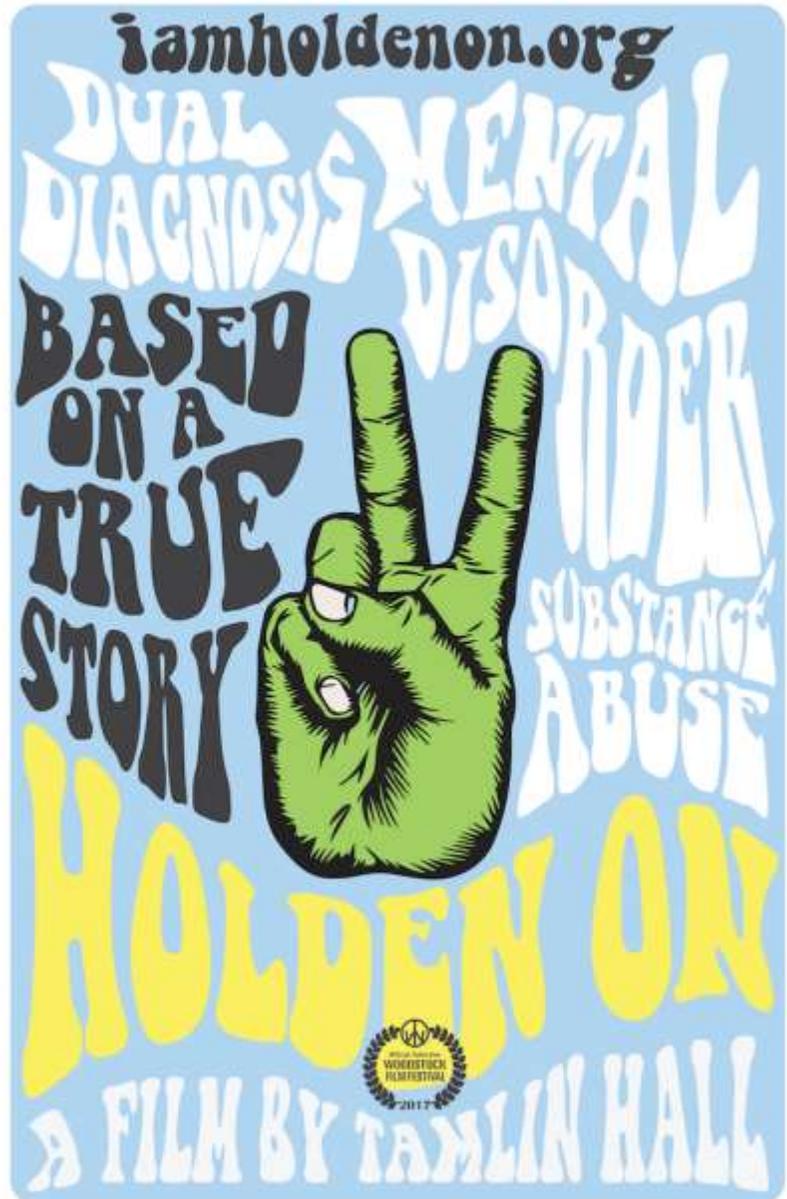
LaGrange native and the film’s director, writer, & producer Tamlin Hall was inspired to create the film after his friend Holden Layfield, a popular LaGrange teen, died by suicide at the age of 19.

Hall admits it's been a tough journey of discovery but he along with Holden's family are committed to using the film to help promote awareness of mental illness.

"He was someone who treated me like a human being when others bullied me," said Hall.

"Holden's humanity is inside of me. I'm going to forever be the voice for those who don't feel they have the opportunity, like I did. I now have an opportunity to be a leader and I'm going to use my 15 minutes of fame and use it for the greater good."

Hall spent today (Tuesday 10/17) talking to LaGrange High School students about the movie and plans to screen the movie tonight at New Community Church for participants with the Mental Health, Drug, and DUI Accountability Court. Participant attendees will receive 2 hour participant court credit.



The film was shot entirely in LaGrange and the community supported much of the filming. Friends and family housed and fed some sixty cast and crew members during the filming.

“It’s exciting to showcase a film that was written, directed, and produced right here in LaGrange by a LaGrange native,” said Sweetland Amphitheatre Director Becca Eiland.

“Not only was it shot here, it was supported by the community. It’s a true testament about how the film came together.”

The independent film, shot entirely in LaGrange, has garnered praise from critics and audiences around the country. “Holden On” was an Atlanta Journal-Constitution critics pick and Audience Award winner for best feature when it bowed at the 2017 Atlanta Film Festival. The social issue teen drama has gone on to win at every film festival it’s screened so far across the country. Most recently, the Woodstock Film Festival selected “Holden On” from over 150 films at their festival to screen at their annual high school career day for 9-12 graders.

The event is family-friendly, free, and open to the public but when the film airs at 8PM, it may not be appropriate for children under the age of 13. It will cover some adult content.

The gates open at 5:30pm with live music from CBDB, lawn games, food vendors, local craft beer and wine, and will culminate with the screening of Holden On. Tamlin Hall and the actor who plays Holden Layfield, Matthew Fahey, will be in attendance.

There is a \$2 suggested cash donation per person. All proceeds for the Sweetland community event will go towards the IAMHOLDENON organization.

IAMHOLDENON is a 501©3 organization with a goal to use Holden’s personality traits of compassion, generosity and acceptance to create a social shift surrounding mental health.

One in four people will be affected by a mental disorder during their life and suicide is the #2 cause of death of ages 15-24.

Coinciding with the “Holden On” screening will be a high school student led IAMHOLDENON art exhibit with the theme of mental illness.

Gates open, food trucks, and the art walk will begin at 5:30 PM. The live music will be 6:15-7:45 PM. No outside food or beverage allowed. You are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket. The movie “Holden On” will begin at 8PM. Content may not be appropriate for children.

For more information visit [www.iamholdenon.org](http://www.iamholdenon.org) or [www.sweetland.events](http://www.sweetland.events).

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