Welcome to the 5th Annual Alexander Valley Film Festival!

We welcome you to the celebration of an astonishing five years of film, friendship, fun, and philanthropy in Northern Sonoma County. In just five years, we’ve built an organization that provides young people with career-ready skills training through film workshops. We’ve screened hundreds of films for our community and welcomed more than a hundred filmmakers who shared their work with us. Together, we’ve raised $1,000,000 for the Alexander Valley Film Society’s year-round educational and cultural programming. Perhaps most importantly, we’ve cemented our role in the community as the host, conduit, and gatekeeper for the dynamic influence of movies – a role that will only grow in impact and become more self-sustaining in coming years.

Our finest work continues to take place in collaboration with partners old and new. This year, AVFS launched a partnership with Corazón Healdsburg to produce a Spanish language series, ¡Vamos Junto El Cine! (Let’s Go to the Movies!). Generating access to great films and representation on the big screen for underrepresented groups is critical to our mission of creating and strengthening community through film. We also joined forces this past summer with the City of Healdsburg and the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce to bring free movies to the community in both English and Spanish. What could be better than hosting families of all ages as they come together to view a heart-warming film under a canopy of stars?

Looking back at all the hard work we’ve done together, it is especially gratifying to have Emmy Award-Winning Filmmaker and First Partner of California, Jennifer Siebel Newsom, join us to present her latest documentary, THE GREAT AMERICAN LIE. Her thoughtful and daring filmmaking strikes at the heart of what connects us all: our humanity. How much of our humanity are we willing to sacrifice for our ideals? And in another Festival film, RAISE HELL: THE ART AND TIMES OF MOLLY IVINS, Molly reminds us not to lose too much of ourselves in fighting for what’s right.

Humanity also takes center stage in our opening night film, MAKING WAVES: THE ART OF CINEMATIC SOUND, showcasing the unsung artistry that transforms the remarkable stories that bring us together. Our 2019 selection of short films sizzles collectively with want, expectation, desperation, justice, and love. In ÁGA, central characters Nanook and Sedna cling to tradition, hoping that together they will be enough to stave off a changing world. And Gary Cooper stands his ground in HIGH NOON proclaiming memorably: “They’re making me run. I’ve never run from anybody before.”

What makes us singular is also what makes us one. This year’s Festival holds a mirror up to all of that, asking us to lean into one another, to risk sharing our truths and to honor the experiences of all our fellows.

From all of us at AVFS, thank you for five years of an incredible love story. We can’t wait for the next five. Let’s all embrace the theme of the 2019 Film Festival: Humanity!

See you at the movies!

Kathryn Hecht
Executive Director
The Alexander Valley Film Society (AVFS) strengthens our community by captivating and engaging audiences, cultivating new fans of film, providing access and educational opportunities in the media arts, and celebrating our collective humanity through year-round educational and cultural enrichment.

**MISSION**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Claire O’Neill, Chair
Renay Fanelli, Secretary
Kirsten Tellez, Treasurer
Jenness Brewer
Sue Campbell
Joe Dobbins
Ann Elston
Walter Gendell
Jenny Gomez
Jim Kuhner
Mike Stok
Dianne Vernon

**FOUNDING BOARD MEMBERS**

Tod Hill, Emeritus
Nancy Dalwin, Emeritus

**ALEXANDER VALLEY FILM SOCIETY LEADERSHIP**

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NEIGHBOR SCREENING
Brought to you by
Bob Scott & Tim McDonald

Thursday, 10/17 - Alexander Valley Hall
Doors open for pre-dinner mingling 5:45PM | Dinner served at 6:15PM
Film begins at 7PM

Join us for the community kick off of the
5TH ANNUAL ALEXANDER VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL!

Dinner catered by Jimtown Store.

RAISE HELL:
THE LIFE AND TIMES OF MOLLY IVINS

Director Janice Engel is expected to be in attendance.
Film will be followed by a Q&A with the director and then a panel on
the state of journalism in today’s society moderated by Steve Mencher, KRCB.
Panelists include Rollie Atkinson, The Healdsburg Tribune; Joe Garofoli, San Francisco Chronicle;
Hollis Robbins, Dean of Arts & Humanities of Sonoma State University; and
Matt Villano, freelance writer and editor.

