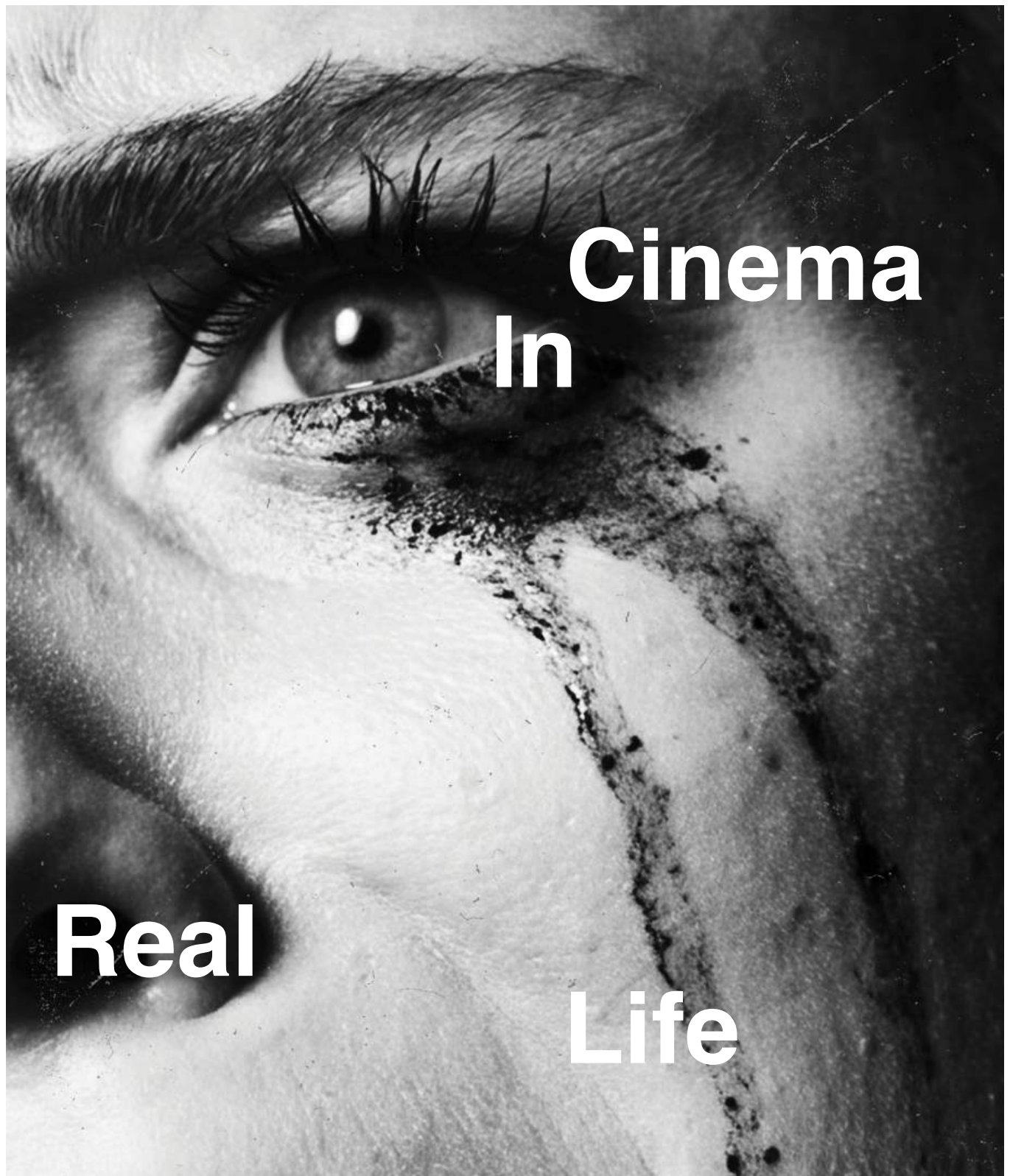




**Cinema
In**

Real

Life



The 62nd
Chicago
International
Film Festival



October 14—25



Thank You!

The 62nd Chicago International Film Festival is made possible because of the support of our sponsors and patrons.

Festival Sponsors



Government



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Cinema/Chicago, the presenter of the Chicago International Film Festival, is a year-round 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Proceeds from the Chicago International Film Festival benefit Cinema/Chicago's year-round programs including CineYouth Festival, Summer Screenings, Community Cinema, and Education Program.



Thank you for joining us for the 62nd Chicago International Film Festival

There is nothing quite like watching a film together in a theater. The lights dim, the room grows quiet, and for the next couple of hours, we are immersed in a story and the emotions it evokes. We laugh with strangers, hold our collective breath, and respond to moments of heartbreak, wonder, and revelation in unison. When the lights come up, we may see the world—and one another—a bit differently.

That shared experience is at the heart of the Chicago International Film Festival.

For 12 days, 45,000 film lovers come from across Chicago, the U.S., and the world to discover extraordinary films, meet the artists behind them, and take part in conversations that continue long after the credits roll. Each screening invites us to experience a sense of awe, to cry out in laughter or fear, to open our hearts and minds to the unexpected and the unknown, as we discover something new about our city, our country, our globe, or our galaxy, and maybe even about ourselves.

This year, as the U.S. marks its 250th anniversary, cinema invites us to embrace the spirit of discovery that has long shaped our country—to encounter new stories, to celebrate innovation, to explore unfamiliar perspectives, and to deepen our understanding of one another.

We are incredibly grateful to our Governing Board, partners, donors, sponsors, filmmakers, and staff—and especially to you, our audience. Your support, your curiosity, and your love of film bring the Festival to life and ensure that Chicago remains a vibrant home for bold and inspiring cinema.

Welcome to the 62nd Chicago International Film Festival. We look forward to sharing the laughter, tears, jump scares, and unforgettable moments that await us—together.

Mimi Plauché
Robert and Penelope Steiner
Family Foundation Artistic Director

Vivian Teng
Managing Director

PROGRAMMING TEAM



Anthony Kaufman



Sam Flancher



Kayla Myers



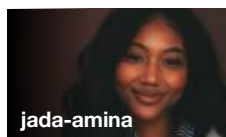
Esteban Alarcón



Sophie Gordon



Natalie Holley



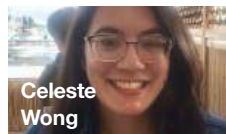
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Colin Mason



Nicola McCafferty



Celeste Wong

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Sequoia Alonso

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Welcome to the 62nd Chicago International Film Festival

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Founder & Emeritus CEO



Hello and welcome to the 62nd annual Chicago International Film Festival!

We are here to gain greater cross-cultural understanding that allows us to empathize with others. As you've all experienced, that empathy and understanding foster communication amongst our festivalgoers and with the creators of the films we are privileged to watch together. I know I walk away enriched by the perspectives brought to us from around the world and blown away by the insights gleaned by you, my fellow audience members.

The beauty of this Festival is that we create this opportunity for ourselves. By supporting the organization through membership, ticket purchases, and donations, YOU are the reason we've been able to put on the Festival for 62 years and counting—in addition to all the year-round programming that we do. This support is more vital than ever as media consolidates, truth is actively hidden, and we have fewer ways to see these different perspectives.

Thanks again for your continued support and, most importantly, enjoy the Festival!

Charles Droege

Chair, Governing Board of Directors

MISSION: Cinema/Chicago, the non-profit 501(c)(3) presenting organization of the Chicago International Film Festival, enriches the community through year-round programming devoted to international and independent cinema. We strengthen communication and inspire empathy among people of diverse cultures through artistic, educational, and creative development programs that promote discovery and discussion and inspire new visions of our shared future.

Welcome to the 62nd Chicago International Film Festival



Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 62nd Chicago International Film Festival.

The arts play a vital role in communities across Illinois, fostering understanding, inspiring creativity, and enriching our daily lives. Since 1964, the Chicago International Film Festival and its presenting organization, Cinema/Chicago, have championed international and independent cinema while showcasing filmmakers from here in Illinois and around the world.

As one of North America's longest-running competitive film festivals, the Chicago International Film Festival has helped establish Illinois as a world-class cultural destination and a thriving center for film and television. Following our state's record-breaking year for film and television production in 2025, the Festival continues to strengthen our place in the global film community by elevating local talent, welcoming international filmmakers, and connecting audiences through the shared experience of cinema.

As the Festival marks its 62nd edition, we celebrate a legacy that has enriched Illinois for more than six decades. On behalf of the people of Illinois, I extend my best wishes for a successful Festival and continued growth for years to come.

JB Pritzker
Governor of Illinois



Dear Friends:

As Mayor of Chicago, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 62nd Chicago International Film Festival, presented by Cinema/Chicago.

Since 1964, the Festival has been a cornerstone of Chicago's cultural landscape, bringing filmmakers, artists, and audiences together to share stories, exchange ideas, and experience the transformative power of cinema. For more than six decades, it has connected our city to the world while celebrating the creativity, diversity, and spirit that define Chicago.

This year, more than 45,000 attendees from Chicago and beyond will gather to experience more than 150 films from over 50 countries. Through screenings and events in neighborhoods across the city—including Englewood, Hyde Park, Lakeview, Lincoln Park, the Loop, and Pilsen—the Festival brings exceptional cinema directly to Chicago's communities. These shared experiences invite us to discover new perspectives and recognize the stories that connect us. Industry Days strengthens our city's filmmaking ecosystem by supporting emerging and established artists, while the City & State program showcases the extraordinary talent of filmmakers from Chicago and throughout Illinois.

The Chicago International Film Festival reflects the very best of our city: bold creativity, diverse voices, and a deep belief in the power of culture to build community. I hope this year's films move, challenge, and inspire you.

Brandon Johnson
Mayor of Chicago

How to Festival

Make the most of your time at the Festival with these top tips:

Stay Up-to-Date on the Fest

Follow us on social media and sign up for our newsletter for daily Fest updates.

 @chicagofilmfestival  @chifilmfest #chifilmfest

Visit our website to filter films by genre, country, language, venue, or program.

Become a member and buy a pass to get the best prices on tickets!

What to Know Before You Go

Get to your seat at least 15 minutes before showtime.

All unclaimed seats will be released to the Standby line at that time. Films start as listed—there are very few trailers!

No Advance Tickets Left?

Join the Standby line starting one hour before showtime. Cash only.

Plan how you'll get to your screening and allow enough time for travel. Visit our Venue page (8) for transportation information.

Visit our Festival page:



The 62nd
Chicago
International
Film Festival

On Sale Dates

September 18, 2026 at 10:00am
Exclusive Members-Only Pre-Sale:
Individual Tickets and Pass Redemption

September 24, 2026 at 10:00am
General Public: Pass Redemption

September 25, 2026 at 10:00am
General Public: Individual Tickets on Sale

SCREENINGS WILL SELL OUT!

TIP: Buy early to avoid disappointment.

All programs subject to change.



How to Buy Tickets



chicagofilmfestival.com

September 18-October 25, 2026

Get your Festival tickets directly on the Festival website.

In-Theater Box Office

October 14-25, 2026

Each venue's Festival box office opens one hour before the start of the first screening and closes 10 minutes after the start of the last screening.

Ticketing Support:

312.332.FILM (3456)

Ticketing Hotline Hours:

September 18-27, 2026:

Monday-Sunday, 10:00am-6:00pm

September 28-October 25, 2026:

Monday-Friday, 10:00am-6:00pm

Festival Tickets

Tickets and Passes

Individual Tickets

TICKET TYPE	Member	Non-Member
General Screenings*	\$22	\$26
Special Presentations*	\$26	\$32
Opening Night	\$50	\$60
Centerpiece	\$30	\$35
Closing Night	\$35	\$42
Short Films	\$18	\$18
Weekday Matinee (M-F, prior to 4:00pm General screenings only.)	\$18	\$18
Late Night Film (9:30pm and later)	\$18	\$18
Pop-up Screenings: Logan Center For The Arts & Chicago History Museum	\$18	\$18

** Students and Seniors (65+) with valid ID can purchase tickets at the Member price in-person at the Box Office only. Limit one discounted ticket per ID. Subject to availability.

Visit our website for information about other special events and pricing.

Passes**

PASS TYPE	Member	Non-Member
Passport Pass (20 admissions)	\$360	\$440
Moviegoer Pass (10 admissions)	\$200	\$240

** Passes are not valid on Opening, Closing, Centerpiece, Special Presentations, Tributes, or Special Events

Standby Tickets

\$26/General Screenings
\$32/Special Presentations
**As Priced/Opening, Centerpiece,
Closing Night, Special Events**

“Standby” means that advance tickets are no longer available. Standby lines open as early as one hour prior to showtime. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis and subject to availability. Regular ticket pricing applies for ALL patrons in the Standby line—no discounts apply. Limit one ticket per person. Must be in line at the time your number is called. Open seats will be made available to those in the Standby line starting 15 minutes prior to showtime.
CASH ONLY.

Ticket policy:

All ticket orders are final sale. No refunds or exchanges.
All prices include service fees.

You must be in your seat(s) 15 minutes before showtime.
All unclaimed seats will be released to the Standby line at that time.

Late arrivals are subject to wait in the Standby line and take the last available number. There are no refunds or exchanges if you are late to the screening.

**Need
Help?**

Ticketing:
ticketing-info@chicagofilmfestival.com
Chatbox:
chicagofilmfestival.com
Phone:
312.332.FILM (3456)

Consent to be photographed and filmed: The Chicago International Film Festival and its representatives may photograph, film, and/or otherwise record attendees at all Festival events. By attending, you consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for web, promotional purposes, social media, or any other purpose by Cinema/Chicago, the Chicago International Film Festival, its affiliates and representatives.

Venues



**Locations, transit,
and accessibility
information**



NEWCITY

AMC NEWCITY 14
1500 N Clybourn Ave.
October 16-25, 2026
experiencenewcity.com

Transportation:

North/Clybourn Red Line Station (0.2 miles away), **#8 CTA** (400 feet away), **#9** and **#72 buses** (0.2 miles away). Parking garage attached to building with designated spots for those using mobility devices. Garage elevator opens up onto Floor 3 outside the theater entrance. AMC parking validation is \$2 for three hours and \$12 for five hours.

Accessibility:

Quiet room, Closed Caption and Assistive Listening/Descriptive Audio devices (select screenings).



Music Box Theatre
3733 N Southport Ave.
October 14, 17-21, 23, 25, 2026
musicboxtheatre.com

Transportation:

Southport Brown Line Station (0.5 miles away), **#152 bus** (0.2 miles away). Metered parking on Southport, free street parking available on and west of Ashland Ave and Irving Park.

Accessibility:

T-Coil hearing loop system. Closed Caption and Assistive Listening/Descriptive Audio devices (select screenings).



Gene Siskel Film Center
164 N State St.
October 16-19, 21, 23, 2026
www.siskelfilmcenter.org

Transportation:

Lake Red Line Station (outside entrance), **State/Lake Brown, Orange, Purple, Green, and Pink Line Station** (400 feet away), **#2, #10, #29, #146, and #148 buses** (300 feet away).

Accessibility:

T-Coil hearing loops (headsets and transmitters available at box office.) Closed Caption and Assistive Listening/Descriptive Audio devices (select screenings).



Chicago History Museum
1601 N Clark St.
October 20-21, 24-25, 2026
chicagohistory.org

Transportation:

#22, #36, and #72 buses (outside entrance), **#9, #73, #151, and #156 buses** (0.2 miles away), **Sedgwick Brown Line Station** (0.5 miles away). Parking with designated spots for those using mobility devices on Stockton Dr. (500 feet away), which can be validated for \$10 at Visitor Services counter.

Accessibility:

Limited number of wheelchairs available. Assistive listening receivers with headphones and T-Coil neck loops available.



Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts at the University of Chicago
915 E. 60th St.
October 16-19, 2026
www.logancenter.uchicago.edu

Transportation:

#2 bus (outside entrance), **#4 bus** (0.1 miles away), **#192, #2, #4, #171, #172, and #59 buses** (0.2 miles away), **Cottage Grove Green Line Station** (0.5 miles away). Street parking available; The Wells lot, located at the corner of S. Drexel Avenue and E. 60th Street, is free on weekends and after 4:00pm on weekdays.

Accessibility:

Limited number of wheelchairs available (request at welcome desk). Assisted listening devices available upon request (may not be compatible with Festival films.)



Kennedy-King College
6301 S Halsted St.
October 15, 2026
ccc.edu/kennedy/home

Transportation:

Halsted Green Line Station (500 feet away), **#8 bus** (500 feet away), **#63 bus** (0.2 miles away).



