9TH ANNUAL
AVFEST
APRIL 28-MAY 7, 2023
TEN DAYS OF FILM, FOOD, WINE, AND FILMMAKERS
IN CONVERSATION IN NORTHERN SONOMA COUNTY
WELCOME TO THE 9TH ANNUAL AVFEST!

I look forward to writing this letter every year. It allows me to meditate on all the excellent work AVFilm has delivered to our community and how the annual Festival reflects that effort to the world.

AVFest 2023 represents a full manifestation of all we at AVFilm hold dear. Over the course of ten days, filmmakers from all across the world will join us in conversation, and students will take the spotlight with a film competition of their own including special meetings and screenings with visiting artists. Together, we will explore issues relevant near and far and dine with some of our favorite restaurants and wineries. We will dance, we will talk, and we will connect. And we will return to each other more enriched, with lighter hearts and invigorated spirits. This is what film can do.

For 2023, we streamlined the Fest experience so that our guests would feel the full power of cinema. We designed the schedule so patrons flow from one screening or event into the next. We invite you to dive in and let the current carry you.

And I am overjoyed to share that after eight years of building, pivoting, and evolving, AVFilm is poised to deliver its most ambitious project yet: Plaza Cinema Center.

Plaza Cinema Center will be a two-story community asset - at 371 and 375 Healdsburg Avenue in Healdsburg, CA - that we have dreamt about since 2014. We are eager to fill the ground floor with a brand new, state-of-the-art, three-screen cinema and an entire second floor of educational and community programming. We know that sharing film experiences positively transforms individual lives and the broader community. The development of our new home is a promise to Northern Sonoma County, students of all ages, and the next generation of filmmakers that you and your story belong here.

See you at the movies!

Kathryn Hecht
Executive Director

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Box Office &amp; General Info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>AVFest2023 Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Spotlight Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>The Films</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>The Team</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AT CARTOGRAPH, WE BELIEVE THE ARTS ARE ESSENTIAL

WHICH IS WHY WE ARE A PROUD SPONSOR OF AVFEST!

Visit us Tues - Sat Reservations recommended

340 Center St.
Healdsburg, CA
707-433-8270

BOX OFFICE & GENERAL INFO
Tickets and passes are available for purchase online at bit.ly/AVFest-Tix

PRE-FEST BOX OFFICE
PLAZA CINEMA CENTER
375 Healdsburg Ave, Ste 200
Healdsburg, CA 95448
4/24-4/27: 9:00am-1:00pm

BOX OFFICE DURING FEST
Venue box offices at all locations will open 30 minutes prior to the first film each day.

FEST GUIDELINES
1. 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.
2. Ticket and pass holders must be in the appropriate line 15 minutes prior to the start of each film to guarantee admittance.
3. Outside food and beverages are not permitted.
4. Cell phones must be turned off before the start of each film.
5. The use of cameras and other recording equipment is strictly prohibited during all screenings and programs.

STAY INFORMED
Be sure to visit us on our website – avfilmresents.org/film-festival/individual-tickets for up-to-date programming information and any last-minute changes to our schedule.

WILL THERE BE SWAG?
Yes! We’ll be selling AVFilm T-shirts at all of our box offices. Stickers are free!

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. 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 #AVFest2023 on:
Facebook: @avfilmofficial
Twitter: @avfilmofficial
Instagram: @avfilmofficial

CONSENT TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED/FILMED
AVFest 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 AVFilm and its affiliates and representatives.

Tickets and passes are available for purchase online at Bit.ly/AVFest-Tix
Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (J.E.D.I.) AWARD
This jury prize of $1,000 will be awarded to one feature or traditional short film that:
1. Rights a wrong, corrects revisionist history, or brings a new or underrepresented perspective
2. Amplifies a traditionally marginalized community or is made by women, nonbinary, transgender and/or BIPOC artists
3. Deals with themes of justice, equity, diversity, inclusion, or belonging

The J.E.D.I. AWARD is sponsored by Jeanne and Stephen Kearns

AUDIENCE AWARDS
AVFest Audience Award - Feature-Length Narrative
This prize will be awarded to one feature narrative film that receives the highest marks from AVFest audiences. Cash value: $1,000

AVFest Audience Award - Feature-Length Documentary
This prize will be awarded to one feature-length documentary film that receives the highest marks from AVFest audiences. Cash value: $1,000

AVFest Audience Award - Short
This prize will be awarded to one short film across narrative and documentary categories that receives the highest marks from AVFest audiences. Cash value: $500

JURY AWARD
Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (J.E.D.I.) AWARD
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The J.E.D.I. AWARD is sponsored by Jeanne and Stephen Kearns

STUDENT AWARDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – SCHOOL PROJECT FILM
(Sonoma, Lake, & Mendocino County students only)
Best overall film – $100 cash prize for teacher’s classroom