Wines from Carpenter Wine, beer from Bear Republic,
and music from Marcos Pereda.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM Pass Holders/Individual Tickets are $85
WWW.AVFILMSOCIETY.ORG/AVFF-TICKETS
#AVFF2019: HUMANITY
The 2019 Alexander Valley Film Festival opens with a celebration of the hidden power of sound in cinema. Brought to you by MAKING WAVES: THE ART OF CINEMATIC SOUND. Following the film, join us at Trading Post for a reception and toast to 5 years of the Festival. Wines from Breathless and Foley Sonoma. Writer and producer Bobette Buster is expected to be in attendance. Friday, 10/18 Film begins at 6PM - The Clover Theater Reception begins at 8PM – Trading Post The 2019 Alexander Valley Film Festival opens with a celebration of the hidden power of sound in cinema. MAKING WAVES: THE ART OF CINEMATIC SOUND. Writer and producer Bobette Buster is expected to be in attendance. Following the film, join us at Trading Post for a reception and toast to 5 years of the Festival. Wines from Breathless and Foley Sonoma. Event is complimentary for PLATINUM Pass Holders/Individual Tickets are $100
SATURDAY NIGHT CLASSIC

Saturday, 10/19 - Alexander Valley Hall
Doors open for cocktails, wine, popcorn, and bring-your-own-dinner at 7PM
Film begins at 8PM

Grab your pardners, bring your favorite vittles, and take a stand alongside Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly during a special screening of:

HIGH NOON

Wine from Alexander Valley Vineyards, beer from Russian River Brewing Company and freshly-popped popcorn are included in ticket price. Special whiskey cocktails from Alley 6 will be for sale at event.

Event is included in PLATINUM and GOLD Passes/Individual Tickets are $25
WWW.AVFILMSOCIETY.ORG/AVFF-TICKETS
#AVFF2019: HUMANITY

“If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.”
- Mother Teresa
CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALEXANDER VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL!

21st Annual
WINE & FOOD AFFAIR
November 2-3, 2019
80 wineries | 11am - 4pm each day

Come celebrate the harvest with us, our world-class wines pair perfectly with locally grown food.

$95 weekend, $75 Sunday only
info & tickets: wineroad.com

WINE ROAD
SONOMA County, CA

CLOSING NIGHT
Brought to you by

The Arabian Family
Sunday, 10/20
Film begins at 5:30PM - The Raven Film Center
The Awards Ceremony immediately follows - spoonbar @ h2Hotel

Help us close the 2019 Festival with this inspiring story of international refugees from the LGBTQ community finding safe harbor and making new lives for themselves in the U.S. in:

UNSETTLED

Executive Producer Stu Harrison and film subjects Cheyenne and Mari are expected to be in attendance.
Following the film and subsequent Q&A, please join us for the Awards Ceremony at spoonbar.

Wines poured by Stuhlmuller Vineyards

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM/GOLD Pass Holders/Individual Tickets are $50
WWW.AVFILMSOCIETY.ORG/AVFF-TICKETS
#AVFF2019: HUMANITY
$2 Tickets for students of all ages - please encourage your kids to join us!

Saturday, 10/19 - The Clover Theater @ 10AM
Watch this year’s competitors walk the red carpet, face the paparazzi, and screen their films in a real-time competition! Prizes will be handed out after the screening. Then stick around and meet all of the filmmakers who are in town for this year’s Festival.

Erin Rothfuss & Brian Watanabe

Brought to you by
Adam Burke Student Funders
Anonymous
Austin Basis
Linda & Grumpy Bennett
Patricia Dahl
Walter Gendell & Jack Fitzsimmons
Healdsburg Kiwanis Foundation
Kathy & Tony Laglia
Barbara Lannin
David McChesney
Ernest Osborn & Lucia Boutte-Osborn
Helen Philip
Peter & Kathy Turbott
Laurie & Norm Webb

www.avfilmsociety.org/avff-tickets
#AVFF2019: HUMANITY

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JEROME KIRK
1923 - 2019

Showcasing over 50 years of kinetic sculpture from the artist’s personal collection

Exhibition
Oct 5th - Nov 3rd, 2019

Reception
October 5th, 2019

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ERICKSON FINE ART GALLERY
324 Healdsburg Avenue, Healdsburg, CA 95448 707 431-7073
STUDENT AWARDS
(sponsored by Erin Rothfuss & Brian Watanabe in honor of Muttville):

HIGH SCHOOL – INDEPENDENT FILM
Best technical achievement in filmmaking - $100 cash prize for student
Best storytelling - $100 cash prize for student
Best overall film - $250 cash prize for student

HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL PROJECT FILM
Best technical achievement in filmmaking - $50 cash prize for teacher’s classroom
Best storytelling - $50 cash prize for teacher’s classroom
Best overall film - $100 cash prize for teacher’s classroom

MIDDLE SCHOOL – INDEPENDENT FILM
Best technical achievement in filmmaking - $100 cash prize for student
Best storytelling - $100 cash prize for student
Best overall film - $250 cash prize for student

MIDDLE SCHOOL – SCHOOL PROJECT FILM
Best technical achievement in filmmaking - $50 cash prize for teacher’s classroom
Best storytelling - $50 cash prize for teacher’s classroom
Best overall film - $100 cash prize for teacher’s classroom

THE 2019 JOSEPH CARNATION, JR. STUDENT FILM AWARD (overall) - $1,000 cash prize

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS:
Barrett-Rosson Award for Best Feature Documentary – $500 cash prize for filmmaker
Colibri Vineyard Award for Best Feature Narrative – $500 cash prize for filmmaker
Murray, Stok & Company Award for Best Short Film – $500 cash prize for filmmaker

2019 AVFF STUDENT JURY AWARD

JACKIE HOFFNER HEART & HOPE AWARD
BOX OFFICE AND TICKET INFORMATION

All tickets and passes are available for purchase online at www.avfilmsociety.org/avff-tickets or through our box office line at 866-811-4111.

BOX OFFICES FOR PASS PICKUP AND ONSITE TICKET PURCHASES WILL BE OPEN AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES & LOCATIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLANK Cloverdale</td>
<td>227 N Cloverdale Blvd</td>
<td>Monday, 10/14</td>
<td>2 - 5PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLANK Healdsburg</td>
<td>175 Dry Creek Rd</td>
<td>Tuesday, 10/15</td>
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Venue box offices at The Clover Theater, The Raven Film Center, and Alexander Valley Hall (Saturday, 10/19 only) will also open one hour prior to the first film each day.

TICKET PRICES

- PLATINUM All-Access Pass: $350 (see website for details)
- GOLD Film-Lovers Pass: $125 (see website for details)
- Advance Individual Tickets: $12 / $10 for Seniors / $2 Students

FESTIVAL GUIDELINES

- Please have ID with you at all times. You do not need a paper copy of online orders; we will check you in by name. All ticket orders are final.
- No refunds, exchanges, or substitutions.
- Ticket and pass holders must be in the appropriate line 15 minutes prior to the start of each film to guarantee admittance.
- Outside food and beverages are not permitted.
- Cell phones must be turned off before the start of each film.
- The use of cameras and other recording equipment is strictly prohibited during all screenings and programs.
- Be sure to visit us on our website – www.avfilmsociety.org/avff-tickets for up-to-date programming information and any last-minute changes to our schedule.

Consent to be photographed/filmed: Alexander Valley Film Society and its representatives may photograph, film, and/or otherwise record attendees at all festival activities. By attending, you consent to such photography, filming, and/or recording and to any use in any and all media throughout the universe in perpetuity and without compensation for the use of your appearance, voice, and name for promotional and/or advertising, or any other purpose by Alexander Valley Film Society and its affiliates and representatives.

QUESTIONS? CALL OUR BOX OFFICE LINE AT 866-811-4111.
GET INVOLVED WITH THE ALEXANDER VALLEY FILM SOCIETY

BECOME A BIG SCREEN HERO

The Alexander Valley Film Society needs YOU!

Do you want to make a difference?

Do you like to make smaller gifts over time that add up into one great big juicy gift?

Then please consider supporting the Film Society with a monthly gift and become a “Big Screen Hero!”

AVFS Big Screen Heroes are the foundation of strength and stability for our programs. Your monthly contribution becomes a dependable base of revenue that allows AVFS to plan and develop educational and cultural programming now and into the future.

Use the remittance envelope in your brochure to sign up today!

BONUS!

Join us as a Big Screen Hero during the Festival at the $50 level or above and take home an AVFS T-shirt and tote bag!