National Museum of Mexican Art
1852 W 19th St.
October 20, 2026
nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org

Transportation:

Damen Pink Line Station (0.2 miles away), **#9, #18, #21, and #50 buses** (0.4 miles away). Parking available in the Ray Castro Parking Lot and Plaza, located on the east side of the museum. The lot is open daily from 8:00am-11:00pm at a rate of \$3 per hour.

Accessibility:

Limited number of wheelchairs available.



Harold Washington Library
400 S State St.
October 17, 2026
chipublib.org

Transportation:

Harold Washington Library Brown, Orange, Pink, and Purple Line Station (300 feet away), **Jackson Red Line Station** (500 feet away), **#2, #10, #29, #130, #146, #147, #148 buses** (100 feet away), **#22, #24, #36, #62 buses** (0.1 miles away).

Accessibility:

Assistive Listening devices available.

Accessibility

at the 62nd Chicago International Film Festival

All event venues are wheelchair accessible and have accessible restrooms. All venues offer wheelchair-designated spaces, companion seating, sensory items, and easy-access theater seating options.

Audience members with disabilities can gain early access to Festival theaters to select the seat that works best for their accessibility needs. Please see a Theater Manager upon arrival at your venue. This seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis, unless reserved ahead of time through our Accommodation Request Form.

We are also delighted to offer the following accessibility options at select screenings:

- OC** Open Captions
- AD** Audio Descriptions
- CC** Closed Captions

For the most up-to-date listing of screenings with accessibility offerings, please visit our website.

We endeavor to meet reasonable accommodation requests with advance notice. For accommodation requests or feedback, use our accommodation request form (QR code), email us at access@chicagofilmfestival.com, or call us at **312.683.0121 x202**.



In Partnership with UIC

The Chicago International Film Festival, in partnership with UIC, will showcase disability-inclusive films and host extended post-screening conversations to discuss representations of disability on screen with the goals of confronting ableism, strengthening disability curriculum, and transforming how disability is taught and understood.

Check chicagofilmfestival.com/accessibility for additional information and screenings.



95 min.

TUE 10/20
6:30pm
CHM

WED 10/21
5:30pm
GSFC #2

Stand Up

Director: Mari Sanders
The Netherlands | Greece

A young woman whose life is upended by a crash that requires her to use a wheelchair meets an aspiring standup comic whose subversive spirit helps her heal.



86 min.

WED 10/21
6:30pm
CHM

FRI 10/23
5:15pm
GSFC #1

While We Are Here

Director: Reveca Torres
U.S. | France

Beautifully expanding notions of disability, filmmaker Reveca Torres engages with iconic disabled artists Frida Kahlo, Vincent Van Gogh, and Henri Matisse.

Supporters:

rwjf robert wood johnson
foundation

UIC UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS CHICAGO

UIC DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY
AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



Membership Means More



Unlock exclusive perks at the Chicago International Film Festival. Enjoy advance screenings, Q&As with special guests, and members-only events all year long. Stay connected to the films and the community you love, with more reels, more feels, all year.

Festival Perks

- **Early access** to tickets and passes
- **Discounts** on Festival tickets, passes, and merchandise
- **Invitations** to members-only events

Year-Round Perks

- **Free** monthly advance screenings
- **Members-only** events and partner offers
- **Exclusive** updates and insider access to programs and events

“Film is an important art form that needs to be supported. Cinema/Chicago membership does just that, and it gives me the opportunity to see so much independent film that I wouldn’t have a chance to see otherwise.”

— CURRENT CINEMA/CHICAGO MEMBER

Join Today:

Online:

chicagofilmfestival.com/membership

Scan the QR code

In person:

At any Festival Box Office



Cinema/Chicago is dedicated to fostering meaningful dialogue and inspiring audiences through international and independent cinema that challenges, entertains, and connects us across generations, cultures, and borders. Become a member today to help us continue our year-round programming and support emerging creative voices for years to come.

Chicago International Film Festival Inc. Cinema-Chicago, the presenter of the Chicago International Film Festival, is a **501(c)(3) nonprofit organization**.



Program Descriptions

After Dark

Spanning queer gothic romance, brutal body horror, and shot-on-video shocks, and with monsters from aliens to flying sharks, these stories deliver a wide range of genre frights and fun.

Animate!

From Japan to North America, hand-drawn to digital, these visually rich and enthralling movies reimagine our humanity and our world through the magic of animation.

Black Perspectives

From Harlem jazz reunions to West African family epics, this slate of stunning films honors Black life across generations through intimate dramas and landmark queer classics.

City & State

From poignant stories about family life to the restaurant and bicycle businesses and more, these films from the brightest local talents compete for the Chicago Award.

Comedy

Hilarious, deadpan, and satirical, this program presents a range of films that will keep you laughing out loud.

Program Partner:

The Second City

Departures

Exploring new horizons and opening windows into different worlds, these gripping films invite audiences on a journey into the unexpected.

Documentary / Documentary Competition

From the year's most topical stories—from Ukraine to Elon Musk—to intimate portraits of everyday people, these engrossing films bring you close to the drama of real life.

Program Partner:

wttw 

Program Patron: Cynthia Stone Raskin

International Competition

Masterful, stylish, and bold, these powerful cinematic visions represent the best in filmmaking from around the globe.

Program Patron:

John and Jacolyn Bucksbaum Family Foundation

New Directors Competition

Screening for the first time in the U.S., these dynamic and original films showcase the most exciting new breakouts in international cinema.

Program Patron:

Robert and Penelope Steiner Family Foundation

OutLook

Competing for the Q-Hugo Award, these superbly crafted films reflect the myriad perspectives and experiences of LGBTQ+ individuals.

Shorts

Moving across narrative, documentary, and animation, these films are heartfelt, genre-defying, and visually stunning works honoring the possibilities of the short form.

Special Presentations

Be the first to catch the year's most highly anticipated films by esteemed directors, which showcase actors giving career-defining performances.

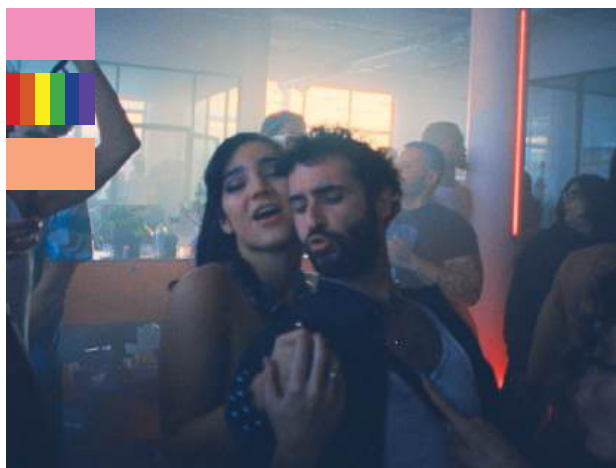
Spotlight

Award winners and critical favorites, these auspicious films from the world's most celebrated directors are some of the year's most acclaimed and accomplished.

Content Consideration

Films with content consideration are noted with a  symbol after the synopsis in the film program, if applicable. Specific details on each film's content can be found on each film's webpage.

Opening Night



Jordan Firstman is one of the most sought-after multi-hyphenates working today. Most recently, Firstman wrote, directed, starred in, and produced the feature film *Club Kid*, which premiered at the 2026 Cannes Film Festival. The film sold to A24 in an eight-figure deal and is set for a limited theatrical release on Nov. 6, 2026. Firstman also stars opposite Rachel Sennott, Josh Hutcherson, and Odessa A'zion in HBO's hit comedy series *I Love LA*, which is currently in production on its second season. Firstman previously earned critical acclaim for his performance in comedy series *English Teacher*, along with Sebastián Silva's *Rotting in the Sun*, which premiered at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival.

Opening Night Patron:
John and Jacolyn Bucksbaum Family Foundation

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Music Box Theatre | 6:00pm

Welcome and Award Presentation followed by *Club Kid*.

Club Kid

Director: Jordan Firstman

U.S. | 122 min.

After ten years of living the hard-partying life of a New York City club promoter, Peter (Jordan Firstman) wakes up one morning to find a very unexpected visitor at his door: the 10-year-old British son he never knew he had. At first, he is utterly shocked and comically unprepared to take care of anyone, much less himself, but Peter slowly warms up to his adorable offspring. Soon, he begins attempting to tamp down his hedonistic existence and become a not-so-regular dad.

Written and directed by star Jordan Firstman, *Club Kid* is a breakthrough work from a gifted first-time feature filmmaker. Deftly mixing the hilarious and the touching, the racy and the tender, *Club Kid* takes viewers on an unexpected ride from the wild antics of New York's party scene to a heartrending story of a queer adult's coming-of-age.

Second Screening:

SAT 10/17 | AMC #14 | 6:00pm **OC**



Breakthrough



Award

Jordan Firstman



Co-presented by:

MUSIC
BOX
THEATRE

After Dark
Opening Night:
9:45pm



Victorian Psycho

Director: Zachary Wigton
see page 37

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

Music Box Theatre | 6:00pm

Award Presentation followed by *Mouse*.

Mouse

Directors: Kelly O'Sullivan | Alex Thompson

U.S.

120 min.

2002, North Little Rock, Arkansas. Besties Minnie and Callie are getting ready for their high school senior year. Charismatic Callie, a singer and performer, is the town's golden child, while the more awkward Minnie has grown up in her protective shadow. When their friendship is suddenly upended by a tragic accident, Minnie is left rudderless. Struggling to find herself and looking for companionship, Minnie forms a complicated relationship with Callie's mother (Sophie Okonedo), who is also seeking solace from her grief.

With their latest gem, Chicago-based filmmaking duo Alex Thompson and Kelly O'Sullivan (*Ghostlight*, *Saint Francis*) deliver another deeply authentic and bittersweet drama about people coming of age and reckoning with who they are and their relationships with the people closest to them. Anchored by powerful performances from Okonedo, as well as *Ghostlight* stars Katherine Mallen-Kupferer and her real-life mother Tara Mallen, it is a superbly told, cathartic story filled with warmth and emotion.



Second Screening:
THU 10/22 | AMC #6 | 2:00pm

Centerpiece

Spotlight Award



Sophie Okonedo

Sophie Okonedo is an Oscar and Emmy-nominated and Tony Award-winning stage and screen actress. In Fall 2026, she stars in two extraordinary films: IFC's coming-of-age drama *Mouse*, in theaters November 6; and Neon's *Clarissa*, a modern reimagining of "Mrs. Dalloway" set in contemporary Lagos, in theaters December 11. Her filmography includes her breakthrough, Oscar- and SAG Award-nominated performance in *Hotel Rwanda*, her Emmy-nominated performance in *Ratched*, her Golden Globe-nominated and NAACP Image Award-winning performance in *Tsunami: The Aftermath*, plus *The Secret Life of Bees*, *Skin*, *Dirty Pretty Things*, *Mrs. Mandela*, and *Janet Planet*, among many others. Her stage credits include Olivier-nominated performances in *Medea* and *Antony and Cleopatra*, and her Tony-winning Broadway debut in *A Raisin in the Sun* and Tony-nominated work in *The Crucible*. She was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 2010 and Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 2019 for services to drama.

Sunday, October 25, 2026

Music Box Theatre | 5:00pm

Welcome followed by *Behemoth!*

Behemoth!

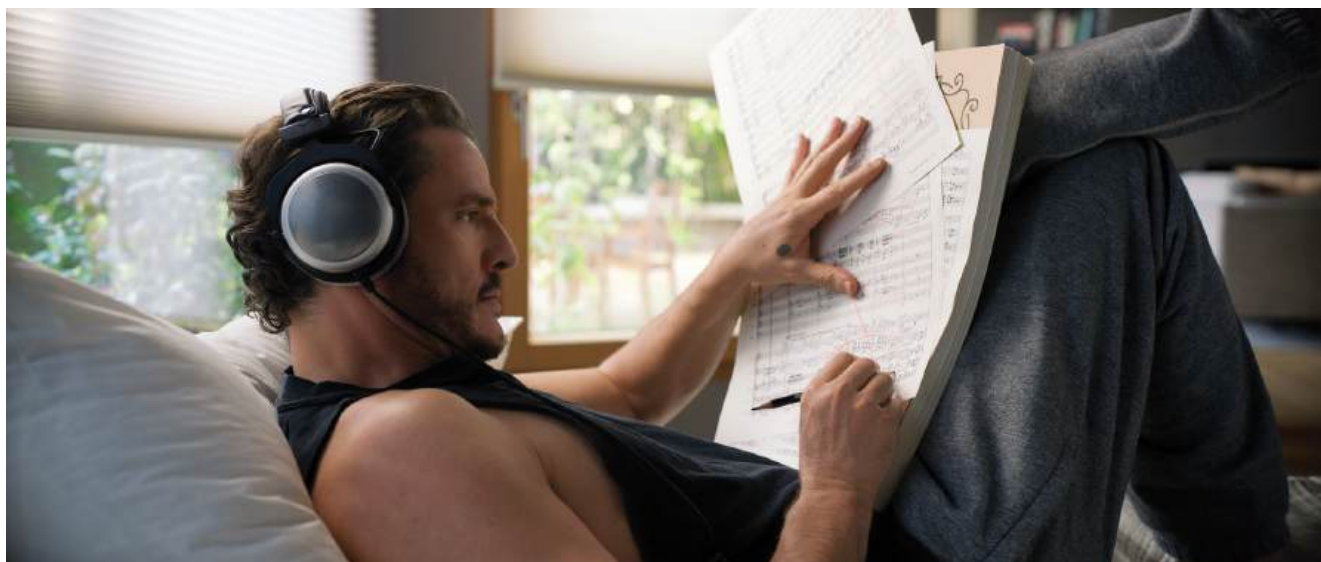
Director: Tony Gilroy

U.S.

124 min.

A gifted cellist, Alex Serian (a phenomenal Pedro Pascal), returns home to Los Angeles after 20 years on the road. Music, which has been the constant, all-consuming river of his life, begins to carry Alex on an adventure that will change him forever. As he works on a series of film projects, the cues trigger flashbacks that tell us why he's stayed away so long and why he's really come back.

Utilizing an unprecedented nine composers, *Behemoth!* is a love letter to movie scoring and the dizzying power music holds on our memories and imaginations. From the Oscar-nominated director of *Michael Clayton*, the film also stars Olivia Wilde, Eva Victor, and Will Arnett.



Closing Night

Closing Night Patron:

Robert and Penelope Steiner Family Foundation

Special Presentations



111 min.

SUN 10/18
5:30pm
AMC #6

SUN 10/25
4:30pm
AMC #6

Bitter Christmas

Amarga Navidad

Director: Pedro Almodóvar
Spain

The line between fiction and reality blurs as two filmmakers draw inspiration from the lives of those around them in Almodóvar's latest metafiction on art and legacy.



104 min.

SAT 10/24
5:45pm
AMC #6

SUN 10/25
1:45pm
AMC #6

Elsinore

Director: Simon Stone
U.K.

This deeply emotional true story follows Ian Charleson, an actor facing his own mortality, who delivers the most courageous performance of his lifetime.



105 min.

TUE 10/20
6:00pm
MBT

FRI 10/23
8:15pm
AMC #4
OC

The Debut

Director: Jesse Eisenberg
U.S.

When an unassuming housewife (Julianne Moore) is unexpectedly cast in a small community theater production, she loses herself in the role under the spell of a strong-willed director (Paul Giamatti).



82 min.

FRI 10/16
5:30pm
GSFC #1

SAT 10/17
2:30pm
AMC #6

Fatherland

Director: Paweł Pawlikowski
Poland | Germany | Italy | France

At the height of the Cold War, writer Thomas Mann (Hanns Zischler) and daughter Erika (Sandra Hüller) embark on a road trip across a divided Germany. 🇵🇱



114 min.

TUE 10/20
8:15pm
AMC #6

Gentle Monster

Director: Marie Kreutzer
Austria | Germany | France

Concert pianist Lucy (Léa Seydoux) must protect her son after her husband is accused of an unspeakable crime in this thriller about trust and survival. **C**



116 min.

MON 10/19
5:00pm
AMC #6
THU 10/22
5:30pm
AMC #6

Ink

Director: Danny Boyle
U.K.

An explosive cinematic rollercoaster about a group of visionaries and misfits who completely transformed the world of tabloid news.



124 min.