MIDDLE SCHOOL – SCHOOL PROJECT FILM
(Sonoma, Lake, & Mendocino County students only)
1. Best technical achievement in filmmaking – $50 cash prize for teacher’s classroom
2. Best storytelling – $50 cash prize for teacher’s classroom
3. Best overall film – $100 cash prize for teacher’s classroom

MIDDLE SCHOOL – INDEPENDENT FILM
(Sonoma, Lake, & Mendocino County students only)
1. Best technical achievement in filmmaking – $100 cash prize for student
2. Best storytelling – $100 cash prize for student
3. Best overall film – $250 cash prize for student

HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL PROJECT FILM
(Sonoma, Lake, & Mendocino County students only)
1. Best technical achievement in filmmaking – $100 cash prize for teacher’s classroom
2. Best storytelling – $100 cash prize for teacher’s classroom
3. Best overall film – $100 cash prize for teacher’s classroom

HIGH SCHOOL – INDEPENDENT FILM
(Sonoma, Lake, & Mendocino County students only)
1. Best technical achievement in filmmaking – $100 cash prize for student
2. Best storytelling – $100 cash prize for student
3. Best overall film – $250 cash prize for student

COLLEGE – CLASS PROJECTS & INDEPENDENT FILM
(Must be currently enrolled at accredited U.S. college or university at the time of submission)
1. Best technical achievement in filmmaking – $100 cash prize for student
2. Best storytelling – $100 cash prize for student
3. Best overall film – $250 cash prize for student
OPENING NIGHT + BLOCK PARTY

Friday 4/28
Film begins at 5:00pm @ The Clover Theater
Block Party on 1st Street 6:00-9:30pm

Kick off the fest with a champagne toast at The Clover Theater!

Blackberry chronicles the rise and fall of one of the most game-changing technologies in the last 30 years. Centered on the eclectic array of personalities that converged to launch the world’s first smartphone, this irreverent, tech-world satire captures much of the creative chaos that comprises today’s Silicon Valley (despite the story taking place in Ontario, Canada). Shot in a verité, handheld style with a cast that electrifies the screen, Blackberry is a fast-paced nerd comedy about the early days of addiction to our phones.

Immediately following the filmmaker Q&A, step out into the rockin’ 1st Street Block Party with the sounds of AVFilm-fave Sabor de mi Cuba. Bask in community, good eats, and local wines, and party the night away.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM & OPENING WEEKEND PASS HOLDERS
Individual Tickets are $100
BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive) #AVFest2023

Our Belief
Sharing film experiences positively transforms individual lives and the broader community by generating joy, creating new understandings, and opening hearts and minds.

The Problem
Movie theaters, which are a primary communal space, have closed across the region, eliminating what had traditionally been a social hub. Adults are more divided and isolated than ever, and young people are reporting record levels of disconnection and poor mental health. The North Bay needs a center with a community gathering place for watching movies, and film & media arts education, a maker space for storytellers, and a setting where individuals of all ages can meet and connect.

How We Will Solve It
Plaza Cinema Center will greatly enhance life in the North Bay by connecting the community with movies and each other. Through film’s unique accessibility and power to unite and educate, we inspire people and stimulate dialogue. We enrich individual lives to invite a more inclusive, empathetic, and informed society.

Our Vision
Plaza Cinema Center will be an accessible center welcoming a richly diverse community for cinematic exploration. Through education, entertainment, and the support of artists, we will courageously challenge the status quo, lifting up and centering each unique voice.

Join Us
To learn more, please contact Executive Director Kathryn Hecht at kathryn.hecht@avfilmpresents.org.

Blackberry
(Canada, 122 min)
Directed by Matt Johnson

In attendance
Director and star Matt Johnson, Executive Producer and Composer Jay McCarrol
Champagne toast, screening, food, and drink tickets are included in the ticket price.

Brought to you by

PLAZA CINEMA CENTER

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BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive) #AVFest2023

Brought to you by
STUDENT FILM COMPETITION

Saturday 4/29
Red Carpet Opens at 10:30am @ The Clover Theater
Films begin at 11:00am

The AVFest Student Film Competition is back with nearly $3,000 in prize money!

Event is FREE for the community

BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)
#AVFest2023

The Student Film Competition is an annual event that encourages - and incentivizes (CASH + PIZZA) - students from across Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino Counties to practice their storytelling skills. Students work in and outside of classrooms to produce their own short films, which are then entered into a competition. This year, AVFest welcomed dozens of films. This event will screen the finalists in each category for middle school, high school, and college students.

For a list of available awards, see page 6.

NEIGHBOR NIGHT

Saturday 4/29
Doors open at 6:00pm | Dinner at 6:30pm @ Alexander Valley Hall
Film begins at 7:00pm

 Neighbor Night is for family-style dinner and conversation; this programmer-favorite film will definitely get you talking!