The Alexander Valley Film Society (AVFS) works year-round to provide educational and cultural programming for the entire community of Northern Sonoma County. We can’t do what we do without a lot of help. If you enjoy yourself at the Festival, please consider supporting us in any or all of the following ways:

DONATE!
Cash contributions support us both in our programming and in keeping the doors open. We are proud to offer unique access to art and artists for people of all ages; all while working efficiently and hiring locally. Your support works to directly improve our community. Become a BIG SCREEN HERO during the festival at $50 or more and take home an AVFS T-shirt and tote bag! (See page opposite)

SPONSOR!
Support the Film Society and promote your brand to your customers at the same time. Not only is sponsorship an excellent way to give back to the community, you’ll find that AVFS patrons love our sponsors as much as we do. Our visibility is growing; come be a part of our growth!

VOLUNTEER!
We always need committed, excited AVFS advocates to take tickets, usher, direct drive-in traffic, join planning teams, work with students, and more. A donation of your time may be our most precious asset, and we strive to use it well. Email Sharia Pierce at sharia.pierce@avfilmsociety.org for more information.

RED CARPET EVENING!
Every year, the Alexander Valley Film Society hosts the Oscars® Gala - A.K.A. “Red Carpet Evening” - to raise the core funds needed for AVFS’ year-round educational and cultural programming. Guests come together, dressed in their Hollywood finest, for a night of the Academy Awards® on the big screen, an elegant dinner, a silent auction, and mirth.
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<th>Time</th>
<th>CLOVER 1</th>
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<td><strong>THE WOMAN WHO LOVES GIRAFFES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>GOLD PASS ACCESS AT THESE EVENTS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FILMMAKER WORKSHOP + STUDENT FILM SHOWDOWN</strong></td>
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AGA (2017, Bulgaria, 98 minutes)
Directed by Milkov Lazarov
In a yarn on the snow-covered fields of the North, Nanook and Sedna live following the traditions of their ancestors. When Sedna falls ill, Nanook embarks on an arduous journey to find Äga, their estranged daughter who left this remote tundra years ago to work in a diamond mine. Both epic and intimate, AGA is a tantalizing saga told through small moments in a vast Northern snow scape with staggeringly beautiful cinematography. Brought to you by Christel & Ron Longo

BIRTH OF THE COOL (2019, USA, 115 minutes)
Directed by Stanley Nelson
Elegant, cool, ethereal, angry, but above all, cool, musical visionary Miles Davis continued as a game-changer throughout his storied career, from bebop to hip-hop, breaking with convention at every opportunity. A fervent individualist with an unparalleled gift for bringing out the best in his collaborators, the complicated nature of this American master is explored through the unflinching eye of director Stanley Nelson (The Black Panthers, 2015). Brought to you by Joanne Menapace & Russ Bertuccelli

BY THE GRACE OF GOD (2019, France, 137 minutes)
Directed by François Ozon
Based on the child abuse scandal currently rolling the French Catholic Church, BY THE GRACE OF GOD tells the story of three adult men who band together to break the church’s powerful code of silence. An unabashed homage to 2015’s Spotlight, Ozon nonetheless deftly stokes out his own turf in this dramatic emotional procedural. Winner of the prestigious Silver Bear Award at the 2019 Berlin Film Festival. Brought to you by Ann Elston & Lanny Lossing

DON'T BE A DICK ABOUT IT (2017, USA, 69 minutes)
Directed by Ben Mullinikosson
Redheaded brothers Peter and Matthew live at home with their parents in suburban DC. Peter is obsessed with the TV show Survivor, and his younger brother Matthew is scared of dogs and is trying to get over it. Matthew is the only person in Peter’s family who treats Peter as if he weren’t autistic; for Matthew, this often means with unrealistic expectations and little patience, but also with unfurished honesty. An ode to American family life and friendship.

THE CAVE (2019, Syria/Denmark, 102 minutes)
Directed by Feras Fayyad
In the unfurling, ongoing Syrian War, hope and safety for Syrian besieged citizens lie underground inside the subterranean hospital known as The Cave. Pediatrician and managing physician Dr. Amani Ballor and her female colleagues have claimed their right to work as equals alongside their male counterparts, doing their jobs in a way that would be unthinkable in the oppressively patriarchal culture that exists above. THE CAVE paints a stirring portrait of courage, resilience and female solidarity. From Oscar-nominated director of Last Men in Aleppo, THE CAVE won the Audience Award at the 2019 Toronto Film Festival.