FRI 10/23
6:00pm
MBT
SAT 10/24
8:45pm
AMC #1

The Liberation

Director: Guy Nattiv | U.S.

Rita (Carrie Coon), a mother escaping a harrowing past, finds solace in a female empowerment cult led by the charismatic Ricki (Lily James). But when Rita's daughters arrive, she must choose between the freedom she's found and the life she left behind.



121 min.

SAT 10/17
7:45pm
AMC #6
SUN 10/18
11:15am
AMC #6

The Life and Deaths of Wilson Shedd

Director: Tim Blake Nelson | U.S.

A mesmerizing Amanda Seyfried stars as a writing teacher whose relationship with an Oklahoma prisoner offers both a hope of escape in this riveting drama. **C**



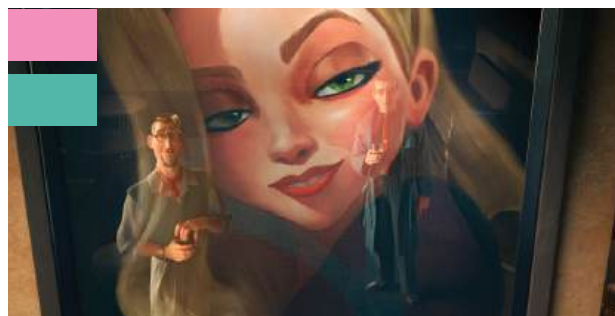
114 min.

FRI 10/23
8:00pm
AMC #6

Paper Tiger

Director: James Gray
U.S.

Adam Driver and Miles Teller deliver standout performances as brothers who get entangled with the Russian mafia in James Gray's intense family drama.



119 min.

SUN 10/18
2:15pm
AMC #6
SUN 10/25
11:00am
AMC #6

Ray Gunn

Director: Brad Bird
U.S.

From Oscar winner Brad Bird comes this noir-infused sci-fi epic about a private eye and a case involving aliens, murder, and a multimedia star.



107 min.
SAT 10/17*
12:30pm
GSFC #1
SUN 10/25
11:45am
AMC #14

Tender Loving Care

Director: Mike Leigh | **U.K.**

Legendary British filmmaker Mike Leigh returns with a profoundly moving story—filled with humor, hardship, and compassion—about how we look after each other.

** Film preceded by free Digging Deeper into Movies with Nick Davis at 11:00am (see pg. 48)*



118 min.
FRI 10/16
5:30pm
AMC #6
SAT 10/17
11:30am
AMC #6

Wild Horse Nine

Director: Martin McDonagh

U.S. | Chile

Ahead of the 1973 Chilean coup, two CIA agents (John Malkovich, Sam Rockwell) travel to Easter Island, where their dark pasts threaten to reveal their current conspiracies. ©

From Showtime to Showstopper

Show your love of film with exclusive Chicago International Film Festival merchandise, including t-shirts, hats, scarfs, sweaters, totes, and more! Available at our Festival box office at AMC NEWCITY and online at shop.chicagofilmfestival.com



Friday, October 16, 2026

Reva and David Logan

Center for the Arts | 7:00pm

In Conversation with **Stephen Winter**

Cheryl Dunye will receive the Career Achievement Award at the screening of *The Watermelon Woman*.

Cheryl Dunye is a Liberian American filmmaker, director, writer, and producer based in Oakland, California, whose work explores Black queer identity, history, and cultural memory. Dunye emerged as part of the "queer new wave" of young filmmakers in the 1990s and has made more than 15 films, including *Mommy Is Coming*, *The Owls*, *My Baby's Daddy*, and HBO's *Stranger Inside*, for which she was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award for best director. Her landmark 1996 feature, *The Watermelon Woman*, received the Teddy Award at the Berlin International Film Festival. Dunye has directed episodes for major television series including *Queen Sugar*, *Dear White People*, *Bridgerton*, *Lovecraft Country*, and most recently, *The Hunting Wives*.

In 2018, she launched her Oakland-based production company called Jingtletown Films, developing projects that center underrepresented voices and stories. The company is actively developing the feature-length version of her 2014 award-winning short, *Black Is Blue*.

Cheryl Dunye



Career

Achievement Award

Friday, October 23, 2026

Music Box Theatre | 6:00pm

Carrie Coon will receive the Artistic Achievement Award at the screening of *The Liberation*.

A four-time Emmy Award nominee, Carrie Coon is known for roles across film, television, and theater. Her recent credits include the HBO series *The Gilded Age* and season four of *The White Lotus*, and earlier this year, she received her second Tony Award nomination for her starring role on Broadway in *BUG*. Previously, she had led the Steppenwolf Theatre Company production of the play, which was written by Coon's husband and creative collaborator, Tracy Letts.

Coon's film credits include *His Three Daughters*, *Boston Strangler*, *Ghostbusters: Afterlife*, *Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire*, *Another Happy Day*, which she executive produced; *Widows*; Steven Spielberg's *The Post*; and David Fincher's *Gone Girl*, among others. On television, she has starred in *The Sinner*, HBO's *The Leftovers* and FX's anthology series *Fargo*.

Coon's breakthrough came in 2011 on the Steppenwolf stage, when she starred as Honey in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Transferring to Broadway, the production won the 2013 Tony Award for Best Revival of a Play and earned Coon a Tony nomination for her Broadway debut. She has since starred in Steppenwolf productions including *The March*, *Three Sisters*, and *Mary Page Marlowe* and was named an ensemble member in 2019.

Carrie Coon



Artistic

Achievement Award

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

AMC #6 | 5:30pm

Ira Sachs will accept the Q-Hugo Artistic Achievement Award at the screening of *The Man I Love*.

Ira Sachs is a NYC-based filmmaker whose feature films include *The Man I Love*, *Peter Hujar's Day*, *Passages*, *Frankie*, *Little Men*, *Love is Strange*, *Keep the Lights On*, and *Forty Shades of Blue*. A Rockefeller, Guggenheim, MacDowell, and Yaddo Fellow, Sachs has produced work that is held in the permanent collections of New York's Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney. He is also the Founding Director of Queer|Art, an arts organization built to support mentorship for LGBTQ+ artists and born out of the recognition of a generation of artists and audiences lost to the AIDS crisis.

Ira Sachs



Artistic Achievement Award



Q-Hugo



Queer Humanism: Andrew Haigh and Ira Sachs in conversation

Wednesday, October 21, 2026 | AMC #1 | 3:00pm | FREE EVENT

This conversation will explore the similar and distinct ways these two filmmakers blend a range of political, multi-national, and deeply personal influences on their artistry. Moderated by Professor Nick Davis.

Spotlight Award



Andrew Haigh



Wednesday, October 21, 2026

AMC #6 | 7:30pm

Andrew Haigh will accept the Spotlight Award at the screening of *A Long Winter*.

Andrew Haigh is an award-winning writer-director whose critically acclaimed film *All of Us Strangers* received six BAFTA nominations including Best Director and Best Adapted Screenplay for Haigh. *All of Us Strangers* was also the recipient of four Gotham and three Independent Spirit Awards nominations. The L.A. Film Critics Association awarded Haigh with its Best Screenplay honor for the film. Haigh's previous features include 2017's *Lean on Pete*, 2015's *45 Years*, for which Charlotte Rampling earned an Academy Award nomination, and 2011's breakout hit, *Weekend*. For television, Haigh served as an executive producer as well as the lead writer-director on HBO series *Looking*, starring Jonathan Groff and Murray Bartlett. He also directed all five episodes of the 2012 limited series *The North Water* starring Colin Farrell and Jack O'Connell. Haigh is currently adapting to direct the Walter Isaacson book *Leonardo Da Vinci* for Universal.

An Evening with Marlon Wayans

Monday, October 19, 2026

Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts
at University of Chicago

7:30pm

Tickets:

\$45 Members | \$55 Non-Members

Evening Patron:



A dynamic comedic talent on both ends of the camera, Marlon Wayans is the recipient of the Festival's Career Achievement Award. The actor will be on hand for a special in-person Tribute to discuss his impressive career and his artistic process.

Marlon Wayans is a talented actor, comedian, writer, producer, and director. Wayans reunited with brothers Keenen and Shawn Wayans to write and produce the 2026 hit *Scary Movie*. Currently on the road with his Wild Child Tour, Wayans is a prolific stand-up whose shows have, to date, yielded four specials, including *Marlon Wayans: Good Grief*, streaming on Amazon Prime Video.

Wayans' recent film credits include *HIM*, *AIR*, *The Curse of Bridge Hollow*, *Respect*, and *On the Rocks*. His collaborations as writer, producer and star with *Scary Movie* director Michael Tiddes span comedy projects including *Sextuplets*, *Naked*, *Fifty Shades of Black*, *A Haunted House* and sequel *A Haunted House 2*. His creative partnerships with director Keenen Ivory Wayans have yielded such hit comedies as *White Chicks* and 2000's *Scary Movie* and its follow-up *Scary Movie 2*.

Wayans' additional film credits include *Don't Be a Menace to South Central While Drinking Your Juice in the Hood*; *The Sixth Man*; *Requiem for a Dream*; *The Ladykillers*, opposite Tom Hanks; *Norbit*; *G.I. Joe: The Rise of the Cobra*; and *The Heat*, among others. On television, he starred and executive produced *Marlon*, along with *In Living Color*, *Children's Hospital*, and *Second Generation Wayans*.

Achievement Award



Marlon
Wayans

Career





The
Chicago
International
Film Festival

Black Perspectives
30th Anniversary

Black Perspectives 30th Anniversary

Celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2026, Black Perspectives is a program of Cinema/Chicago and the Chicago International Film Festival. Since 1997, the program has championed Black cinema and films by the diaspora worldwide—spotlighting emerging voices, honoring legends, and fostering dialogue through the power of film.

Over the past 30 years, the program has premiered foundational work—including the premiere of Ava DuVernay's first feature—while presenting films by American luminaries like Barry Jenkins and Maya Angelou, African masters Djibril Diop Mambéty and Abderrahmane Sissako, and international visionaries such as Steve McQueen.

This year we're excited to celebrate the following:

- 30th anniversary retrospective screenings of two landmarks of 90s independent cinema: ***Chocolate Babies*** (page 38) and ***The Watermelon Woman*** (page 38), with a tribute to director **Cheryl Dunye** (page 18)
- An evening with and tribute to **Marlon Wayans** (page 20)
- Two monumental nonfiction films by luminary Black filmmakers, **Ava DuVernay**, ***14th*** (page 22) and **David and William Greaves' *Once Upon a Time in Harlem*** (page 34)
- An incredible lineup of Black independent and African cinema and local talent in our **Black Perspectives** and **City & State** programs
- World premiere of ***Liz Here Now*** (page 31) directed by Sterling Macer Jr. and featuring Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor

Alfre Woodard
2017



André Holland
2024



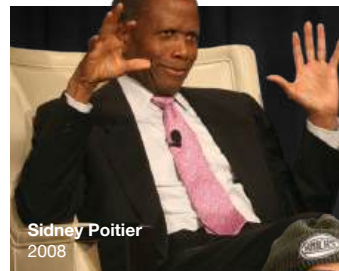
Ruby Dee
2006



Steve
McQueen
2016



Sidney Poitier
2008



Forest Whitaker
2010



Spike Lee
2025



Anna
Diop
2022



Viola Davis
2012



Barry Jenkins
2016



Film Program A to Z

■ After Dark ■ Animate! ■ Black Perspectives ■ City & State ■ Comedy ■ Departures ■ Documentary / Documentary Competition
 ■ International Competition ■ New Directors Competition ■ OutLook ■ Shorts ■ Special Presentations ■ Spotlight
 © Content Consideration



140 min.

TUE 10/20
7:45pm
AMC #1

WED 10/21
7:30pm
AMC #1

9 Temples to Heaven

Director: Sompot Chidgasornpongse
Thailand | Singapore | France | Norway
China | Hong Kong | Indonesia | Qatar

Receiving a disturbing prophecy regarding his elderly mother, Sakol piles the family into a van and sets out to reverse the bad karma.



100 min.

THU 10/22
6:30pm
RDLC PH

14th

Director: Ava DuVernay
U.S.

Ava DuVernay investigates the 14th Amendment, exploring its many facets, from who gets to belong in America to the rights they're entitled to.



83 min.

SAT 10/17
3:30pm
AMC #1

SUN 10/18
5:30pm
GSFC #2

32 Meters

Director: Morteza Atabaki
Turkey | Iran | Qatar

This witty observational film follows two Turkish women who set out to start the first-ever ladies-only sharp-shooting competition in their village.



84 min.

WED 10/21
7:45pm
GSFC #2

THU 10/22
2:15pm
AMC #4

Al Baraneya

Director: Ashgan El-Hamus
The Netherlands | Egypt | Belgium
Saudi Arabia

When a developer offers to buy her family's land in a village outside Cairo, pregnant Amal dreams of a very different kind of life in the big city.



196 min.

FRI 10/16

6:30pm

AMC #5

SAT 10/17

7:15pm

AMC #4

All of a Sudden

Director: Ryūsuke Hamaguchi

France | Japan | Germany | Belgium

Marie-Lou, the director of an elder care facility, is on the verge of burnout when a chance encounter sparks a deep, transcendent friendship.



90 min.

SUN 10/18

3:45pm

AMC #1

MON 10/19

2:45pm

AMC #1

Ana, en passant

Director: Fernanda Salgado

Brazil | Portugal | France

Following her grandmother's death in Paris, a young woman travels to Brazil where she encounters her exact double in this lyrical animated drama.



86 min.

THU 10/15

8:45pm

AMC #6

WED 10/21

2:30pm

AMC #6

SAT 10/24

8:15pm

AMC #5

Ana the Cleaner

Director: Guy Bauer

U.S.

True crime junkie Ana cleans the homes of Chicago's elite. When one of her clients' wives suddenly disappears, Ana believes she's uncovered a murder.



127 min.

SUN 10/18

12:00pm

GSFC #1

WED 10/21

8:00pm

GSFC #1

Being Heumann

Director: Siân Heder

U.S.

In 1977, disability rights activist Judy Heumann leads a historic 28-day occupation, uniting protesters in a fight for accessibility laws and equal rights.



135 min.

SAT 10/17

8:15pm

GSFC #1

SUN 10/18

11:00am

AMC #14

The Beloved

El ser querido

Director: Rodrigo Sorogoyen

Spain

When a legendary filmmaker (Javier Bardem) offers his estranged daughter a role in his latest film, tensions percolate and old wounds are reopened.



101 min.

SAT 10/17

11:15am

AMC #4

SUN 10/18

5:15pm

AMC #4

Ben'lmana

Director: Marie-Clémentine Dusabejambo

Rwanda | Gabon | France | Norway

In this stunning, intimate portrait of defiance and forgiveness, a Rwandan genocide survivor's convictions are tested by her daughter's unexpected pregnancy. 🍿



87 min.

SUN 10/18

5:15pm

AMC #14

TUE 10/20

2:00pm

AMC #14

A Bit of Light

Kami Nour

Director: Ali Asgari

Iran | Switzerland | Italy | Canada | Turkey

After deciding to end it all, Arash spends a final day with his family in this moving expression of life's mysterious beauty and its ability to puncture despair.



80 min.

SUN 10/18

11:30am

MBT

Bob and David Climb Machu Picchu

Director: Michael LaHaie

U.S. | Peru

Comedians Bob Odenkirk and David Cross trek the Inca Trail in this hilarious and surprisingly heartfelt portrait of male friendship and mid-to-late-life crisis.



126 min.

THU 10/22

8:15pm

AMC #6

SAT 10/24

11:45am

AMC #6

Bunker

Director: Florian Zeller

France | Spain

When an architect (Javier Bardem) is recruited to design a survivalist bunker for a tech billionaire, his wife (Penélope Cruz) begins to question their marriage.



91 min.

THU 10/22

2:30pm

AMC #14

SAT 10/24

7:30pm

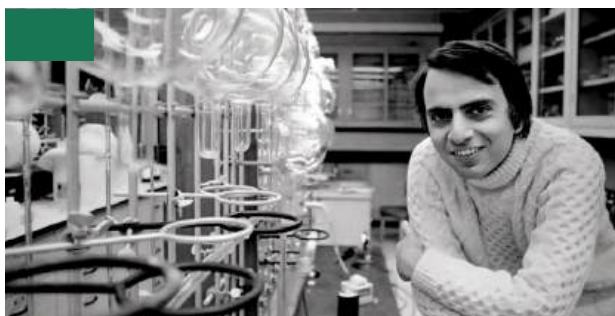
AMC #14

Burgundy

Directors: Michael Dweck | Gregory Kershaw

France | U.S.