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM & OPENING WEEKEND PASS HOLDERS

Individual Tickets are $85

BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)
#AVFest2023

When San Francisco musician and storyteller Jack decides to end his life due to an irreversible brain tumor (and asks for it to be filmed), the result is both thought-provoking and entertaining. With a surprisingly light and airy touch, Berman’s documentary captures Jack’s witty persona while underscoring his unwavering desire to die with dignity.

Join us for our much-loved Neighbor Night! Grab a glass of the good stuff, fill your plate with Bar-B-Que, and snag a seat with friends and family. After dinner, settle in for a provocative exploration of issues that affect us all.

In attendance
Director Bradley Berman and Producer Chris Metzler (AVFest alum)

BBQ, beer and wine, and screening are included in the ticket price.
OUR FATHER, THE DEVIL
(USA/France, 107 min)
Directed by Ellie Foumbi

In attendance
Writer-Director Ellie Foumbi who will be presented with AVFilm’s prestigious J.E.D.I. Award.

Marie, an African refugee, enjoys a simple life in a small French village as the head chef at the local retirement home. When a charismatic new priest arrives to counsel the elderly, it triggers a flood of memories and emotions from her traumatic past that she hoped to leave behind. With extraordinary performances and masterful filmmaking, Our Father, The Devil is an emotionally-charged thriller of extraordinary power from a rising new talent in American cinema.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM, GOLD, & OPENING WEEKEND PASS HOLDERS
Individual Tickets are $50
BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)
#AVFest2023

Help us welcome Director Ellie Foumbi and celebrate her exceptional storytelling. The J.E.D.I. (Justice/Equity/Diversity/Inclusion) Award carries a cash prize of $1,000.

DOCS SHORTS: CHANGEMAKERS

BRING THE SALMON HOME
Shane Anderson, USA, 14 min
Dams and drought have pushed the Klamath River salmon population to near collapse. In response, local youth created the Klamath Salmon Run, a 300+ mile trek from the ocean to the headwaters to cultivate support for the biggest river restoration project in history – the removal of four regional dams. Shane Anderson captures the emotions, courage, and determination of Klamath River tribal communities as they struggle to preserve and restore their local ecology.

BEYOND THE BETA
Heather Murray, USA, 18 min
Competitive rock climbing is more than just a sport of mental acuity and physical prowess. It fosters a sense of community and teaches athletes to be resilient and compassionate critical thinkers. Heather Murray explores these ideas and more in this illuminating portrait of a youth climbing team in Santa Rosa and the social and emotional benefits the program has afforded young people.

MY NAME IS SIRI
Sarah Moshman, USA, 15 min
When Siri was diagnosed with non-verbal autism at the age of 3, experts told the Chettipally family that their daughter would likely face a lifetime of dependency. But experimental teaching therapies, a loving network of family and friends, and Siri’s indomitable spirit prove them wrong in this deeply moving story about perseverance against all odds.

BY MY SIDE
Vicki Topaz and Wynn Padula, USA, 30 min
By My Side tells the powerful story of three war veterans who suffer from PTSD and the service dogs that help them heal. Through intimate interviews with the vets’ families and revealing footage of the soldiers bonding with their canine companions, the film demonstrates how man’s best friend may be one of the best ways to mitigate the psychic scars impressed on those who have been in service to our country.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM & GOLD PASS HOLDERS
Individual Tickets are $25
BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)
#AVFest2023

Directors Heather Murray, Sarah Moshman, Vicki Topaz, and Shane Anderson expected to be in attendance.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM, GOLD, & OPENING WEEKEND PASS HOLDERS
Individual Tickets are $50
BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)
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Jeanne & Stephen Kearns

Brought to you by

The Silverwood Building

Reception begins at 6:00pm @ The Silverwood Building
Film + filmmaker Q&A at 7:00pm @ The Clover Theater

Reception (bites and sips) and screening are included in the ticket price.
**DINNER + FILM UNDER THE STARS**

**Wednesday 5/3**

Cheers begin at 6:30pm | Dinner at 7:00pm @ Catelli’s

Film begins at 8:00pm

Grab a blanket and get cozy for an intimate look at how our beloved restaurants faced COVID and a changing world.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM PASS HOLDERS

Individual Tickets are $150

BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)

#AVFest2023

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**AAPI HERITAGE NIGHT**

**Tuesday 5/2**

Doors open at 6:30pm | Multi-course meal at 7:00pm @ Lo & Behold

Film begins at 8:00pm

Join us for a celebration of AAPI (Asian American Pacific Islander) Heritage Month.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM PASS HOLDERS

Individual Tickets are $250

BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)

#AVFest2023

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**What to expect**

Meet us at Lo & Behold for an exceptional multi-course meal artfully crafted by local chefs with perfectly paired wines and a delightful rom-com. Dinner experience, wine, and screening included in the ticket price.