CLEMENCY (2019, USA, 113 minutes)
Directed by Chinnonye Chukwu
Heartbreaking and brilliant, Atif Woodard’s nuanced portrayal of a veteran death-row prison warden paved the way for the film’s Grand Jury Prize at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival. Deftly captured by director Chinnonye Chukwu’s probing camera, stoic warden Bernadine Williams (Woodard) must confront how bringing the workplace home impacts her family life. Co-starring Wendell Pierce (The Wire, The Wire, The Wire) to bring to you by Kirsten & Steve Tellez, Wild Creek Ranch Vineyards

CUNNINGHAM (2019, Germany/France/USA, 93 minutes)
Directed by Alla Kogan
Merce Cunningham is that rare breed of iconic visionary whose name is synonymous with an art form: for many, Merce Cunningham is dance. His collaborations with composer John Cage and visual artist Robert Rauschenberg challenged and charmed the art world and, ultimately, the public-at-large. Director Alla Kogan recently assembled the last generation of Cunningham dancers to present some of his landmark works. Interlaced archival footage enhances these performances with an historical perspective, allowing us a glimpse of the art and artist behind the name. Brought to you by Redmert Barn

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HIGH NOON (1952, USA, 85 minutes)
Directed by Fred Zinnemann
Considered by many as perhaps the greatest of all Westerns, HIGH NOON sets the cinematic standard for the timeless story of the brave man abandoned by all; a reluctant hero armed with unwavering moral conviction and a six-gun. Gary Cooper garnered a Best Actor Oscar for his powerful, understated performance as the worn out, ambivalent Sherriff Will Kane, who protests weekly to his Quaker wife, “I’m not trying to be a hero. If you think I like this, you’re crazy.” Brought to you by Dianne and Mark Vernon, Proud Cloverdale Residents

GREENER GRASS (USA, 2019, 95 minutes)
Directed by Jocelyn DeBoer, Dawn Luebbe
Writers DeBoer and Luebbe conjure a dark, delightful, unnerving, altogether surreal vision of suburbia, and propose to inhabit it with off-kilter characters played by a talented cast of rising comedic actors. Despite a non-stop assault of jokes and hilarious sight gags, the film’s heart and soul is a story about two young women struggling with conformity. With Beck Bennett (Saturday Night Live) and D’arcy Carden (The Good Place), Brought to you by Anita & Steven Barker

GRACE OF GOD (2019, USA, 115 minutes)
Directed by Alla Kovgan
In her latest documentary, Emmy Award-winner Alla Kovgan recently assembled the last generation of Merce Cunningham dancers to present some of his landmark works. Interlaced archival footage enhances these performances with an historical perspective, allowing us a glimpse of the art and artist behind the name. Brought to you by Redmert Barn

HIS CRIMES AND MERCY (2019, USA, 80 minutes)
Directed by Jonathan Demme
In the fall of 2009, the 70-year-old director of Safe and Silence of the Lambs had a heart attack. Diagnosed with a heart condition, Demme embarked on a journey with a shocking conclusion. Brought to you by Anita & Steven Barker

HIGH NOON (1952, USA, 85 minutes)
Directed by Fred Zinnemann
Considered by many as perhaps the greatest of all Westerns, HIGH NOON sets the cinematic standard for the timeless story of the brave man abandoned by all; a reluctant hero armed with unwavering moral conviction and a six-gun. Gary Cooper garnered a Best Actor Oscar for his powerful, understated performance as the worn out, ambivalent Sherriff Will Kane, who protests weekly to his Quaker wife, “I’m not trying to be a hero. If you think I like this, you’re crazy.” Brought to you by Dianne and Mark Vernon, Proud Cloverdale Residents

HIS CRIMES AND MERCY (2019, USA, 80 minutes)
Directed by Jonathan Demme
In the fall of 2009, the 70-year-old director of Safe and Silence of the Lambs had a heart attack. Diagnosed with a heart condition, Demme embarked on a journey with a shocking conclusion. Brought to you by Anita & Steven Barker

MAGGIE (2019, USA, 113 minutes)
Directed by Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi
Young woman climbing in the Hindu Kush mountains with five of her closest friends.

MAKING WAVES: THE ART OF CINEMATIC SOUND (2019, USA, 94 minutes)
Directed by Midge Costin
Directed by Midge Costin

MAKING WAVES reveals the hidden power of sound in cinema and the unsung heroes whose creative breakthroughs have impacted the most beloved, classic films. Luminous film clips, telling interviews and immersive archival footage work together in this film to reveal the history, impact and process of this often overlooked art form. Featuring directors George Lucas, Steven Spielberg, David Lynch, Barbara Streisand, Ang Lee, Sofia Coppola and Ryan Coogler, and sound design pioneers Walter Murch, Ben Burtt and Gary Rydstrom — and the many women and men who followed in their footsteps.