This playful, crisp, and charming documentary captures the haute société of a French vineyard at a moment of generational change.



98 min.

SAT 10/24

5:30pm

AMC #4

SUN 10/25

12:30pm

CHM

Carl Sagan: We Are Made of Star Stuff

Director: Nanette Burstein

U.S.

This intimate film explores the life of the visionary astronomer, author, and television star who transformed our understanding of the cosmos.



127 min.

THU 10/22

10:30pm

AMC #5

FRI 10/23

1:00pm

AMC #5

Castration Movie Chapter iii. Junior Ghosts—Premorphic Drift; a fragmentary passage

Director: Louise Weard

Canada

Izzy's partner's transition sparks her descent into TERF madness in the latest chapter of this unflinching shot-on-video magnum opus.



87 min.

SAT 10/17

9:00pm

AMC #14

SUN 10/18

6:15pm

AMC #1

Cherry and Virgin

Director: Masanao Kawajiri

Japan

Stylish visual worlds collide when an erotic manga artist and a talented illustrator—both virgins—connect in this sensitive love letter to anime.



69 min.

SUN 10/18

6:15pm

GSFC #1

MON 10/19

2:30pm

AMC #14

Citizen Osama

Al mowaten Osama

Director: Ahmed Hassouna

Palestine | France

In this raw and affecting portrait of resilience, a Gazan photographer captures the devastation while protecting his newborn son and older parents. 🎥



99 min.

SUN 10/18

4:30pm

AMC #5

MON 10/19

1:00pm

AMC #5

A City in the Forest

Directors: Lev Omelchenko | Nolan Huber

U.S.

After Atlanta officials move to destroy an urban forest to make way for a massive police training facility—aka “Cop City”—the people fight back.



134 min.

TUE 10/20

8:15pm

AMC #5

WED 10/21

8:00pm

AMC #5

Clarissa

Directors: Arie Esiri | Chuko Esiri

Nigeria | U.S.

Adapting *Mrs. Dalloway* to modern Lagos, this evocative drama captures post-colonial class tensions, memory, and desire across a single momentous day. 🎥



70 min.

SAT 10/17

6:00pm

AMC #1

SUN 10/18

1:30pm

AMC #1

Clementine Orange

Director: Lisa Forslund

Sweden

Over 24 hours, an unlikely connection forms between a woman catfished by her penpal lover and the prisoner on parole who isn't who he claimed to be.



107 min.

TUE 10/20

5:30pm

AMC #5

WED 10/21

2:00pm

AMC #5

A Common Story

Director: Anna Foglietta

Italy

In this elegiac, emotionally rich drama, empty-nesters Erika and Mauro must navigate relationships and desires anew, as they face an unfamiliar future.



94 min.

SAT 10/17

3:00pm

RDLG SR

MON 10/19

8:15pm

GSFC #2

Congo Boy

Director: Rafiki Fariala

Central African Republic | France

Democratic Republic of Congo | Italy

A Congolese teen refugee in Bangui fights to protect his family and hold onto his musical dreams through rap amid growing civil precarity.



102 min.

FRI 10/23

10:00pm

AMC #14

SUN 10/25

7:30pm

AMC #5

Corpus

Director: Corrin Evans

U.S.

A New York nightlife photographer and his lover accept an invitation to a mysterious party upstate in this supernaturally charged erotic thriller.



185 min.

SAT 10/24

2:15pm

AMC #5

SUN 10/25

3:45pm

AMC #5

Dao

Director: Alain Gomis

France | Senegal | Guinea-Bissau

Parallel timelines weave together a contemporary French wedding and an ancestral funeral in Guinea-Bissau for a West African diasporic family.



88 min.

FRI 10/23

5:45pm

GSFC #2

SAT 10/24

6:30pm

AMC #1

A Day in the Life of Jo: Chapter Phaedra

Mia mera sti zoi tis tzo: kefalaiio Faidra

Director: Jacqueline Lentzou

Greece | Germany | France

Jo, an angst-ridden 15-year-old, makes an instant connection with new student Phaedra in this inventive slice-of-life drama of cosmic proportions.



79 min.

SAT 10/17

4:45pm

AMC #4

SUN 10/18

12:30pm

GSFC #2

Dear Future Self

Erzähl Mir Dein Morgen

Directors: Ella Cieslinski | Nina Wesemann

Germany

In this keenly observed drama, a filmmaker returns home to lead a workshop with a childhood friend, but the exercise illuminates the growing distance between them.



94 min.

MON 10/19

5:15pm

AMC #14

FRI 10/23*

3:00pm

GSFC #1

The Diary of a Chambermaid

Le journal d'une femme de chambre

Director: Radu Jude

France | Romania

In this potent satire, a Romanian nanny working in France grows weary of her employer's exploitation while rehearsing a play that echoes her plight.

* Film preceded by free Digging Deeper into Movies with Nick Davis at 1:30pm (see pg. 48)



88 min.

SAT 10/17

3:00pm

GSFC #1

SUN 10/18

7:00pm

AMC #5

The Difficult Bride

Director: Rubaiyat Hossain

France | Bangladesh | Portugal
Norway | Germany

A privileged bride's reality starts to unravel as traditional pre-wedding beauty rituals begin to elicit strange visions and physical reactions. 🌀



164 min.

SAT 10/17

8:15pm

AMC #1

MON 10/19

12:30pm

AMC #4

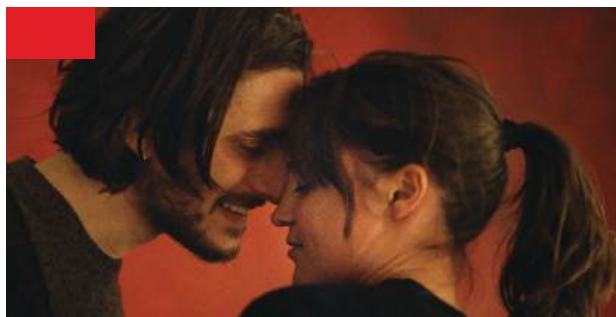
The Dreamed Adventure

Das geträumte Abenteuer

Director: Valeska Grisebach

Germany | France | Bulgaria | Austria

Searching for her missing friend Said in a Bulgarian border town, archeologist Veska unearths a secret criminal network in this engrossing, slow-burn epic. 🌀



120 min.

TUE 10/20

8:00pm

AMC #14

WED 10/21

8:15pm

AMC #14

The Echo Chamber

Director: Andrea Pallaro

Italy | Belgium

A therapist and a music producer are drawn into an unlikely affair in this riveting psychological drama interrogating desire, addiction, and obsession.



107 min.

MON 10/19

5:00pm

GSFC #1

TUE 10/20

5:00pm

AMC #1

Edward Said: Between Worlds

Director: Maiken Baird

U.S.

This fascinating portrait traces the life of charismatic Palestinian-American scholar Edward Said, celebrated as a prophet and vilified as a terrorist.



82 min.

SUN 10/18

3:30pm

GSFC #1

MON 10/19

5:15pm

AMC #1

Eight Bridges

Director: James Benning

U.S.

A mesmerizing study of light, movement, and American infrastructure, this observational film contemplates a series of bridges across the United States.



108 min.

THU 10/22

8:00pm

AMC #1

FRI 10/23

8:15pm

GSFC #2

Elephants in the Fog

Director: Abinash Bikram Shah

Nepal | Germany | Brazil | France | Norway

A Kinnar matriarch is torn between duty and a secret love when one of the daughters from her community disappears under suspicious circumstances. 🌀



92 min.
MON 10/19
6:00pm | MBT
THU 10/22
7:45pm
AMC #4
THU 10/25
11:00am
AMC #5

Ever After

Director: Frankie Nasso
U.S.

Michelin-star chef Curtis Duffy launches a new world-class restaurant during a pandemic in the relentless pursuit of culinary perfection and a personal reckoning.



71 min.
FRI 10/16
5:00pm
GSFC #2
SUN 10/25
2:30pm
AMC #4

Everything Else is Noise

Lo demás es ruido
Director: Nicolás Pereda
Germany | Canada | Mexico

A pretentious television crew stumbles through an interview with composers Rosa and Tere in this hilarious, satirical chamber comedy.



121 min.
SUN 10/18
2:00pm
AMC #14
MON 10/19
8:30pm
AMC #14

Everytime

Director: Sandra Wollner
Germany | Austria

A year after a tragic loss, three people united in grief search for healing during an island vacation where memory and reality blur.



121 min.
MON 10/19
7:45pm
GSFC #1
TUE 10/20
12:00pm
AMC #4

Far From the Trees

Lejos de los árboles
Director: Meritxell Colell Aparicio
Spain | Peru | Italy

A sound artist capturing recordings across Peru is pursued by the ghosts of her family's legacy of exile in this journey through memory and identity.



86 min.
THU 10/15
7:00pm
KKC
SAT 10/17
4:30pm
RDLC PH

Finding Your Laughter

Directors: Arlieta Hall | Brittany Alstot
U.S.

In this joyful, moving documentary, Chicago comedian Arlieta uses improv comedy techniques to care for her father as he battles Alzheimer's.



108 min.
WED 10/21
7:45pm
AMC #4
THU 10/22
11:45am
AMC #4

Forever Your Maternal Animal

Siempre soy tu animal materno
Director: Valentina Maurel
Belgium | France | Mexico

Home from studying in Europe, Elsa returns to Costa Rica to find her family in disarray and feels compelled to help those who have no desire to be saved.



116 min.

THU 10/22

5:00pm

AMC #4

FRI 10/23

2:30pm

AMC #4

The Girl with the Leica

Director: Alina Marazzi

Germany | Italy | Sweden

1936 Paris. Pioneering photojournalist Gerda Taro spends a final day before returning to the Spanish Civil War, as past and present intertwine.



83 min.

SUN 10/18

7:30pm

AMC #14

TUE 10/20

3:00pm

AMC #4

Going for Home

Director: Eric Simonson

U.S.

After the devastating L.A. fires leave families displaced, a Little League team carries the Altadena community through loss, recovery, and an improbable season.



102 min.

SUN 10/18

1:45pm

AMC #5

MON 10/19

8:00pm

AMC #5

A Good Little Soldier

Un bon petit soldat

Director: Stéphane Brizé

France

In this tense drama, HR manager Carla is given an impossible directive: create a supportive, human-centered workplace while casting off the slough.



80 min.

THU 10/22

8:15pm

AMC #5

FRI 10/23

5:30pm

AMC #5

Head to Head

Sar beh Sar

Director: Ghasideh Golmakani

Iran | Germany

A filmmaker returns home to Iran to shoot a new project—one in which male actors are costumed in headscarves and skirts—in this razor-sharp comedy.



88 min.

THU 10/15

2:00pm

AMC #4

FRI 10/16

10:30pm

AMC #5

HotSpring SharkAttack: Great Kyushu Showdown

Onsen Shark2: Kyushu Dai-Kessen

Director: Morito Inoue | Japan

An aspiring music student attempts to save her town from an onslaught of vicious flying sharks in this riotous flick brimming with outrageous B-movie thrills.



127 min.

MON 10/19

8:15pm

AMC #6

SAT 10/24

2:45pm

AMC #6

I Play Rocky

Director: Peter Farrelly

U.S.

The electrifying true story of how Sylvester Stallone bet everything on himself to play the lead role in *Rocky* against seemingly impossible odds.



100 min.

THU 10/15

8:00pm

AMC #4

FRI 10/16

12:00pm

AMC #4

I Rarely Wake Up Dreaming

Director: Isabelle Stever

Germany | Ukraine

In this bold, empathic drama, a couple is pushed to the brink when Russia's invasion of Ukraine upends their lives, throwing their partnership into confusion.



109 min.

SAT 10/17

5:30pm

GSFC #1

SUN 10/18

8:00pm

AMC #4

I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning

Director: Clio Barnard

U.K.

A tight-knit working class friend group's bond is tested when Rian returns home to Birmingham in this compassionate portrayal of blue-collar life.



125 min.

THU 10/15

5:00pm

AMC #4

FRI 10/16

8:15pm

AMC #4

I'll Be Gone in June

Director: Katharina Rivlis

Germany | Switzerland | U.S.

An introspective German exchange student searches for meaning and kinship over a transformative year in newly post-9/11 New Mexico.



94 min.

SAT 10/17

7:30pm

GSFC #2

SUN 10/18

11:00am

AMC #1

The Illusion of an Everlasting Summer

La ilusión de un verano sin fin

Director: Alessandra Sanguinetti

Argentina | U.S.

Filmed over 25 years, this profound study of female intimacy tracks two Argentine cousins as their days of adolescent wonder give way to sobering adulthood.



90 min.

FRI 10/23

7:45pm

AMC #14

SUN 10/25

2:00pm

AMC #14

Iron Boy

Le Corset

Director: Louis Clichy

France | Belgium

In this dreamy ink and watercolor animation, music and romance provide escape from rigid family obligation for an imaginative child in an iron back brace.



85 min.

WED 10/21

5:15pm

AMC #4

SUN 10/24

2:45pm

AMC #4

SUN 10/25

12:00pm

AMC #4

Isabel

Director: Gabe Klinger

Brazil | France

Feeling stymied by the world of fine-dining, sommelière Isabel sets out to open her own natural wine bar in this effervescent love letter to São Paulo.



103 min.

THU 10/22

7:45pm

AMC #14

FRI 10/23

5:30pm

AMC #4

It Will Happen Tonight

Succederà Questa Notte

Director: Nanni Moretti

Italy | France | Spain

After an unforgettable meet-cute, Matteo and Greta's paths cross over the years, but the timing is never right in this seductive tale of love and its possibilities.



119 min.

MON 10/19

5:30pm

AMC #5

WED 10/21

1:00pm

AMC #14

Josephine

Director: Beth de Araujo

U.S.

Channing Tatum delivers a knockout performance as a father struggling to manage the fallout after his young daughter witnesses a brutal assault. 🍿



145 min.

FRI 10/16

8:00pm

GSFC #1

SAT 10/17

2:15pm

AMC #14

La Gradiva

Director: Marine Atlan

France | Italy

A high school trip to Naples becomes the staging ground for a profound coming-of-age experience in this spellbinding, mythic portrait of teenhood. 🍿



151 min.

FRI 10/23

7:45pm

GSFC #1

SAT 10/24

11:00am

AMC #5

Let Us Through, Dear Ancestors

Makikiraan Po

Director: Lav Diaz

The Philippines

A 17th century Spanish priest brutally colonizing the Philippines orders his converts to transport a cartload of marble through a marauder-filled jungle. 🍿



127 min.

SAT 10/17

7:30pm

RDLC PH

SAT 10/24

8:15pm

AMC #6

Liz Here Now

Director: Sterling Macer Jr.

U.S.

Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor mesmerizes as a devoted caregiver shielding two white children from domestic dysfunction in this deeply affecting 1960s-set drama. 🍿



86 min.

FRI 10/16

8:00pm

AMC #14

SAT 10/17

11:45am

AMC #14

The Loneliest Man in Town

Directors: Tizza Covi | Rainer Frimmel

Austria

When a real estate company targets blues legend Al Cook's apartment for demolition, he's forced to forge a new path in this winning blend of reality and fiction.



117 min.

WED 10/21

7:30pm

AMC #6

FRI 10/23

12:00pm

AMC #14

A Long Winter

Director: Andrew Haigh

Canada | U.K.

In 1950s Colorado, a family in an isolated mountain home is rocked by tragedy just as snow squalls and plummeting temperatures descend for the season.



100 min.

SAT 10/17

5:00pm

AMC #6

SUN 10/18

8:30pm

AMC #6

Look Back

Director: Hirokazu Kore-eda

Japan

This ode to the creative spirit follows two small-town girls whose friendship is fueled by their shared passion and dream of becoming manga artists.



95 min.

THU 10/15

7:45pm

AMC #1

FRI 10/16

2:30pm

GSFC #2

Love is the monster

Amor es el monstruo

Director: Neto Villalobos Brenes

Costa Rica | Peru | Panama | Chile | Mexico

In a tropical dystopia ruled by fear and inequality, a woman trying to right wrongs with her young granddaughter faces dangerous choices.



97 min.