*7 DAYS*  
(USA, 86 min)  
Directed by Roshan Sethi

Meet Ravi and Rita, two modern-day Indian-Americans, politely comply with a pre-arranged date set up by their old-fashioned Indian parents. But when the start of the pandemic forces them into lockdown together, the personas they project to their parents quickly unravel, dismantling stereotypes and challenging traditions. With incredible performances from Karan Soni and Geraldine Viswanathan and a smart and funny screenplay, *7 Days* is a fresh and satisfying take on the classic romantic comedy updated for the 21st century. It’s an impressive directorial debut that is charming, brisk, and heartfelt.

*SORRY, WE’RE CLOSED*  
(USA, 77 min)  
Directed by Pete Ferriero

Meet Uncle Domenica and team will welcome us back to the patio with her signature Italian comfort food family-style, local wines, and a view of the night sky that can’t be beat. Director Pete Ferriero and local chefs will be in attendance. Dinner, wine, and screening included in the ticket price.

In the summer of 2020, chef Elizabeth Falkner set out across the country to investigate the impact of the pandemic on the restaurant industry, America’s second-largest employment sector. The result is a fascinating exposé on how chefs pivoted, improvised, and innovated in an industry already grappling with low-profit margins to keep their businesses afloat and support the staff that depends on them. Featuring interviews with a parade of legendary chefs, including Nancy Silverton, Chris Cosentino, Alice Waters, and Dominique Crenn, Falkner demonstrates the entrepreneurial fortitude and resiliency that American chefs displayed to avoid closure.
ARTHOUSE AT THE MADRONA

Thursday 5/4
Sips and eats begin at 7:00pm @ The Madrona
Film begins at 8:00pm

Join us for the zaniest (and one of the most satisfying) films of the Fest.

Brought to you by

FREAKS OUT
(Italy, 141 min)
Directed by Gabriele Mainetti

What to expect
Join us under a canopy of stars on the picturesque lawn of The Madrona. Glass of wine and screening are included in the ticket price. Bring blankets and chairs for maximum comfort.

During the rise of the Third Reich, four Jewish circus performers with extraordinary powers decide to flee persecution by traveling to America. The only problem is Franz, a clairvoyant Nazi pianist who believes they’re the key to Germany winning the war. Defying easy classification, FREAKS OUT is a phantasmagoric historical drama that is at once enchanting, surprising, funny, and heartfelt. Featuring jaw-dropping visual design, a science fiction premise, and visual stylings reminiscent of Quentin Tarantino or Tim Burton, the film is a spectacle-filled joyride about misanthropes banding together to fight the powers that be. Italian with English subtitles.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM & GOLD PASS HOLDERS
Individual Tickets are $40

BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive) #AVFest2023

WORLD SHORTS SHOWCASE

Friday 5/5
Doors open at 6:30pm @ Longboard
Program begins at 7:00pm

A compilation of creative cinema from around the globe with storytellers in attendance. Event includes a glass of Longboard’s finest!

Brought to you by

JEFF
Directed by Walter Woodman, Patrick Cederberg, & Matthew Hornick, Canada, 6 min
An Amazon delivery drone named JEFF muses on the monotony of life until an unexpected system failure brings about a seismic change in his world view.

SIERRA
Directed by Sander Joon, Estonia, 16 min
A father and his shape-shifting son enter into the surreal world of car racing in this crowd-pleasing festival favorite, loosely inspired by the director’s childhood. Best Animated Short Winner at the 2022 San Francisco International Film Festival.

PUZZLE
Directed by Ricardo Muñoz Senior, Mexico, 14 min
When Albertini reaches out to The National Institute of Games and Leisure Activities for the People to complain about the missing last piece of his puzzle, he becomes embroiled in a Kafkaesque struggle with the state. The result is a funny and absurd socialist satire about one man’s rage against the machine.

DESERT LIGHTS
Directed by Karmenin Haroier Siepra, Chile, 16 min
An Amazon delivery drone named JEFF muses on the monotony of life until an unexpected system failure brings about a seismic change in his world view.

THE SPACE BETWEEN US
Directed by Julianna Martin, USA, 3 min
A lonely spacerman’s desire for company may be about to come true when a mysterious ship arrives at his space station.

DREAM ON, LEON
Directed by Roger Gariépy, Canada, 8 min
With humor, warmth, and impressive visual flair, we journey into the dreamlife of Leon, man’s best friend. Official Selection of the 2022 Palm Springs International Shortfest.

