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IN FOCUS

People on the edge dominate docs at Woods Hole Film Festival

By Peter Keough Globe Correspondent, July 20, 2017, 10:00 p.m.

Many of the documentaries featured in the 26th annual Woods Hole Film Festival (July 29-Aug. 5) befit an event located on the far southern fringe of Massachusetts. They deal with people on the edge — outsiders and nonconformists who deviate from the norm or are marginalized but who nonetheless prevail.

They include a child raised in a foster home, a fiery Latina activist for the rights of farm workers, Native American women who deliver justice to the members of their tribes, a rock singer driven by demons to the brink of self-destruction, self-proclaimed geeks who want to be on the forefront of space technology, and other geeks who proudly indulge their obsession with a technology long outmoded.

The title boy in Alice Stone's "**Angelo Unwritten**" (July 30 at 6 p.m.) was a very rough draft indeed when his Concord, N.H., foster parents Laura Bonk and Phil Trowbridge first met him in a Massachusetts children's home and made him part of their family. Separated from a mother who was unable to care for him and traumatized by that experience, Angelo had a rough time adjusting to his new circumstances.

After many setbacks and reconciliations, by the end of the film Angelo has turned 21 and Bonk and Trowbridge's frustrations, patience, and love look like they were worth it. You'll be rooting for them all; Stone follows the story for several years and her film is intimate, dramatic, and empathetic.