TUE 10/20

5:30pm

AMC #6

WED 10/21

5:00pm

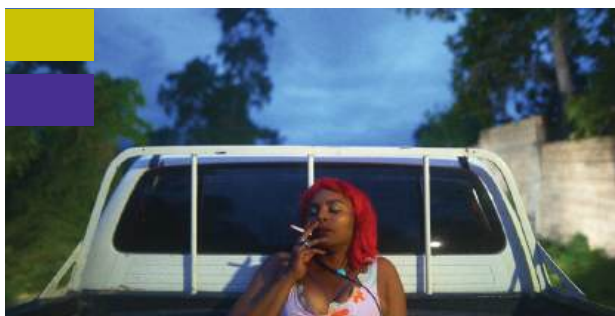
AMC #6

The Man I Love

Director: Ira Sachs

U.S.

An artist dying of AIDS throws himself into one final theater role in this vivid portrait of artistic community in 1980s New York City.



104 min.

SUN 10/18

12:30pm

RDLC SR

MON 10/19

5:30pm

GSFC #2

Marie Madeleine

Director: Gessica Génés

France | Haiti | Belgium

Luxembourg | Canada

In coastal Haiti, a fiercely independent sex worker and an evangelical preacher's son navigate desire, Vodou roots, and rigid religious dogma.



94 min.

THU 10/15

5:15pm

AMC #1

FRI 10/16

1:00pm

AMC #1

Mariinka

Director: Pieter-Jan De Pue

Belgium | The Netherlands

Germany | Sweden

Spanning a decade, this sprawling yet intimate war-time epic follows several youth as their world is upended and they adapt to the crushing reality of life in Ukraine.



141 min.

TUE 10/20

8:30pm

AMC #4

SUN 10/25

4:45pm

AMC #4

Minotaur

Director: Andrey Zvyagintsev

France | Germany | Latvia

A Russian businessman's comfortable life is thrown into chaos when he begins to suspect his wife of infidelity in this dark, sardonic moral fable.



94 min.

SAT 10/17

10:45pm

AMC #6

WED 10/21

12:00pm

AMC #6

Mum, I'm Alien Pregnant

Directors: THUNDERLIPS

New Zealand

A depressed slacker and a man harboring an alien secret accidentally procreate in this outrageous horror comedy bursting with practical effects. 🍿



230 min.

FRI 10/16

12:00pm

AMC #6

Musk

Director: Alex Gibney

U.S.

Oscar-winning documentarian Alex Gibney delivers the definitive portrait of one of the most controversial and unchecked figures of our time: Elon Musk. *Includes 10 min. intermission*



110 min.

SAT 10/17

2:00pm

AMC #4

SUN 10/18

11:30am

AMC #4

Nagi Notes

Nagi Daiari

Director: Kōji Fukada

Japan | France | Singapore | The Philippines

In a bucolic village, a rekindled friendship between former sisters-in-law gently unspools much unspoken longing and mourning within the community.



77 min.

SAT 10/24

6:00pm

AMC #5

SUN 10/25

3:00pm

CHM

No Hands: The Wild Ride of the Schwinn Bicycle Company

Director: Daniel Clarke

U.S.

This lively cultural history charts the rise and fall of the Schwinn bicycle, from its Chicago roots to the fads and forces leading to its collapse.



103 min.

FRI 10/16

10:30pm

AMC #14

SUN 10/18

8:00pm

GSFC #2

No Rest for the Wicked

Director: Kasper Kalle

Denmark

Gothic romance meets folk horror and Christian repression in this beautiful yet tragic gay vampire film set in the 19th century Faroe Islands.



72 min.

FRI 10/16

3:00pm

GSFC #1

SAT 10/24

5:15pm

AMC #14

Nowhere to Lay My Eyes

Director: Hong Sangsoo

South Korea

Sanghee arrives at a windswept Jeju Island to reconnect with her mother in this gentle rumination on aging, parenthood, and artistic expression.



100 min.

TUE 10/20

5:15pm

AMC #14

Once Upon a Time in Harlem

Directors: William Greaves | David Greaves

U.S.

This sublime snapshot of a 1972 cocktail party filled with the living luminaries of the Harlem Renaissance reveals the complexities of the world-renowned artistic movement.



88 min.

THU 10/15

5:30pm

AMC #14

THU 10/22

12:00pm

AMC #14

The Only Living Pickpocket in New York

Director: Noah Segan

U.S.

A veteran pickpocket (John Turturro) finds himself in a race against time to return a stolen USB drive or face the wrath of a vengeful crime family.



164 min.

THU 10/15

5:15pm

AMC #6

FRI 10/16

8:30pm

AMC #6

Possible Love

Director: Lee Chang-dong

South Korea

When an affluent documentarian centers a working-class couple in her new film, their lives become dangerously intertwined in this bold, searing drama.



98 min.

WED 10/21

5:00pm

GSFC #1

SAT 10/24

12:00pm

AMC #14

Rehearsals for a Revolution

Director: Pegah Ahangarani

Czech Republic | Spain

Iranian filmmaker Pegah Ahangarani traces over 40 years of her country's tumultuous history through five personal portraits of resistance.



117 min.

FRI 10/16

5:15pm

AMC #4

SAT 10/17

4:45pm

GSFC #2

The Riverbank

A Margem do Rio

Directors: Enock Carvalho | Matheus Farias

Brazil | Germany

When Izaquiel falls for the mysterious fisherman Jeremias, the two journey into the heart of the mangroves to seek justice for encroaching violence. ©



93 min.

FRI 10/16

5:45pm

AMC #14

SUN 10/18

8:30pm

GSFC #1

Rose

Director: Markus Schleiner

Austria | Germany

When an unknown soldier arrives in a pious 17th century village staking claim to land there, the villagers' suspicions about his identity force a reckoning. 🍿



90 min.

MON 10/19

5:30pm

AMC #4

TUE 10/20

6:30pm

NNMA

Sad Girlz

Chicas tristes

Director: Fernanda Tovar

Mexico | Spain | France

The bond between teen best friends is tested when they react in drastically different ways to a traumatic event in this intimate coming-of-age. 🍿



104 min.

THU 10/22

5:30pm

AMC #5

FRI 10/23

8:00pm

AMC #5

Saints

Sants

Director: Mikel Gurrea

Spain | Italy

While reluctantly caring for her dying mother, Lali finds a new purpose when she joins a band of misfit thieves who steal religious artifacts.



104 min.

SUN 10/18

2:30pm

AMC #4

MON 10/19

8:00pm

AMC #4

Six Months in a Pink and Blue Building

Seis meses en el edificio rosa con azul

Director: Bruno Santamaría Razo

Mexico | Brazil | Denmark

Filmmaker Bruno recalls the hazy memories from his eleventh year, reconciling his budding queerness with his father's diagnosis with HIV.



103 min.

SAT 10/24

10:30pm

AMC #5

SUN 10/25

1:00pm

AMC #5

Species

Sanguine

Director: Marion Le Corroller

France | Belgium

Cutthroat colleagues and strange skin conditions offer competing crises for medical intern Margot in this visceral body horror. 🍿



115 min.

TUE 10/20

5:15pm

AMC #4

WED 10/21

5:00pm

AMC #5

The Spiral

L'Estranea

Director: Paolo Strippoli

Italy | France | Belgium

A Faustian bargain sends a once-perfect family on a harrowing downward spiral in this twisted fable from *The Holy Boy* director. 🍿



95 min.

TUE 10/20

6:30pm

CHM

WED 10/21

5:30pm

GSFC #2

Stand Up

Director: Mari Sanders

The Netherlands | Greece

A young woman whose life is upended by a crash that requires her to use a wheelchair meets an aspiring standup comic whose subversive spirit helps her heal.



91 min.

FRI 10/16

8:00pm

AMC #1

SAT 10/17

1:00pm

AMC #1

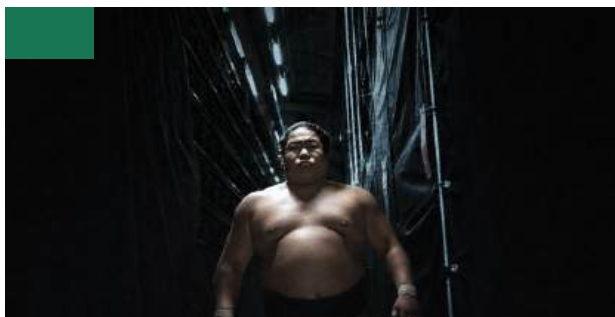
Summer Drift

Virages

Directors: Céline Carridroit | Aline Suter

Switzerland | France

Swiss watch technician Johanna sets out to restore her beloved VW bug and return to the tracks where she once raced in this celebration of trans identity.



99 min.

THU 10/15

8:00pm

AMC #14

FRI 10/16

2:30pm

AMC #14

SUMO: Spirit Weighs Nothing

Director: Erik Shirai

Japan | U.S. | U.K. | Denmark

Sumo wrestlers, both up-and-comers and veterans, train to reach the sport's highest rank while adhering to its storied traditions in this illuminating film.



102 min.

FRI 10/23

5:00pm

AMC #14

SAT 10/24

2:30pm

AMC #14

Tangles

Director: Leah Nelson

Canada | U.S.

A young queer woman grapples with her vibrant mother's Alzheimer's diagnosis in this charming and deeply moving animated memoir.



112 min.

THU 10/22

5:15pm

AMC #1

FRI 10/23

2:45pm

GSFC #2

Tell Everyone

Kerro kaikille

Director: Alli Haapasalo

Finland

Finland, 1898. Banished to an island colony for troubled women, Amanda finds friendship and romance—but betrayal pushes her toward madness. ©



123 min.

THU 10/15

8:15pm

AMC #5

SAT 10/17

1:30pm

RDLC PH

Three Colors: Pan-African

Directors:

Elijah Davis | Allison A. Waite | Tyler Holmes

U.S.

Three stories connect across the Pan-African flag as an injured athlete, an evicted mother, and a sitcom star fight to survive modern Black America.



96 min.

SAT 10/17

6:30pm

AMC #5

SUN 10/18

11:15am

AMC #5

Tin Castle

Director: Alexander Murphy

Ireland | France

Irish Travelers Paddy and Lisa O'Reilly and their 10 children find their traditional way of life under threat in this immersive and tender portrait.



90 min.

FRI 10/23

5:15pm

AMC #6

SAT 10/24

3:00pm

CHM

Trash Mountain

Director: Kris Rey

U.S.

In this witty, queer coming-of-age comedy, Gavin (Caleb Hearon) leaves Chicago for his Missouri hometown after his father dies.



97 min.

SAT 10/17

5:30pm

RDLC SR

SUN 10/18

3:00pm

GSFC #2

Tricontinental, Letter to Open in Case Of

Tricontinentale, lettre à ouvrir au cas où

Director: Laura Cazador

Switzerland | Cuba

This electrifying film essay tracks the short life of film critic Michèle Firk and the anti-imperialist movements of the 1960s that she joined.



98 min.

MON 10/19

7:45pm

AMC #1

TUE 10/20

2:15pm

AMC #1

The Ultra Runner

Director: Mila Aung-Thwin

Canada

A spectacularly shot film profile of Romanian athlete Tiberiu Ușeriu, who has spent much of his life running—in extreme races and from his past.



102 min.

SAT 10/17

12:00pm

MBT

Vampire Hunter D: Bloodlust (2000)

Director: Yoshiaki Kawajiri

Japan

Playing in the U.S. for the first time in Japanese, this cult animated dark fantasy delivers a vampire adventure brimming with style. 🍷



102 min.

WED 10/14

9:45pm

MBT

SAT 10/17

8:00pm

RDLC SR

Victorian Psycho

Director: Zachary Wigton

U.S.

A psychopathic governess struggles to tamp down her murderous tendencies in this delightfully unhinged twist on 19th century social conventions. 🍷



105 min.

WED 10/21

5:30pm

AMC #14

THU 10/22

5:00pm

AMC #14

What Belongs to Others

Cudze rzeczy

Director: Grzegorz Dębowski
Poland

When thief Kasia discovers a man's body while on a job, a scam to collect his life insurance money becomes something more in this elusive mystery. 🍿



86 min.

WED 10/21

6:30pm

CHM

FRI 10/23

5:15pm

GSFC #1

While We Are Here

Director: Reveca Torres
U.S. | France

Beautifully expanding notions of disability, filmmaker Reveca Torres engages with iconic disabled artists Frida Kahlo, Vincent Van Gogh, and Henri Matisse.



100 min.

FRI 10/23

7:45pm

AMC #1

SAT 10/24

11:15am

AMC #1

Will You Still Be My Friend

Director: Po-Shun Lu
Taiwan | Singapore

The intimate friendship of Jun and Jasper is threatened when a conflict erupts between their families in this heartfelt portrait of adolescence.



The
Chicago
International
Film Festival

Black Perspectives
30th Anniversary

Black Perspectives at 30

Cheryl Dunye's *The Watermelon Woman* and Stephen Winter's *Chocolate Babies* stand as foundational titans of 1990s independent cinema. While Dunye navigates video-store daily life and romantic friction to uncover erased Black lesbian history, Winter rallies an underground collective of HIV-positive drag queens and activists staging theatrical guerrilla strikes across New York. Together, they shatter respectability tropes to celebrate Black queer interiority, fierce communal joy, and unapologetic living.



81 min.

SUN 10/18

3:30pm

RDLC SR

Chocolate Babies (1996)

Director: Stephen Winter
U.S.

In 1990s NYC, a group of HIV-positive queer activists wage fierce guerrilla warfare on corrupt politicians in this sharp, militant comedy-drama. 🍿



84 min.

FRI 10/16

7:00pm

RDLC PH

The Watermelon Woman (1996)

Director: Cheryl Dunye
U.S.

A video clerk unearths the hidden history of a 1930s Black actress in Cheryl Dunye's landmark queer comedy.

Shorts Program

■ **After Dark** ■ **Animate!** ■ **Black Perspectives** ■ **City & State** ■ **Comedy** ■ **Departures** ■ **Documentary / Documentary Competition**
 ■ **International Competition** ■ **New Directors Competition** ■ **OutLook** ■ **Shorts** ■ **Special Presentations** ■ **Spotlight**
 © *Content Consideration*



Dëmm

90 min.

SAT 10/24
9:45pm
AMC #14

SUN 10/25
7:00pm
AMC #1

After Dark: Siren Songs

Man-eaters and monster women form the bloodthirsty backdrop of this moody genre program. Showcasing freaky folk phenomena, digital disturbances, provocative prosthetics, a slasher spoof, and more, these shorts pull a daring bait-and-switch, taking aim at one of the genre's most enduring malefactors: Man. ©

Banshee
 Director:
 Peter Vass
Ireland

Dëmm
 Director:
 Aida Captijn
Switzerland
Senegal

Embla
 Director:
 Katla Sólnes
Iceland

Scissors
 Director:
 Hannah Alline
U.S.

Rusalka
 Directors:
 Oleg Batrakov
 Nikita Bulgakov
 Vlad Fisher
Ukraine

Man Eating Pussy
 Director:
 Emily Lawson
Canada



Fingerbang

78 min.

WED 10/21
5:15pm
AMC #1

SAT 10/24
1:45pm
AMC #1

Animation: Altered States

Envisioning the disturbing and delightful possibilities that exist beyond our fleshy forms, this program of animated shorts features different takes on death rendered in stop motion, colored pencil, and other formats. Using endings as a starting point, these shorts guide viewers toward the hopeful horizons that follow from painful transformations. ©

The End of The End
 Director:
 Junar Kim
U.K.
South Korea

two ice creams please
 Director:
 Jasmine Elsen
Belgium

Fingerbang
 Director:
 Kim Yeonwoo
South Korea

Leptocephalus
 Director:
 Luc Duggan
U.S.

The End
 Director:
 Niki Lindroth von Bahr
Sweden
France
Denmark



Jesus is Coming
(to take the
Church away)

93 min.

FRI 10/16

7:15pm

GSFC #2

SUN 10/18

6:00pm

RDLC SR

Black Perspectives: Love with No Place to Go

From a contemporary, animated folktale to extraterrestrial activity with a religious bent, bold imaginations rule this program. Although these films differ in genre and approach, the throughline connecting them is the universal experience of grief, both the pain of losing loved ones and the eventual acceptance of the surprising paths life can take.



Back Scratch

96 min.