HATCHBACK
Directed by Riley Sugars, Australia, 12 min
In this hilarious dark comedy from down under, Vince attempts to dispose of a dead body for the mob, but when he reluctantly enlists the help of his dim-witted brother-in-law Ted, things don’t go according to plan. Best Short Film nominee at the 2022 Australian Academy Awards.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM, GOLD, & CLOSING WEEKEND PASS HOLDERS
Individual Tickets are $25

BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive) #AVFest2023
PLAZA CINEMA CENTER CELEBRATION

Saturday 5/6
Music + Food + Wine at 6:00pm @ Plaza Cinema Center Courtyard
Film begins at 8:00pm @ The Healdsburg Plaza

A ticketed courtyard event celebrating our community’s growing culture of film that will spill over to The Plaza for a free public screening of the incredible indie doc Little Richard: I Am Everything.

PLATINUM & CLOSING WEEKEND PASS HOLDERS can enjoy complimentary entry to the event. Individual Tickets are $75
BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)
#AVFest2023

LITTLE RICHARD: I AM EVERYTHING
(USA, 98 min)
Directed by Lisa Cortés

What to expect
Join us in the Plaza Cinema Center courtyard with a picnic meal, wine, and live music from Healdsburg Jazz. At 7:30 pm, make your way to The Plaza to claim your VIP seating for the film. Dinner, wine, music, and VIP seating are included in the ticket price.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM & CLOSING WEEKEND PASS HOLDERS
Individual Tickets are $75
BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)
#AVFest2023

'‘I am the originator, the emancipator, the architect of rock-n-roll,' exclaims Richard Penniman. He was right. The flamboyant, outspoken, and often hilarious musical icon finally gets his due in Lisa Cortés’ new documentary. Featuring newly discovered archival footage and interviews with a pantheon of rock-n-roll legends, the film offers a deep dive into the musical genius’ early influences as well as the role he played in the history of popular music. The film thoughtfully deconstructs the complex nature of Little Richard’s personal and public identity to reveal how his Black and queer roots were inextricably linked to the subversive nature of the art form.

26.2 TO LIFE
(USA, 98 min)
Directed by Christine Yoo

What to expect
After the screening, join us at The Matheson for the Closing Night Awards. Closing Night reception with ample bites, beer, and wine, plus the screening are included in the ticket price.

Film inside San Quentin Prison, 26.2 to Life explores the transformative power of the 1000 Mile Club, a training program where incarcerated men prepare to run a marathon on the dirt and concrete path circling the prison yard. Featuring unprecedented access behind the walls of the infamous correctional facility, the film tracks the emotional and physical journey of a handful of runners seeking to define themselves by something other than their crimes. Christine Yoo’s debut documentary is a testament to rehabilitation and redemption in a country that still incarcerates more of its own citizens than any other place in the developed world.

Event is complimentary for PLATINUM, GOLD & CLOSING WEEKEND PASS HOLDERS
Individual Tickets are $50
BIT.LY/AVFest-Tix (case-sensitive)
#AVFest2023

CLOSING NIGHT + AWARDS

Sunday 5/7
Film begins at 5:00pm @ Longboard
Closing Night reception + Awards 8:00-9:30pm @ The Matheson

Wrap up the Fest with Director Christine Yoo and the team behind San Quentin’s life-changing program.

Brought to you by

Brought to you by

#AVFest2023

CLOSING NIGHT + AWARDS

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## Fest Schedule

### Fest Dates
- **Friday 4/28**
- **Saturday 4/29**
- **Sunday 4/30**
- **Monday 5/1**
- **Tuesday 5/2**
- **Wednesday 5/3**
- **Thursday 5/4**
- **Friday 5/5**
- **Saturday 5/6**
- **Sunday 5/7**

### Venues
- **The Clover Theater**
- **Longboard Vineyards**

### Regular Screenings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Opening Night

- **Smoke Sauna Sisterhood**: 6:00pm
- **Ricochet**: 4:00pm

### Late Night Shorts
- **9:00pm**
- **90 min**

### Evening Spotlight Events

- **Blackberry**: 5:00pm Film Block Party immediately follows 122 min
- **Jack Has a Plan**: 6:00pm Open 6:30pm Dinner 7:00pm Film 73 min
- **Our Father, the Devil**: 6:00pm Sips + Bites 7:00pm Film 77 min
- **7 Days**: 6:30pm Open 7:00pm Dinner 8:00pm Film 86 min

### Venues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Venues</th>
<th>The Clover + First Street</th>
<th>Alexander Valley Hall</th>
<th>Silverwood Building + The Clover</th>
<th>The Lost Church</th>
<th>Lo &amp; Behold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opener Night + Block Party</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The J.E.D.I. Award</strong> (Filmmaker Reception)</td>
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<td><strong>Our Father, the Devil</strong> 6:00pm Sips + Bites 7:00pm Film 77 min</td>
<td><strong>7 Days</strong> 6:30pm Open 7:00pm Dinner 8:00pm Film 86 min</td>
<td><strong>7 Days</strong> 6:30pm Open 7:00pm Dinner 8:00pm Film 86 min</td>
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### Catteri's