MICKEY AND THE BEAR (2019, USA, 89 minutes)
Directed by Annabelle Attanasio
Mickey, a headstrong teen, lives in Montana with his single, veteran, troubled father Hank. Secretly, she fantasizes of going college on the West Coast and finally living life on her own terms. When Hank’s controlling behavior turns destructive, Mickey must decide between familial obligation and personal fulfillment. This debut feature premiered at 2019 South By Southwest and then showed at the Cannes Film Festival, garnering much praise for first-time writer/director Attanasio and lead actress Camila Morrone.

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3. The Raven Film Center  
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4. Kelley & Young Wines  
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Delores & Gary Arabian

WHERE DO I BUY TICKETS?
Online at www.avfilmsociety.org/avff-tickets, over the phone at 866-811-4111, or at one of our “pop up” box offices. (See page 18)

WHY DOES YOUR PROGRAM OF MOVIES COME OUT SO LATE?
AVFF is strategically positioned in the calendar year to pick up certain high-profile films early in their rollout strategy. We wait for TIFF (Toronto International Film Festival) to snag a few final goodies! Follow us on social media, and you’ll see that we also LOVE to leak a few details here and there.

WILL THERE BE SWAG?
Yes! We’ll be selling AVFS T-shirts and tote bags at all of our box offices.

WHERE DO I PARK?
Cloverdale and Healdsburg have parking lots and free street parking. It may take some hunting in Healdsburg, but there is neighborhood parking on the side streets beyond the plaza. Alexander Valley Hall has a big parking lot out front.

CAN I TALK AND TEXT DURING THE MOVIE?
No! Please help us keep the viewing experience enjoyable for everyone. Please don’t even whisper to your neighbor.

WHAT IF I’M RUNNING LATE? WILL YOU GIVE MY SEAT AWAY?
All pass holders and ticket holders must be in line 15 minutes prior to the start of each film. Seats will be released to rush tickets at that time. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of Festival management. We know it can be a tight turnaround, and that can be part of the fun. Give one of our Box Office managers a heads up if you need assistance.

HOW DO I CONNECT WITH YOU ON SOCIAL MEDIA?
Find us using #AVFF2019 and #TheBig5 on:
Facebook: @avfilmsociety | Twitter: @avfilmsociety | Instagram: @avfilmsociety

HOW TO FESTIVAL: FAQS
Congrats to
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FILM SOCIETY
on your 5th Anniversary!

Thank you for making
Alexand Valley
an A-list place to live.

Bob Scott & Tim McDonald
The Alexander Valley Film Society’s educational outreach programs grow steadily in impact every year. Student outcomes demonstrate increased ease with media tools and collaboration with peers, as well as a hunger to advance their skills, both as storytellers and critical thinkers.

Approximately 1,000 students and their families are served annually through educational opportunities and family-friendly screenings.

In the 2019/2020 school year, AVFS will provide direct media arts training during school hours to more than 150 Sonoma County students through a targeted new program for public school students called Full Circle Cinema™, which aligns with the California Department of Education Career Technical Education (CTE) Standards for Career Ready Practice.

Here are a few statistics which underscore our impact since the launch of AVFS educational programming in 2015:

- 250+ students participated in the Film Festival weekends through musical performances, volunteering, screening their films, and watching movies.
- 100+ students traveled out of Sonoma County on field trips to the San Francisco Film Festival and the Mill Valley Film Festival.
- 50+ visiting filmmakers from across the U.S. taught workshops, conducted Q&As, coached students in storytelling projects, and shared their work directly with students, offering real-world context for filmmaking and direct access to professional expertise.
- 5 student interns joined us from Sonoma State University.
- 3 Sonoma State University interns further broadened their experience by becoming AVFS Fellows, a year-long paid position.
- AVFS Fellow and Intern alums currently work at MGM Studios in Los Angeles; at KOVR, the CBS affiliate in Sacramento; and closer to home with the Alexander Valley Film Society.
25 TEXANS IN THE LAND OF LINCOLN (USA) Directed by Ellen Brodsky (AVFF ALUM) - Twenty-five history students from San Antonio take a 2,000-mile trip on a bus to the Springfield, IL Military Museum to ask for repatriation of Santa Anna’s leg to Mexico.