THU 10/16

5:45pm

AMC #5

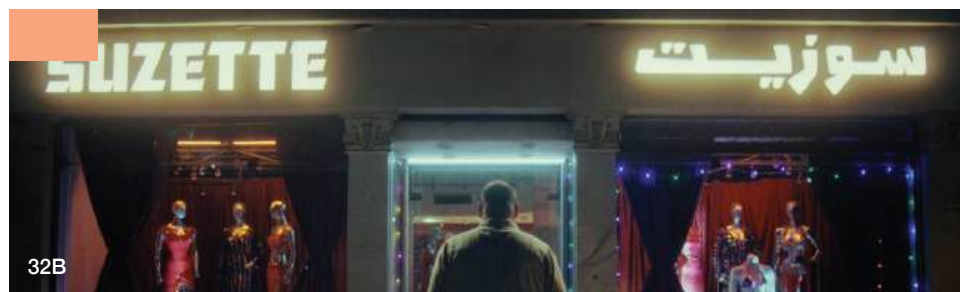
SAT 10/24

12:00pm

CHM

City & State: Journey Within

Anxieties, both real and imagined, take center stage in the face of unknown family lineage, romantic longings, career disappointments, and bloody satires. With a funny, varied, and profound lineup, City & State once again showcases the immense talent based in Chicago and Illinois. 🎬



32B

88 min.

FRI 10/16

5:30pm

AMC #1

SAT 10/17

12:00pm

GSFC #2

Comedy: Anxious/Attachments

Delight in the absurdities of the modern world through these hilarious and eccentric comedies—and take comfort in the fact that we all experience awkwardness, anxiety, and clumsy attempts to connect with one another. No matter the outcome, at least we're trying! 🎬

Jazz Infernal

Director:

Will Niava

Canada

Speechless

Directors:

Adrian Gardner

Ryan Walker-

Edwards

U.K.

Tell Me

When You

Get Home

Director:

Tshay Meade

U.S.

When They're Gone

Directors:

Ragan Henderson

Lauryn Darden

U.S.

Gill

Escama

Director:

Manu Zilveti

Cuba

Jesus is Coming (to take the Church away)

Director:

Cameron Clay

U.S.

Vespers

Director:

Charlie Schmidlin

U.S.

Back Scratch

Director:

Jet Harris

U.S.

Skin of Olives

Jild ez-Zeitun

Director:

Nick Leffel

U.S.

Closed Mouths

Director:

George Ellzey, Jr.

U.S.

Three Days in Tlaquepaque

Director:

Duncan Analco

U.S.

Choke

Directors:

Joelle Marie Velez

Kemi Mayomi

Cee Pham

U.S.

Radiant Frost

Director:

Hannah

Schierbeek

U.S.

The Philippines

Structure

Director:

P.J. Fishwick

U.S.

Oh Boys

Director:

Antonio Donato

Italy

Spray Me

Director:

Christopher

Chuky

U.K.

32B

Director:

Mohamed Taher

Egypt

Balloon Animals

Director:

Anna Baumgarten

U.S.

Please

Director:

Anna Mantzaris

Sweden

Czech Republic

France

Norway

Finland

Cold Call

Director:

Elise Kibler

U.S.

We Were Here

Director:

Pranav Bhasin

India



A Woman's Place
is Everywhere

97 min.

SAT 10/17
2:30pm
GSFC #2

SAT 10/24
4:00pm
AMC #1

Documentary: Fault Lines

Questions of personhood, loss, and global belonging propel these moving documentary portraits of people and the places they call home. Through formally distinct methods ranging from fly-on-the-wall observation to personal filmmaking and archival montage, these films all grapple with the same question: "Where am I in all of this?" ©



What Do the Maknines
Dream Of

98 min.

FRI 10/23
5:15pm
AMC #1

SUN 10/25
4:00pm
AMC #1

Drama: We'll Meet Again

Navigate the intimate relationships, familial and beyond, that define our very sense of who we are with this poignant collection of shorts. The exceptional filmmakers whose work is featured here use humor, heart, and profound insight to convey the complex beauty of our most treasured connections—from spectral presences to weighty absences. ©



Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Moe!

65 min.

SAT 10/17
11:00am
AMC #1

SUN 10/25
11:00am
AMC #1

Family Friendly Animation: Tender Bonds

Deep relationships and the vulnerability it takes to maintain them inform this vibrant, stunningly animated family program featuring a floating house, a capybara, and a boy who shines like the sun. Presented as a relaxed screening and recommended for cinema-enthusiasts ages 8 years and older.

**A Woman's Place
is Everywhere**
Director:
Fanny Texier
U.S.

**The Revolution
Against Death**
Director:
Joshua
Oppenheimer
**Denmark
Sweden**

Buckskin
Director:
Mars Verrone
U.S.

**Forgotten
Spaceman**
*Hersheve
fazanawerd*
Director:
Elham Ehsas
**Afghanistan
U.K.**
**Memories of
a Window**
Khaterate Panjereh
Directors:
Mehraneh Salimian
Amin Pakparvar
**Iran
U.S.
Germany**

**"Vaterland"
or A Bule
Named Yanto**
*"Vaterland"
oder ein bule
namens Yanto*
Director:
Berthold Wahjudi
**Germany
Indonesia**

White Musk
Director:
Fatima Wardy
**Sudan
U.S.
U.A.E.**

**What Do
the Maknines
Dream Of**
*À quoi rêvent
les Maknines*
Director:
Sarrah Ryma
**France
Algeria**

**i saw you in
the flood**
Director:
K. Xian Ming Yu
U.S.

**Fried Chicken &
Strip Checkers**
*Poulet frit et
strip-dames*
Director:
Ophelia
Harutyunyan
**France
Armenia**

**¿Necesitas
Ayuda?**
Director:
Angel Ruvalcaba
U.S.
Colombia

Land of No Man
Directors:
Muling Tzai
Olivia Lin
U.S.
Taiwan

Saba
Director:
Liron Topaz
U.S.
U.K.

Yugen
Director:
Nayelli Ojeda
Mexico

**The Sky
Was Candy**
Director:
Anh Tú Nguyen
Germany

A Little Death
Directors:
Leto Meade
Jonathan
Rockefeller
U.K.
U.S.

**Eeny, Meeny,
Miny, Moe!**
Director:
Andrea Szelesová
**Czech Republic
Slovakia**
Fire in My Pocket
*Lángbogar a
zsebemben*
Director:
Janka Feiner
Hungary



57 min.
SAT 10/24
12:30pm
AMC #4

ICE OUT: *Sawyer Avenue, Sunday Afternoon* and *A Month in Minnesota*

These two powerful documentary shorts astutely chronicle the brutal tactics used by ICE forces, and the bravery and resourcefulness of local communities fighting against them. While *Sawyer Avenue, Sunday Afternoon* reconstructs a shocking confrontation on Chicago's Northwest side, *A Month in Minnesota* goes beyond the headlines of the raids in Minneapolis. ©

Sawyer Avenue, Sunday Afternoon
Director:
Bill Morrison
U.S.

A Month in Minnesota
Director:
Annie Sundberg
U.S.



98 min.
SAT 10/17
9:30pm
AMC #5
WED 10/21
2:15pm
AMC #4

Outré: *Deviants and Deviations*

The strange, the sensual, the terrible, and the absurd meet and mingle in this program. From tales of psychosexual frustration to revolutionary longing, this selection of live-action and animated films serves up unrestrained storytelling and stylistic bravura. ©

The Bovine Comedy
Director:
Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke
France
Cosmonauts
Kozmonavti
Director:
Leo Černić
Slovenia
Italy

Hag
Director:
Anna Ginsburg
U.K.
Ashegetham
Director:
Filmsaaz
France
Switzerland
Iran

Into the cracks
Hurgar las grietas
Director:
Miguel Ángel Fajardo
Colombia



87 min.
SAT 10/24
10:00am
AMC #4

Best of CineYouth 2026

The award-winning shorts of CineYouth 2026 showcase the exciting and reflective visions of eight young filmmakers from around the world. Shoe-stealing comedy, heartfelt documentary, thoughtful animation, and playful explorations of self comprise this wide-ranging program. ©

Folded Stories
Director:
Sylvanna LeBlanc
Age 22
Chicago, IL

The Shoe Thief
Director:
Adelle Yan
Age 22
Los Angeles, CA

Songs of Gentle Night
Director:
Tsu Kuei Chen
Age 21
Taiwan

La Esperanza
Director:
Javier Cruz-Ginez
Age 22
Columbus, OH & Mexico

Our Pockets Are Full
Director:
Anjali Pulim
Age 22
New York, NY

Sunny Oaks
Director:
Max Davies
Age 22
U.K.

The Mine
Director:
Shijun Liu
Age 22
China

Bootstrapping for the Boobied
Director:
Stella Chen
Age 22
Chicago, IL



CELEBRATE CINEMA

Winning films at this festival may be eligible to enter for Oscars® consideration.

Year-round, the Academy celebrates artistry and innovation in filmmaking, inspires new generations to share our love of cinema and storytelling, preserves and creates our global film industry, and connects film fans from around the world.

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academymuseum.org

Programs

- **After Dark**
- **Animate!**
- **Black Perspectives**
- **City & State**
- **Comedy**
- **Departures**
- **Documentary/ Documentary Competition**
- **International Competition**
- **New Directors Competition**
- **OutLook**
- **Shorts**
- **Special Presentations**
- **Spotlight**

Venues

AMC

AMC NEWCITY 14
1500 N Clybourn Ave.

CPL

Chicago Public Library
Harold Washington Library
400 S State St.

CHM

Chicago History Museum
1601 N Clark St.

GSFC

Gene Siskel Film Center
164 N State St.

KKC

Kennedy-King College Theater
740 W 63rd St.

NMMA

National Museum of Mexican Art
1852 W 19th St.

MBT

Music Box Theatre
3733 N Southport Ave.

RDLC

Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts
915 E 60th St.

Wednesday, October 14

6:00pm **MBT** ■ Club Kid 122 min.
9:45pm **MBT** ■ Victorian Psycho 102 min.

Thursday, October 15

2:00pm **AMC 4** ■ HotSpring SharkAttack: Great Kyushu Showdown 88 min.
5:00pm **AMC 4** ■ I'll Be Gone in June 125 min.
5:15pm **AMC 1** ■ Mariinka 94 min.
5:15pm **AMC 6** ■ Possible Love 164 min.
5:30pm **AMC 14** ■ The Only Living Pickpocket in New York 88 min.
5:45pm **AMC 5** ■ Shorts: City & State 96 min.
7:00pm **KKC** ■ Finding Your Laughter 86 min.
7:45pm **AMC 1** ■ Love is the monster 95 min.
8:00pm **AMC 4** ■ I Rarely Wake Up Dreaming 100 min.
8:00pm **AMC 14** ■ SUMO: Spirit Weighs Nothing 99 min.
8:15pm **AMC 5** ■ Three Colors: Pan-African 123 min.
8:45pm **AMC 6** ■ Ana the Cleaner 86 min.

Friday, October 16

12:00pm **AMC 4** ■ I Rarely Wake Up Dreaming 100 min.
12:00pm **AMC 6** ■ Musk 230 min.
1:00pm **AMC 1** ■ Mariinka 94 min.
2:30pm **AMC 14** ■ SUMO: Spirit Weighs Nothing 99 min.
2:30pm **GSFC 2** ■ Love is the monster 95 min.
3:00pm **GSFC 1** ■ Nowhere to Lay My Eyes 72 min.
5:00pm **GSFC 2** ■ Everything Else is Noise 71 min.
5:15pm **AMC 4** ■ The Riverbank 117 min.
5:30pm **AMC 1** ■ Shorts: Comedy 88 min.
5:30pm **AMC 6** ■ Wild Horse Nine 118 min.
5:30pm **GSFC 1** ■ Fatherland 82 min.
5:45pm **AMC 14** ■ Rose 93 min.
6:30pm **AMC 5** ■ All of a Sudden 196 min.

7:00pm **RDLC** ■ The Watermelon Woman 84 min.
7:15pm **GSFC 2** ■ Shorts: Black Perspectives 93 min.
8:00pm **AMC 1** ■ Summer Drift 91 min.
8:00pm **AMC 14** ■ The Loneliest Man in Town 86 min.
8:00pm **GSFC 1** ■ La Gradiva 145 min.
8:15pm **AMC 4** ■ I'll Be Gone in June 125 min.
8:30pm **AMC 6** ■ Possible Love 164 min.
10:30pm **AMC 5** ■ HotSpring SharkAttack: Great Kyushu Showdown 88 min.
10:30pm **AMC 14** ■ No Rest for the Wicked 103 min.

Saturday, October 17

11:00am **AMC 1** ■ Shorts: Family Friendly 65 min.
11:00am **GSFC 1** ■ Digging Deeper Into Movies: Tender Loving Care 60 min.
11:15am **AMC 4** ■ Ben'lmana 101 min.
11:30am **AMC 6** ■ Wild Horse Nine 118 min.
11:45am **AMC 14** ■ The Loneliest Man in Town 86 min.
12:00pm **MBT** ■ Vampire Hunter D: Bloodlust 102 min.
12:00pm **GSFC 2** ■ Shorts: Comedy 88 min.
12:00pm **CPL** ■ Shorts: City & State: Homegrown Talent 58 min.
12:30pm **GSFC 1** ■ Tender Loving Care 107 min.
1:00pm **AMC 1** ■ Summer Drift 91 min.
1:30pm **RDLC** ■ Three Colors: Pan-African 123 min.
2:00pm **AMC 4** ■ Nagi Notes 110 min.
2:15pm **AMC 14** ■ La Gradiva 145 min.
2:30pm **AMC 6** ■ Fatherland 82 min.
2:30pm **GSFC 2** ■ Shorts: Documentary 97 min.
3:00pm **GSFC 1** ■ The Difficult Bride 88 min.
3:00pm **RDLC** ■ Congo Boy 94 min.
3:30pm **AMC 1** ■ 32 Meters 83 min.
4:30pm **RDLC** ■ Finding Your Laughter 86 min.
4:45pm **AMC 4** ■ Dear Future Self 79 min.
4:45pm **GSFC 2** ■ The Riverbank 117 min.
5:00pm **AMC 6** ■ Look Back 100 min.
5:30pm **GSFC 1** ■ I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning 109 min.

All programs are subject to change.