- **Dinner + Film Under the Stars** (Dinner + Film)
- **Sorry We're Closed**: 6:30pm Open 7:00pm Dinner 8:00pm Film 77 min

### The Madrona

- **Arthouse at the Madrona**: **Freaks Out** 7:00pm Sips + Eats 8:00pm Film 141 min

### Longboard Vineyards

- **World Shorts Showcase** **Shorts Collection**: 6:30pm Sips 7:00pm Film 92 min

### Plaza Cinema Center + The Plaza

- **Plaza Cinema Center Celebration** (Dinner + Film)
- **Little Richard: I Am Everything**: 6:00pm Picnic 8:00pm Film 98 min

### Closing Night + Awards
- **26.2 to Life**: 5:00pm Film 8:00pm Awards Reception 90 min
back movement by a people who attest to the incredible poetry of Layli Long Soldier, images of disputed lands, and the perception of native people, sublime imagery that has distorted our curated collection of entertainment. National redress. Featuring a carefully thought-out Native American relations with the US. Directed by Jesse Short Bull & (USA, 120 min)

LAKOTA NATION VS. UNITED STATES

Directed by Jesse Short Bull & Laura Tomaselii

Lakota Nation vs. United States is a powerful primer on the history of Native American relations with the US government and an eye-opening expose of the lingering injustices that require national redress. Featuring a carefully curated collection of entertainment imagery that has distorted our perception of native people, sublime images of disputed lands, and the incredible poetry of Layli Long Soldier, the film is a call to action for the land back movement. People who attest that their “best days are yet to come.”

4/28 - 1:30pm - Clover

5/6 - 10:30am - Longboard Vineyards

5/6 - 11:00am - Clover

ANIMA

(China, 120 min)
Directed by Jinling Cao

Set in the breathtakingly beautiful forests of Inner Mongolia, two brothers struggle to make a living in the Chinese logging industry. Tensions rise when they both take an interest in a local widow and find themselves at odds over the increasingly reckless deforestation practices destroying their homeland. Visually stunning and exquisitely scored, Anima is a deeply moving family drama about the need to keep our Earth in balance. It reconnects us with our interdependencies and reminds us about man’s spiritual interdependence with the natural world.

Chinese with English subtitles.

5/5 - 4:00pm - Longboard Vineyards

BLACKBERRY

(Canada, 122 min)
Directed by Matt Johnson

Blackberry chronicles the rise and fall of one of the most game-changing technologies in the last 30 years. Centered on the eccentric array of personalities, this irreverent, tech-world satire captures much of the creative chaos that comprises today’s Silicon Valley (despite the story taking place in Ontario, Canada). Shot in a retina, handheld style reminiscent of The Office and featuring a retro soundtrack and a cast that electrifies the screen, Blackberry is a fast-paced nerd comedy about the early days of addiction to our phones.

5/6 - 4:00pm - Longboard Vineyards

THE HAPPIEST MAN IN THE WORLD

(Northern Macedonian, 100 min)
Directed by Teona Strugar Mitevska

Blackberry chronicles the rise and fall of one of the most game-changing technologies in the last 30 years. Centered on the eccentric array of personalities, this irreverent, tech-world satire captures much of the creative chaos that comprises today’s Silicon Valley (despite the story taking place in Ontario, Canada). Shot in a retina, handheld style reminiscent of The Office and featuring a retro soundtrack and a cast that electrifies the screen, Blackberry is a fast-paced nerd comedy about the early days of addiction to our phones.

5/6 - 4:00pm - Longboard Vineyards

THE FILMS

LYNCH/OZ

(US, 190 min)
Directed by Alexandre Philippe

Alexandre Philippe’s clip-rich documentary explores how the Wizard of Oz is not only a seminal point of inspiration for David Lynch but how its ideas and themes continue to reverberate in his work. Philippe, a true cinephile himself, is a master at finding the connection between his subject and the people he interviews. Unlike many other documentaries, Philippe does not shy away from the darker aspects of Oz, exploring the themes of fear, loss, and the power of imagination that are central to both the film and the director’s work.

4/30 - 11:00am - Clover

NOWHERE SPECIAL

(USA, 104 min)
Directed by Ubero Pasolini

After receiving devastating news, John, a window cleaner in Belfast, is confronted with the impossible decision of finding an adoptive family for his four-year-old son. Michael. Pasolini’s film is surprisingly understated and restrained, never veering into the melodramatic territory one might expect. Instead, it revels in the unique dynamics of the family and its challenges.