BABY STEPS (USA) Directed by Kira Findling - Through middle school texts, webcam videos, and secret moments, a young woman comes of age online. As she grows, she grapples with gender identity and sexuality, finding new language for herself.

BLIND ADVENTURE CAMP (USA) Directed by Rod Murphy (AVFF Alum) - Every summer, blind and visually impaired teenagers from around the U.S. converge on a sleep-away, adventure camp to take on exhilarating outdoor activities.

CON FUERZA (USA) Directed by Andrés Wewer - A young Venezuelan refugee woman living in Colombia struggles through the pain of leaving home with the help of some local folk characters.

THE FEAR WE SHARE (USA) Directed by Miles Crawford - Living in fear of reproach, a man (Austin Basis) risks rejection and prepares an intimate feast for the object of his desire. His guest finds herself trapped in his unsettling company.

HELPING HANDS (USA) Directed by Alexander Gustaveson - A young woman too nervous to reach out and make an intimate connection gets some unexpected and unnerving help from the sentient hands.

I’M NO HOLIDAY (USA) Directed by Rick Gomez (AVFF ALUM) - A comical portrait of world-renowned fireworks photographer, Lawrence Sendass (Steve Zahn), as he attempts to reframe his work through the memory of lost love.

PARENTS, INC (USA) Directed by Harald Zwart - A girl living in a post-apocalyptic world, struggles with the new reality she lives in, being a teenager, and unreasonable parents.

PINCHPOT (Australia) Directed by Greg Holfeld - A short story about art and work, giving and receiving, life and death, and things made from lumps of clay.

REFUGE IN THE ROCKIES (Canada) Directed by Kaio Kathriner - Anderson Losada was 8 years old when he lost his leg to a landmine in Colombia. As a refugee, he was resettled in a small Canadian ski town which opened his eyes to the world of para-alpine skiing.

TRUEHUMANS (USA) Directed by Mallinali López - TRUEHUMANS captures the final days of the Sonoma Developmental Center and the impact of its closing.

WITHOUT (USA) Directed by Jacob Combs - Each day, a woman draws a circle of ash around the isolated cabin she lives in with her young baby. As she begins to experience flashes of memory from her past life, her protective ritual loses its power.
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Thank you, Alexander Valley Film Society, for another interesting and thought-provoking year of films.

CONGRATULATIONS
Cheers to 5 years!
I’m so proud to be a small part of your success.

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A huge congratulations to those involved with the Alexander Valley Film Festival!

We look forward to the years to come.

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Please help us acknowledge these incredible individuals, businesses, granting agencies, and foundations that have contributed more than $1,000,000 in the last five years of support in the AVF’s mission to create and strengthen community through film.
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Sharia Pierce
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Paige Hunter
Administrative & Social Media Assistant
Connie White
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Fiona Affronti, Grace Kelder, Ulysses Ruiz

AVFF STUDENT FILM COMPETITION PANEL
Matt Coello, Stephanie Faverio, Tod Hill, Taylor May, Chris Metzler, Matt O’Donnell

FESTIVAL TRAILER
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SPECIAL AVFF THANKS TO:
Alexander Valley Hall, Victor Aiuto, Karen Allan, Tess Aston, Anita & Steven Barker, Sarah Bradbury, Jenness Brewer, Pat Calahan, Sue Campbell, Christine Campbell, City of Cloverdale, Linda Clougherty, Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce, Cloverdale Performing Arts Center, Clover Theater Staff, Linda & John Compisi, Michiko Conklin, Catherine de Prima, #TeamDeasRosenberg, Joe Dobbins, Janet Donaldson, Marne Dupere, Charmaine Garland, Geyserville Chamber of Commerce, Jude Gibson, Rod Hammersley, Healdsburg Chamber of Commerce, Ryan Hecht, Douglas Keane, Frances Kruger, Angela Larsen, Nancy Lloyd, Leila McPhee, Vanessa Nava, Lizabeth Perez, Beth Plumley, Raven Film Center Staff, Dee Dee Robbins, Elizabeth Ryan, Randall Schai, Steve & Kirsten Tielez, The Tocchini Family, Janet Vail, Dan Zastrow,

All students and filmmakers whose stories brought us laughter, hope, and tears in 2019,

All Alexander Valley Film Society Donors and Sponsors,

And the best-looking, most generous, and kind-hearted volunteer crew in all the land.

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