5:30pm	RDLC	■ Tricontinental, Letter to Open in Case Of 97 min.	3:30pm	GSFC 1	■ Eight Bridges 82 min.	8:00pm	AMC 5	■ A Good Little Soldier 102 min.
6:00pm	AMC 1	■ Clementine Orange 70 min.	3:30pm	RDLC	■ Chocolate Babies 81 min.	8:15pm	AMC 6	■ I Play Rocky 127 min.
6:00pm	AMC 14	■ Club Kid 122 min.	3:45pm	AMC 1	■ Ana, en passant 90 min.	8:15pm	GSFC 2	■ Congo Boy 94 min.
6:30pm	AMC 5	■ Tin Castle 96 min.	4:30pm	AMC 5	■ A City in the Forest 99 min.	8:30pm	AMC 14	■ Everytime 121 min.
7:15pm	AMC 4	■ All of a Sudden 196 min.	5:15pm	AMC 14	■ A Bit of Light 87 min.	Tuesday, October 20		
7:30pm	GSFC 2	■ The Illusion of an Everlasting Summer 94 min.	5:15pm	AMC 4	■ Ben'lmana 101 min.			
7:30pm	RDLC	■ Liz Here Now 127 min.	5:30pm	AMC 6	■ Bitter Christmas 111 min.	12:00pm	AMC 4	■ Far From the Trees 121 min.
7:45pm	AMC 6	■ The Life and Deaths of Wilson Shedd 121 min.	6:00pm	GSFC 2	■ 32 Meters 83 min.	2:00pm	AMC 14	■ A Bit of Light 87 min.
8:00pm	RDLC	■ Victorian Psycho 102 min.	6:00pm	RDLC	■ Shorts: Black Perspectives 93 min.	2:15pm	AMC 1	■ The Ultra Runner 98 min.
8:15pm	AMC 1	■ The Dreamed Adventure 164 min.	6:15pm	AMC 1	■ Cherry and Virgin 87 min.	3:00pm	AMC 4	■ Going for Home 83 min.
8:15pm	GSFC 1	■ The Beloved 135 min.	6:15pm	GSFC 1	■ Citizen Osama 69 min.	5:00pm	AMC 1	■ Edward Said: Between Worlds 107 min.
9:00pm	AMC 14	■ Cherry and Virgin 87 min.	7:00pm	AMC 5	■ The Difficult Bride 88 min.	5:15pm	AMC 4	■ The Spiral 115 min.
9:30pm	AMC 5	■ Shorts: Outré 98 min.	7:30pm	AMC 14	■ Going for Home 83 min.	5:15pm	AMC 14	■ Once Upon a Time in Harlem 100 min.
10:45pm	AMC 6	■ Mum, I'm Alien Pregnant 94 min.	8:00pm	AMC 4	■ I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning 109 min.	5:30pm	AMC 5	■ A Common Story 107 min.
Sunday, October 18			8:00pm	GSFC 2	■ No Rest for the Wicked 103 min.	5:30pm	AMC 6	■ The Man I Love 97 min.
			8:30pm	AMC 6	■ Look Back 100 min.	6:00pm	MBT	■ The Debut 105 min.
			8:30pm	GSFC 1	■ Rose 93 min	6:30pm	CHM	■ Stand Up 95 min.
			Monday, October 19			6:30pm	NMMA	■ Sad Girlz 90 min.
11:00am	AMC 1	■ The Illusion of an Everlasting Summer 94 min.				7:45pm	AMC 1	■ 9 Temples to Heaven 140 min.
11:00am	AMC 14	■ The Beloved 135 min.	12:30pm	AMC 4	■ The Dreamed Adventure 164 min.	8:00pm	AMC 14	■ The Echo Chamber 120 min.
11:15am	AMC 5	■ Tin Castle 96 min.	1:00pm	AMC 5	■ A City in the Forest 99 min.	8:15pm	AMC 5	■ Clarissa 134 min.
11:15am	AMC 6	■ The Life and Deaths of Wilson Shedd 121 min.	2:30pm	AMC 14	■ Citizen Osama 69 min.	8:15pm	AMC 6	■ Gentle Monster 114 min.
11:30am	MBT	■ Bob and David Climb Machu Picchu 80 min.	2:45pm	AMC 1	■ Ana, en passant 90 min.	8:30pm	AMC 4	■ Minotaur 141 min.
11:30am	AMC 4	■ Nagi Notes 110 min.	5:00pm	AMC 6	■ Ink 116 min.	Wednesday, October 21		
12:00pm	GSFC 1	■ Being Heumann 127 min.	5:00pm	GSFC 1	■ Edward Said: Between Worlds 107 min.			
12:30pm	GSFC 2	■ Dear Future Self 79 min.	5:15pm	AMC 14	■ The Diary of a Chambermaid 94 min.	12:00pm	AMC 6	■ Mum, I'm Alien Pregnant 94 min.
12:30pm	RDLC	■ Marie Madeleine 104 min.	5:15pm	AMC 1	■ Eight Bridges 82 min.	1:00pm	AMC 14	■ Josephine 119 min.
1:30pm	AMC 1	■ Clementine Orange 70 min.	5:30pm	AMC 4	■ Sad Girlz 90 min.	2:00pm	AMC 5	■ A Common Story 107 min.
1:45pm	AMC 5	■ A Good Little Soldier 102 min.	5:30pm	AMC 5	■ Josephine 119 min.	2:15pm	AMC 4	■ Shorts: Outré 98 min.
2:00pm	AMC 14	■ Everytime 121 min.	5:30pm	GSFC 2	■ Marie Madeleine 104 min.	2:30pm	AMC 6	■ Ana the Cleaner 86 min.
2:15pm	AMC 6	■ Ray Gunn 119 min.	6:00pm	MBT	■ Ever After 92 min.	3:00pm	AMC 1	■ Queer Humanism: Andrew Haigh and Ira Sachs in conversation
2:30pm	AMC 4	■ Six Months in a Pink and Blue Building 104 min.	7:30pm	RDLC	■ An Evening with Marlon Wayans	5:00pm	AMC 5	■ The Spiral 115 min.
3:00pm	GSFC 2	■ Tricontinental, Letter to Open in Case Of 97 min.	7:45pm	AMC 1	■ The Ultra Runner 98 min.	5:00pm	AMC 6	■ The Man I Love 97 min.
			7:45pm	GSFC 1	■ Far From the Trees 121 min.	5:00pm	GSFC 1	■ Rehearsals for a Revolution 98 min.
			8:00pm	AMC 4	■ Six Months in a Pink and Blue Building 104 min.	5:15pm	AMC 1	■ Shorts: Animation 78 min.
						5:15pm	AMC 4	■ Isabel 85 min.
						5:30pm	AMC 14	■ What Belongs to Others 105 min.
						5:30pm	GSFC 2	■ Stand Up 95 min

Sunday, October 18

11:00am	AMC 1	■ The Illusion of an Everlasting Summer 94 min.
11:00am	AMC 14	■ The Beloved 135 min.
11:15am	AMC 5	■ Tin Castle 96 min.
11:15am	AMC 6	■ The Life and Deaths of Wilson Shedd 121 min.
11:30am	MBT	■ Bob and David Climb Machu Picchu 80 min.
11:30am	AMC 4	■ Nagi Notes 110 min.
12:00pm	GSFC 1	■ Being Heumann 127 min.
12:30pm	GSFC 2	■ Dear Future Self 79 min.
12:30pm	RDLC	■ Marie Madeleine 104 min.
1:30pm	AMC 1	■ Clementine Orange 70 min.
1:45pm	AMC 5	■ A Good Little Soldier 102 min.
2:00pm	AMC 14	■ Everytime 121 min.
2:15pm	AMC 6	■ Ray Gunn 119 min.
2:30pm	AMC 4	■ Six Months in a Pink and Blue Building 104 min.
3:00pm	GSFC 2	■ Tricontinental, Letter to Open in Case Of 97 min.

Monday, October 19

12:30pm	AMC 4	■ The Dreamed Adventure 164 min.
1:00pm	AMC 5	■ A City in the Forest 99 min.
2:30pm	AMC 14	■ Citizen Osama 69 min.
2:45pm	AMC 1	■ Ana, en passant 90 min.
5:00pm	AMC 6	■ Ink 116 min.
5:00pm	GSFC 1	■ Edward Said: Between Worlds 107 min.
5:15pm	AMC 14	■ The Diary of a Chambermaid 94 min.
5:15pm	AMC 1	■ Eight Bridges 82 min.
5:30pm	AMC 4	■ Sad Girlz 90 min.
5:30pm	AMC 5	■ Josephine 119 min.
5:30pm	GSFC 2	■ Marie Madeleine 104 min.
6:00pm	MBT	■ Ever After 92 min.
7:30pm	RDLC	■ An Evening with Marlon Wayans
7:45pm	AMC 1	■ The Ultra Runner 98 min.
7:45pm	GSFC 1	■ Far From the Trees 121 min.
8:00pm	AMC 4	■ Six Months in a Pink and Blue Building 104 min.

Wednesday, October 21

12:00pm	AMC 6	■ Mum, I'm Alien Pregnant 94 min.
1:00pm	AMC 14	■ Josephine 119 min.
2:00pm	AMC 5	■ A Common Story 107 min.
2:15pm	AMC 4	■ Shorts: Outré 98 min.
2:30pm	AMC 6	■ Ana the Cleaner 86 min.
3:00pm	AMC 1	■ Queer Humanism: Andrew Haigh and Ira Sachs in conversation
5:00pm	AMC 5	■ The Spiral 115 min.
5:00pm	AMC 6	■ The Man I Love 97 min.
5:00pm	GSFC 1	■ Rehearsals for a Revolution 98 min.
5:15pm	AMC 1	■ Shorts: Animation 78 min.
5:15pm	AMC 4	■ Isabel 85 min.
5:30pm	AMC 14	■ What Belongs to Others 105 min.
5:30pm	GSFC 2	■ Stand Up 95 min

All programs are subject to change.

6:00pm	MBT	■ Mouse 120 min	2:30pm	AMC 4	■ The Girl with the Leica 116 min.	5:30pm	AMC 4	■ Carl Sagan: We Are Made of Star Stuff 98 min.
6:30pm	CHM	■ While We Are Here 86 min.	2:45pm	GSFC 2	■ Tell Everyone 112 min.			
7:30pm	AMC 1	■ 9 Temples to Heaven 140 min.	3:00pm	GSFC 1	■ The Diary of a Chambermaid 94 min.	5:45pm	AMC 6	■ Elsinore 104 min.
7:30pm	AMC 6	■ A Long Winter 117 min.	5:00pm	AMC 14	■ Tangles 102 min.	6:00pm	AMC 5	■ No Hands: The Wild Ride of the Schwinn Bicycle Company 77 min.
7:45pm	AMC 4	■ Forever Your Maternal Animal 108 min.	5:15pm	AMC 1	■ Shorts: Drama 98 min.			
7:45pm	GSFC 2	■ Al Baraneya 84 min.	5:15pm	AMC 6	■ Trash Mountain 90 min.	6:30pm	AMC 1	■ A Day in the Life of Jo: Chapter Phaedra 88 min.
8:00pm	AMC 5	■ Clarissa 134 min.	5:15pm	GSFC 1	■ While We Are Here 86 min.	7:30pm	AMC 14	■ Burgundy 91 min.
8:00pm	GSFC 1	■ Being Heumann 127 min.	5:30pm	AMC 4	■ It Will Happen Tonight 103 min.	8:15pm	AMC 5	■ Ana the Cleaner 86 min.
8:15pm	AMC 14	■ The Echo Chamber 120 min.	5:30pm	AMC 5	■ Head to Head 80 min.	8:15pm	AMC 6	■ Liz Here Now 127 min.
			5:45pm	GSFC 2	■ A Day in the Life of Jo: Chapter Phaedra 88 min.	8:45pm	AMC 1	■ The Liberation 124 min.

Thursday, October 22

11:45am	AMC 4	■ Forever Your Maternal Animal 108 min.	6:00pm	MBT	■ The Liberation 124 min.			
12:00pm	AMC 14	■ The Only Living Pickpocket in New York 88 min.	7:45pm	AMC 1	■ Will You Still Be My Friend 100 min.			
2:00pm	AMC 6	■ Mouse 120 min.	7:45pm	AMC 14	■ Iron Boy 90 min.			
2:15pm	AMC 4	■ Al Baraneya 84 min.	7:45pm	GSFC 1	■ Let Us Through, Dear Ancestors 151 min.			
2:30pm	AMC 14	■ Burgundy 91 min.	8:00pm	AMC 6	■ Paper Tiger 114 min.			
5:00pm	AMC 4	■ The Girl with the Leica 116 min.	8:00pm	AMC 5	■ Saints 104 min.			
5:00pm	AMC 14	■ What Belongs to Others 105 min.	8:15pm	GSFC 2	■ Elephants in the Fog 108 min.			
5:15pm	AMC 1	■ Tell Everyone 112 min.	8:15pm	AMC 4	■ The Debut 105 min.			
5:30pm	AMC 5	■ Saints 104 min.	10:00pm	AMC 14	■ Corpus 102 min.			
5:30pm	AMC 6	■ Ink 116 min.						
6:30pm	RDLC	■ 14th 100 min.						
7:45pm	AMC 4	■ Ever After 92 min.						
7:45pm	AMC 14	■ It Will Happen Tonight 103 min.						
8:00pm	AMC 1	■ Elephants in the Fog 108 min.						
8:15pm	AMC 5	■ Head to Head 80 min.						
8:15pm	AMC 6	■ Bunker 126 min.						
10:30pm	AMC 5	■ Castration Movie Chapter iii. Junior Ghosts—Premorphic Drift; a fragmentary passage 127 min.						

Friday, October 23

12:00pm	AMC 14	■ A Long Winter 117 min.	12:30pm	AMC 4	■ Shorts: ICE Out 57 min.			
1:00pm	AMC 5	■ Castration Movie Chapter iii. Junior Ghosts—Premorphic Drift; a fragmentary passage 127 min.	1:45pm	AMC 1	■ Shorts: Animation 78 min.			
1:30pm	GSFC 1	■ Digging Deeper Into Movies: The Diary of a Chambermaid 60 min.	2:15pm	AMC 5	■ Dao 185 min.			
			2:30pm	AMC 14	■ Tangles 102 min.			
			2:45pm	AMC 4	■ Isabel 85 min.			
			2:45pm	AMC 6	■ I Play Rocky 127 min.			
			3:00pm	CHM	■ Trash Mountain 90 min.			
			4:00pm	AMC 1	■ Shorts: Documentary 97 min.			
			5:15pm	AMC 14	■ Nowhere to Lay My Eyes 72 min.			

All programs are subject to change.

Sunday, October 25

11:00am	AMC 1	■ Shorts: Family Friendly Animation 65 min.	1:00pm	AMC 5	■ Species 103 min.			
11:00am	AMC 5	■ Ever After 92 min.	1:45pm	AMC 6	■ Elsinore 104 min.			
11:00am	AMC 6	■ Ray Gunn 119 min.	2:00pm	AMC 14	■ Iron Boy 90 min.			
11:45am	AMC 14	■ Tender Loving Care 107 min.	2:30pm	AMC 4	■ Everything Else is Noise 71 min.			
12:00pm	AMC 4	■ Isabel 85 min.	3:00pm	CHM	■ No Hands: The Wild Ride of the Schwinn Bicycle Company 77 min.			
12:30pm	CHM	■ Carl Sagan: We Are Made of Star Stuff 98 min.	3:45pm	AMC 5	■ Dao 185 min.			
			4:00pm	AMC 1	■ Shorts: Drama 96 min.			
			4:30pm	AMC 6	■ Bitter Christmas 111 min.			
			4:45pm	AMC 4	■ Minotaur 141 min.			
			5:00pm	MBT	■ Behemoth! 124 min.			
			7:00pm	AMC 1	■ Shorts: After Dark 90 min.			
			7:30pm	AMC 5	■ Corpus 102 min.			

Best of Fest 🎬

Sunday, October 25

Award winners. Fan Faves.
Back by popular demand.

Lineup to be announced
Friday, October 23
chicagofilmfestival.com

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Free Events

All film screenings and events are free and open to the public, based on capacity. Advance registration is recommended. For more information and to register for tickets, visit: chicagofilmfestival.com/FreeEvents.

Doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Seating is general and on a first-come, first-served basis and is limited to theater capacity.

Community Cinema

Presented by Wintrust, Community Cinema brings free screenings and post-film conversations to neighborhoods across Chicago, spotlighting compelling stories and igniting conversations around social and cultural themes.

Check chicagofilmfestival.com/accessibility for additional information and screenings.



The National Museum of Mexican Art
1852 W 19th St,
Chicago, IL 60608



SUN 09/27 | 1:00pm
Oca
Director: Karla Badillo



TUE 10/20 | 6:30pm
Sad Girlz
Director:
Fernanda Tovar
See page 35



SUN 11/15 | 1:00pm
Everything Else is Noise
Director:
Nicolás Pereda
See page 28

KENNEDY-KING COLLEGE
CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO

Kennedy-King College Theater
740 W 63rd St., Chicago, IL 60621



WED 09/23 | 6:30pm
Down in the Delta
Director: Maya Angelou



THU 10/15 | 7:00pm
Finding Your Laughter
Directors:
Arieta Hall
Brittany Alsot
See page 28



The Chicago International Film Festival | Black Perspectives 30th Anniversary

THU 11/19 | 6:30pm
To Be Announced
Director: Various

As part of the Loop Arts Fest:



Harold Washington Library
400 S State St, Chicago, IL 60605

SAT 10/17 | 12:00pm
City & State Shorts: Homegrown Talent



In this program featuring a selection of shorts from the 62nd Chicago

International Film Festival's City & State shorts program, anxieties, both real and imagined, take center stage in the face of unknown family lineage, romantic longings, career disappointments, and bloody satires. With a varied and profound lineup, this program highlights the immense talents of filmmakers based right here in Chicago.

Presented By:

In Partnership With:



KENNEDY-KING COLLEGE
CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO



Digging Deeper into Movies with Nick Davis

These free monthly events offer audiences even more ways to watch and reflect on a Festival title, director, genre, or national cinema, enriching our love and knowledge of movies. After a lively, clip-filled presentation, professor and critic Nick Davis takes audience questions and reflections for a thoughtful, interactive conversation. Come join the fun! 60 min.