5/6 - 11:30am - Clover

RICOCHET

(US, 207 min)
Directed by Jeff Adachi & Chihiro Wimbush

Directed by Jeff Adachi & Chihiro Wimbush

A young woman shot by an undocumented immigrant in San Francisco during the summer of 2015 ignites a political and media firestorm. Politicians and national media outlets misrepresent the facts of the case, distorting the public’s understanding of the event. With unprecedented behind-the-scenes access to the defense teams’ approach to managing the case, the documentary peels back the layers of stereotypes, jingoism, and scapegoating to reveal the challenge of providing an adequate defense in a country awash in misinformation.

5/6 - 4:00pm - Clover

WHAT’S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

(UK, 108 min)
Directed by Shekhar Kapur

When Zoe solicits her childhood best friend, Kazim, to appear in her new film on arranged marriages, the stage is set for a cross-cultural clash of values on marital love and courtship. As she interviews a series of Muslim couples and travels to Pakistan to witness Kazim’s first marriage-up (and marriage) to his new wife, their relationship is increasingly put to the test. Shekhar Kapur’s breezy romantic comedy familiar tropes through a fresh lens, packed with humor, romance, and an exceptional all-star cast, including Emma Thompson as Zoe’s sassy mother.

5/6 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards

5/6 - 11:00am - Clover

5/6 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards

5/6 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards

5/6 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards

THE ORIGIN OF EVIL

(France, 125 min)
Directed by Sebastian Marlier

When a young woman decides to reach out to her estranged father, she becomes embroiled in a dark web of family politics. Full of suspense and hidden agendas. Sebastien Marlier’s twisty, subversive, and beautifully-executed family drama reminds us of a razor’s edge between dark comedy and suspenseful thriller. With a magnificent cast, a script filled with surprising dramatic turns, and a playful array of foreboding film techniques, it is an exquisite film as day-by-day parable about the inevitable end of the patriarchy, French with English subtitles.

5/7 - 9:00am - Longboard Vineyards

5/7 - 11:00am - Longboard Vineyards

5/5 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards

5/6 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards

5/7 - 11:00am - Longboard Vineyards

5/6 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards

SMOKE SAUNA SISTERHOOD

(Italian, & Persian with English subtitles.

Directed by Sebastien Marnier

Sébastien Marnier’s twisty, subversive, and beautifully-executed family drama reminds us of a razor’s edge between dark comedy and suspenseful thriller. With a magnificent cast, a script filled with surprising dramatic turns, and a playful array of foreboding film techniques, it is an exquisite film as day-by-day parable about the inevitable end of the patriarchy, French with English subtitles.

5/5 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards

5/5 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards

PRETTY PROBLEMS

(USA, 103 min)
Directed by Kesten Pantera

Life for Lindsay and Jack is, meh. But a chance encounter with an absurdly wealthy stranger throws the struggling couple into a booby wine-country getaway weekend in Healdsburg. What might have been a well-earned narrative of ostentatiously bad behavior from the uber-rich, is a surprising comedic journey. It takes delivering the super wealthy and painting them with tender eccentricities, all while humbling the protagonists. A strudel work from an emerging female director, the film features superb physical comedy and a first-rate ensemble performance.

5/6 - 1:30pm - Longboard Vineyards
LATE NIGHT SHORTS (90 min)
4/28 - 9:00pm - Clover
An edgier collection of stories for a midnight madness audience. Filmmakers are expected to be in attendance.

MATINEE SHORTS (84 min)
4/29 - 11:55pm - Clover
Join us for a collection of award-winning shorts from this year's Festival circuit, including works from Sonoma County filmmakers. Filmmakers are expected to be in attendance.

ITCHSANITY
Directed by Ben Lohrentz, USA, 8 min
In this fresh take on body horror, a business executive with itchy teeth will stop at nothing to find relief. Awarded Best of Show at the Sonoma County Student Film Festival.

SUSHI NOH
Directed by Jayden Rathsm Hua, Australia, 18 min
Trapped in the care of her lonely uncle, a young girl's nightmares about a bizarre kitchen appliance manifest into reality.

SAFE
Directed by Josermia Roig, Spain, 10 min
In this tense thriller, a startled young girl hears a noise outside in the middle of the night and fears a monster, but the real danger may be lurking inside closer than she thinks.

CHRISTOPHER AT SEA
Directed by Tom CJ Broen, France, 21 min
Christopher embarks on a transatlantic voyage as a passenger on a cargo ship with the hope of finding out what lives may yet remain to sea. Instead, he finds himself on a surreal journey into fantasy, solitude, and obsession. Jury Award Winner at the 2023 SXSW Film Festival.

JUST A REHEARSAL
Directed by Hugo Sanz, Spain, 9 min
Two sisters, seven and eleven years old, are hiding inside a bicycle. The little sister thinks they are rehearsing for a one-woman play, but the older one knows that a terrible threat lurks outside.

PRUITT AND IGOE
Directed by Ben Lohrentz, USA, 8 min
Petaluma's Ignite Animation Studios collaborated with Cheryl Bookout and Cheri Gaulke, USA, 31 min
of Show at the Sonoma County Student Film Festival.

MILEZ
Directed by Stephanie Patrick & Ben Lee, USA, 4 min
Eight artists must decide whether to stay within the boxes that confine them or break free in this experimental screendance film, featuring music from the Austin-based hip-hop duo Magna Carda.

INSIDE THE BEAUTY BUBBLE
Directed by Jeff Hafler, USA, 31 min
Opening a kitschy pastel dreamland of 3,000 vintage beauty artifacts in the desert community of Joshua Tree, Jeff Hafler fancies himself as the world's first hairstorian.

INSIDE THE BEAUTY BUBBLE
Directed by Jeff Hafler, USA, 31 min
Cheryl Bookout and Cheri Gaulke, USA, 31 min
of Show at the Sonoma County Student Film Festival.

ICE MERCHANTS
Directed by Jodo Gonzalez, Portugal, 16 min
An ice peddling father and son engage in an extraordinary daily ritual as they travel from their clifside ice house to the village below until one day when a disaster changes everything. Nominated for Best Animated Short Film at the 2023 Academy Awards.

CHASIN’ BUTTERFLIES
Directed by Joshua Harding, Adam Hobbs, and Matt Klug, USA, 9 min
This charming portrait of eccentric Alabama artist Butch Anthony peels back the layers of the man who created a quirky drive-thru museum, a trophy-covered Cadillac, and a pontoon pirate ship known as Lłatikuc (read it backwards). Awarded Best Animated Short Film at the 2022 Palm Springs International Shortfest.

ANDY: A DOG’S TALE
Directed by Andy Whess, USA, 8 min
This charming portrait of eccentric Alabama artist Butch Anthony peels back the layers of the man who created a quirky drive-thru museum, a trophy-covered Cadillac, and a pontoon pirate ship known as Lłatikuc (read it backwards). Awarded Best Animated Short Film at the 2022 Palm Springs International Shortfest.

EL CARRITO
Directed by Zahida Pirani, USA, 15 min
Nelly barely makes ends meet working as a street vendor from dawn to dusk until an unexpected event jeopardizes her livelihood and the ability to care for her father. Audience Award Winner at the 2022 Palm Springs International Shortfest.

BELLINGHAM’S BELIEF
Directed by Tom Salvaggio, USA, 9 min
Panics erupt when the citizens of Bellingham, Washington notice strange crashes in their car windshields. Tom Salvaggio combines experimental film techniques with a retro-style voiceover to create a completely original neo-noir sci-fi mystery.

DO-APARTMENT
Directed by Phil Tender, Estonia, 14 min
Awakened by the barking of his dog-apartment, a middle-aged ballet dancer travels through a rain-drenched wasteland to his most unusual job in this surreal stop-motion animation inspired by an Andres Ehin poem.

MOSES SUPPOSES
Directed by Caleb Teicher, USA, 2021 4 min
A diverse cast of New York City dancers reimagines tap in the city with this updated take on “Moses Supposes” from the film Singin’ in the Rain.

THE RECRUIT
Directed by Doan Truong, USA, 11 min
When Kat shows up for an interview at Intrinsc Recruiting, she experiences one strange turn after another until she slowly loses her grip on what is reality and what is fantasy in this surreal allegory on social anxiety.

A MOST EXQUISITE MAN
Directed by Jonas Paul, Estonia, 15 min
One man’s hubris is called into question as his true position in the universe is slowly revealed in this exquisitely animated Estonian fable. Grand Prix Winner at the Fredrikstad Animation Festival.

The FOURTH
Directed by Johnny Kirk, USA, 2 min
Offering a fresh take on an all-too-familiar tale, a group of young black and Latinx friends, eager to celebrate the 4th of July, experience a police encounter that shatters the meaning of the holiday.

PRO POOL
Directed by Alex Peprao, Canada, 8 min
The value of Charles-Olivier's degree in history and civilization is called into question when he ends up working at a pool supply store. Official selection of the 2023 Sundance Film Festival.

THE BOLD
Directed by Zachary Creason, USA, 14 min
A diverse cast of New York City dancers reimagines tap in the city with this updated take on “Moses Supposes” from the film Singin’ in the Rain.

THE SPRAYER
Directed by Farnoosh Abedi, Iran, 9 min
Set in a post-apocalyptic fascist state where its citizens are forbidden from growing plants, a seed is planted that initiates an unexpected uprising.

CUCKOO!
Directed by Jorgen Scholtens, Netherlands, 8 min
In this absurdist comedy about a lonely man who lives inside a cuckoo clock, all hell breaks loose when a radio quiz disrupts his hourly routine.
SCAN HERE TO VOLUNTEER WITH US!

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– Langston Hughes

Film inspires us to dream so that we may soar.

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