Tender Loving Care
SAT 10/17 | 11:00am | GSFC #1
see page 17



The Diary of a Chambermaid
FRI 10/23 | 1:30pm | GSFC #1
see page 26

Claim your free ticket online at chicagofilmfestival.com

Program Patron: Robert and Penelope Steiner Family Foundation



The 62nd
Chicago
International
Film Festival

PHYSICAL MEDIA ▶▶ FAIR SAT ▶ SUN ■ OCT 17 & 18

1511 N. Halsted St, Suite A119
Around the corner from AMC NEWCITY 14

Join us during the Opening Weekend of the Festival for a free two-day celebration of physical media, with opportunities for film-lovers to connect, purchase, and swap physical media and film merch, hear from filmmakers and industry leaders, win prizes, discuss the power of movies and media, and more.

DAY 1 ▶ SAT ● OCT 17



12:00pm-4:00pm: Pop-Up Conversations & Film Trivia with Prizes



5:00pm-8:00pm: Physical Media Swap in partnership with Revolution Brewing, hosted by Cinema/Chicago's Associate Board

DAY 2 ▶ SUN ● OCT 18



12:00pm-5:00pm: Pop-Up Shop



Buy Blu-rays, DVDs, VHS, posters, merch, books & Festival merch from a variety of vendors.

Partners:



Discover Chicago

Chicago is a world-class destination for filmmakers and film lovers alike—a city of iconic venues, distinct neighborhoods, and celebrated hotels and restaurants, all wrapped in genuine Midwestern hospitality. Before your next screening, treat yourself to an unforgettable meal at some of our favorite hot spots!

Official Hotel



Four Seasons Hotel Chicago
120 E Delaware Pl
312.280.8800 | fourseasons.com/chicago

A vibrant hub of culture, style, and energy, our newly transformed hotel boldly reimagines iconic luxury to capture the essence of Chicago through inspired food, drink, art, and music. Experience unrivaled lake and skyline views in the heart of the Magnificent Mile amid North Michigan Avenue's best shopping and attractions.

Special Room Rate: Receive 15% off the best available rate from October 14-25, 2026. Please email reservations.chicago@fourseasons.com or call **312.280.8800** and mention "Chicago International Film Festival."



Official Airline



As a purpose-driven brand, we connect people to opportunities while expanding the understanding of our planet and the people within it. Both in the air and on the ground, we are focused on lowering our carbon footprint, furthering an equitable work environment that values diversity and inclusion and living these values in the communities where we live, work, and serve.



Festival



Adorn
120 E Delaware Pl
Artful New American
adornrestaurant.com



Avli River North
702 N Wells St
Greek
avli.us/avli-river-north



The Berghoff
17 W Adams St
German Restaurant & Brewery
theberghoff.com



Big Star
3640 N Clark St
Tacos & Mexican-inspired Street Food
bigstarchicago.com



D4 Irish Pub & Cafe
345 E Ohio St
Irish & American
d4pub.com



The Dearborn
145 N Dearborn St
American
thedeARBOrntavern.com



Farm Bar Lakeview
1300 W Wellington Ave
American
farm-bar.com



The Gage
24 S Michigan Ave
American
thegagechicago.com



Gibsons Bar & Steakhouse
1028 N Rush St
Steakhouse
gibsonssteakhouse.com



Kamehachi
1531 N Wells St
Sushi
kamehachi.com

Hot Spots

Fuel your Festival experience with an unforgettable meal at some of our favorite restaurants in Chicago! Follow us on [@chicagofilmfestival](#) [@chifilmfest](#) [#chifilmfest](#) to see where we're gathering each night!



Kie Gol Lanee Restaurant
5004 N Sheridan Rd
Mexican
kiegol.com



Kings Dining & Entertainment
1500 N Clybourn Ave
American
playatkings.com/location/
chicago-lincoln-park/



Nando's Peri Peri
1500 N Clybourn Ave
South African Flame-grilled Chicken
nandosperiperi.com



Niu B
888 S Michigan Ave
Sushi & Noodle Bar
niubchicago.com



Niu Sushi
332 E Illinois St
Sushi
niusushi.com



Ox Bar & Hearth
1578 N Clybourn Ave
Midwestern-inspired
oxbarchicago.com



Perilla Korean American Steakhouse
225 N Wabash Ave
Korean
perillachicago.com



Piece Pizza
1927 W North Ave
Pizza & Beer
Piecechicago.com



The Radicle
2523 N Milwaukee Ave
Coastal Italian Inspired
radiclechicago.com



Robert's Pizza & Dough Company
465 N McClurg Ct
Italian
robertspizzacompany.com



RPM Italian
52 W Illinois St
Modern Italian
rpmrestaurants.com/rpm-italian-chicago



Shang Noodle Streeterville
215 E Grand Ave
Chinese
shangnoodleandchinese.com



SPACE 519 | The Lunchroom
200 E Chestnut St
California Style, Vegetable Forward
space519thelunchroom.com



Steingold's
3737 N Southport Ave
NYC-style Deli
steingoldsdeli.com



SUSHI-SAN Lincoln Park
1950 N Halsted St
Japanese
sushisanrestaurant.com/
lincoln-park/



Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea
1457 N Halsted St, Ste B105
Coffee, Tea, & Breakfast
sweetwaterscafe.com



Tecalitlan Mexican Kitchen + Margarita Bar
1538 N Clybourn Ave
Traditional Mexican
tecachicago.com



Union Sushi + BBQ + Izakaya
1457 N Halsted St
Japanese
eatatunion.com



Uvae Kitchen & Wine Bar
5553 N Clark St
Globally Inspired
uvaechicago.com



Venteux Brasserie, Cafe & Oyster Bar
224 N Michigan Ave
French
venteuxchicago.com



CINEMA SOIRÉE 2026

Cinema Soirée 2026: A Night of Celebration and Impact

Hosted by Al Roker, Cinema Soirée 2026 rolled out the red carpet on Saturday, July 18, at The Geraghty. The evening honored directors Alex Thompson and Kelly O'Sullivan with the Vanguard Award, screenwriter Gillian Flynn with the Artistic Achievement Award, and actor Ben Foster with the Tour de Force Award.

Together, we raised more than \$400,000 to support Cinema/Chicago's year-round public and educational programs.



Cinema Soirée Co-Chairs

Steve Dolinsky and
Amy Dordek Dolinsky
Jon and Allie Harris

Host Committee

Phil B. Clement
Catherine De Orio
Charles Droege &
Julie Wroblewski
Christopher Keogh
Penelope R. Steiner

Gold Sponsor



Silver Sponsors

The Clement Family
Charles Droege &
Julie Wroblewski
Christopher Keogh

Bronze Table Sponsors

Frank and Kathy Ballantine
Lee Blackwell Baur and Tom Baur
Catherine De Orio and John Gorey
Steve Dolinsky and Amy Dordek Dolinsky
Rohit Panikkar and Lakshmi Murali
Paul and Anita Sowadski
John and Melissa Starkey
Penelope R. Steiner

Cinema Soirée Benefactors

\$10,000+

John and Jacolyn Bucksbaum Family Foundation
Charles Droege & Julie Wroblewski
Gillian Flynn
David and Linda Garrison
Make It Better Foundation
McKinsey & Company, Chicago
Karen and Robert Ospalik
Joel Rosenbacher
Penelope R. Steiner

\$5,000- \$9,999

Shattock Family Foundation

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Bruce and Laura Comiskey
Steve and Michelle Cucchiari
Glenn Davis
Scott Fetters
Ben Foster
Kirk Gilson
Rich and Jen Goldsmith
Andrew and Elizabeth Hilbel
Sabah Kadri
Kristi Kirschner and Raymond Curry
Chris Landgraff
Eddie and Susie Linker
Scott McConnell
Alisa McLaughlin
Lakshmi Murali
Mike and Amy Murray
Michael and Maggie Murzanski
Paul and Nancie Oetter
Natalia Pascal
Roger and Alison Rhoten
Erin Seabury
Joe and Jennifer Shanahan
Kevin and Christine Shaw
Nancy Shields
Scott and Megan Solis
Paul and Anita Sowadski
Doug and Lynn Steffen
Wade and Rebecca Thomson
Brian Tkach
Bart Welch



CINEMA CIRCLE

Where Film and Philanthropy
Come Full Circle

JOIN CINEMA CIRCLE

Cinema Circle is a community of philanthropic film lovers dedicated to sustaining the Chicago International Film Festival and Cinema/Chicago's year-round programs.

As a Cinema Circle member, you help bring extraordinary stories from around the world to Chicago, spark discovery and dialogue, and champion the next generation of storytellers—ensuring that independent and international cinema continues to inspire empathy and build community for years to come.

YOUR IMPACT

Cinema Circle donors help bring the power of cinema to tens of thousands of people each year by:

- Presenting free screenings in neighborhoods across Chicago
- Empowering emerging filmmakers through CineYouth
- Expanding accessibility services and initiatives
- Showcasing global stories through the Chicago International Film Festival, Community Cinema, and Summer Screenings
- Supporting independent filmmakers through year-round industry and professional development programs

WHAT OUR AUDIENCES SAY

“Younger filmmakers don’t often get the chance to showcase their art, so the platform CineYouth provides to nurture young talent and invest in their future is such a dream come true.”

— CINEYOUTH FILMMAKER

THANK YOU!

Cinema/Chicago and the Chicago International Film Festival proudly celebrate our Cinema Circle members. Your generosity fuels our work and enables us to fulfill our mission.

Confirmed as of 09/09/2026

Diamond Patron

(\$100,000+)

Robert and Penelope Steiner
Family Foundation

Festival Patron

(\$50,000-\$99,999)

John and Jacolyn Bucksbaum
Family Foundation
Charles Droege and
Julie Wroblewski
GS Gives – Christopher M. Keogh

Red Carpet Patron

(\$25,000- \$49,999)

David and Linda Garrison

Silver Screen Patron

(\$10,000-\$14,999)

Thomas Kneller
Joel Rosenbacher
Ellen Rudnick and Paul Earle

Spotlight Patron

(\$5,000-\$9,999)

The Clement Family
Michelle and Steve Cucchiaro
Ana Ortiz-Monasterio Draa
and Vince Draa
Bill Melamed and Jamey Lundblad
The Mitten Fund
Mary and Joseph Plauché
Lauren Robishaw



Together, Cinema Circle members sustain and advance our mission: to use the power of film to bridge cultures, inspire empathy, and strengthen our community.

Your tax-deductible donation helps these programs thrive, remain accessible, and reach new audiences and future generations.

DONATE TODAY:

chicagofilmfestival.com/donate/cinema-circle

Federal Tax ID: 36-2545170



Year-Round Programming:

Creating connections through cinematic storytelling

From red carpets to neighborhood screenings, our commitment to championing the power of film extends far beyond the Festival. We host 50+ free screenings, film talks, and networking events throughout the year. These programs bring together thousands of film lovers across the city to experience films that inspire, foster community, and spark conversation and discussion.

About Us

Mission

Cinema/Chicago, the non-profit 501(c)(3) presenting organization of the Chicago International Film Festival, enriches the community through year-round programming devoted to international and independent cinema. We strengthen communication and inspire empathy among people of diverse cultures through artistic programs that promote discovery and discussion and inspire new visions of our shared future.



Your support helps us continue these important programs:

Free Screenings & Community Programs

- **CineYouth** showcases short films made by emerging filmmakers 22 years old and under from around the world. *April.*
- **Summer Screenings** presents free international and independent films with post-screening discussions all summer long. *June-August.*
- **Digging Deeper into Movies** is a lecture series led by author and film professor Nick Davis that deepens audiences' appreciation of cinema through insightful, thought-provoking perspectives. *September-June.*
- **Community Cinema** brings free screenings and conversations to South and West Side neighborhoods of Chicago. *September-November.*

Artist Support & Filmmaker Development

- **CIX: Lab** supports five filmmaking teams through a year-long creative development program, providing guidance, resources, and industry connections to advance their film projects. *Year-round.*
- **Industry Days** connects emerging and established filmmakers with leading industry professionals for panels, master classes, and networking opportunities. *October.*
- **The Chicago International Film Festival** presents 100+ films from 50+ countries, bringing together filmmakers and film lovers from around the world for 12 days of screenings, conversations, panels, and special events. *October.*
- **Accessibility initiatives** allow us to offer open- and closed-captioned screenings, audio descriptions, live-captioned events, and sensory-friendly spaces. *Year-round.*

Your Support Matters

Cinema/Chicago programs thrive because of donors, members, and community partners. Together, we uplift filmmakers, engage audiences, and expand access to cinema for all.

Donate. Become a Member. Volunteer.

For more information, visit

chicagofilmfestival.com

📍 @chicagofilmfestival ✂ @chifilmfest @ @chifilmfest



SEE THE NEXT GENERATION OF FILMMAKERS NOW!

April 23–25
2027



CineYouth
Festival

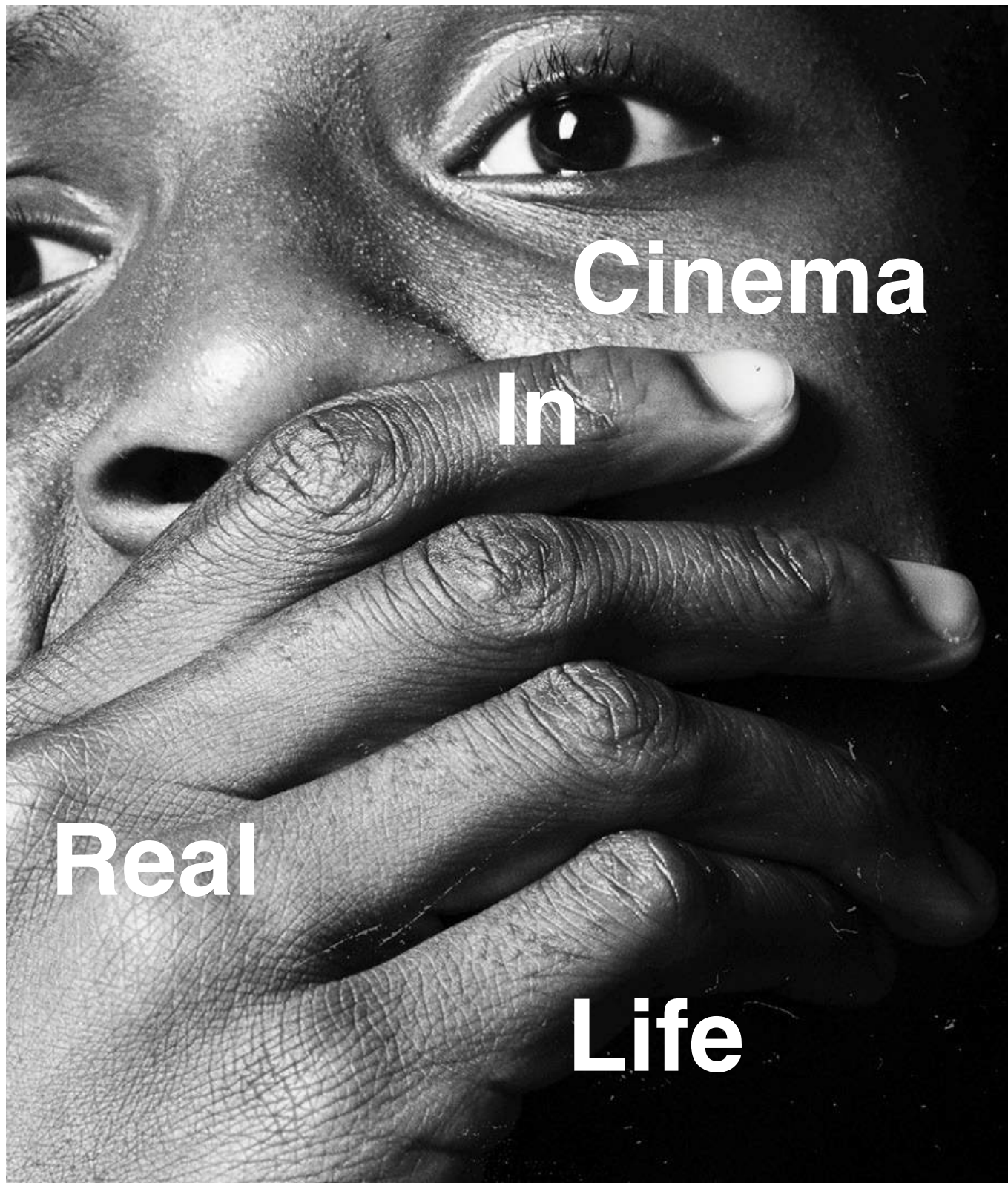
chicagofilmfestival.com/cineyouth

Major Sponsor:



Adobe Premiere Pro





The 62nd
Chicago
International
Film Festival



October 14—25