Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 15th Annual Lighthouse International Film Festival. This year’s festival promises to be our biggest and best yet, and I couldn’t be more excited to share it with all of you!

As we celebrate our 15th year, I’m reminded of how far we’ve come since our humble beginnings. What started as a small gathering of filmmakers and movie enthusiasts has grown into a major cultural event, attracting submissions from around the world and bringing people from all walks of life together in celebration of cinema.

This year we’ve received a record number of submissions — a testament to the vibrancy and resilience of the independent film community. Our programming team had the tough task of narrowing down the selections, but I think you’ll agree that the ones we’ve chosen are truly outstanding.

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to the many volunteers, sponsors, and partners who make this festival possible. From the tireless work of our dedicated volunteers, to the generous contributions of our patrons and sponsors, to the support of our community partners, we simply couldn’t do it without you.

This festival is a testament to what can be accomplished when people come together in pursuit of a shared passion. It’s a celebration of creativity, storytelling, and the power of film to bring people together and inspire change. I’m so proud to be a part of the Lighthouse International Film Festival because I believe that film has the power to change the world. Whether it’s by shining a light on underrepresented voices and perspectives, by telling stories that challenge our assumptions and broaden our horizons, or by simply reminding us of the power of human connection and empathy, film has the power to inspire us and bring us together.

So, I invite you to join us this year as we celebrate not only the power of film but also the incredible talent and creativity of indie filmmakers. I hope you’ll be inspired, entertained, and moved by the films you see, and that you’ll leave this festival with a renewed sense of hope and optimism for the future.

Thank you for being a part of the Lighthouse International Film Festival. Here’s to another 15 years of great cinema and community-building.

Sea you at the movies!

Rob Karol
Executive Director
OUR JURY

NARRATIVE FEATURES

Charlotte Regan

A filmmaker from London who grew up making music promos for local music artists, Charlotte’s first short film, *Standby*, was nominated for a BAFTA. Her second short, *Fry-Up*, screened at Sundance and Berlinale. She is a Sundance Ignite Fellow and was named as a 2020 Screen International Star of Tomorrow. Her debut feature, *Scraper*, had its world premiere at Sundance 2023 where it went on to win the World Dramatic Grand Jury Prize. The Lighthouse International Film Festival is honored to screen *Scraper* as one of our headlining centerpiece films.

NARRATIVE FEATURES

Jack Sholder

A director best known for such genre classics as *The Hidden* and *Nightmare on Elm Street II*, Jack has directed feature films and television episodes for Paramount, Universal, Warner Bros, MGM, HBO, NBC, Fox, Showtime, Lionsgate, and others. He has won a Daytime Emmy for Editing and has had three of his screenplays produced. In addition, Jack has received Lifetime Achievement Awards from Fantafestival (Rome), Grossmann Film Festival (Slovenia), and Fantastic Fest (Austin). He will be attending a special screening of the film *12 Days of Terror*, which tells the story of the 1916 shark attacks on LBI and the Jersey Shore.

NARRATIVE FEATURES

Dan Sullivan

Dan Sullivan is a Programmer for Film at Lincoln Center. During his tenure, he has played a pivotal role in organizing numerous impressive film retrospectives, including those of Raúl Ruiz, David Lynch, Jacques Rivette, Germaine Dulac, Pedro Costa, Apichatpong Weerasethakul, Hong Sangsoo, Jonas Mekas, Jane Birkin, and Charlotte Gainsbourg, among others.

In addition to these, he has curated several exceptional film series, such as “Going Steadi: 40 Years of Steadicam” (2017), “Heathcliff, It’s Me: Adapting Wuthering Heights” (2017), “Make My Day: American Movies in the Age of Reagan” (2019, with J. Hoberman), and “New York, 1962-64: Underground and Experimental Cinema” (2022, with Thomas Beard). He is the former film co-editor of the *Brooklyn Rail*, and his writing has appeared in *Film Comment*, *Cinema Scope*, and other publications.
Nathalie Chifflet

A French journalist, Nathalie is chief critic for 10 local newspapers and film critic for BANDE À PART magazine (a.k.a. Jo Fishley). She has served on the juries of many festivals including Cannes Film Festival, Annecy (FIPRESCI), Biarritz, Arras, Fameck, Poitiers. She is a board member of the Syndicat Français de la Critique de Cinéma et de Télévision and board member of the Cannes Critics Week. She is also president of the jury for the best cinema books published in France in collaboration with the Centre National du Cinéma.

Jo Miller

Jo Miller is a historian and political satirist who worked with Lizz Winstead on the long-running off-Broadway comedy Wake Up World before joining the writing staff of The Daily Show with Jon Stewart in 2009. After six years at TDS, she left for a two-year stint as co-creator, executive producer, and head writer at Full Frontal on TBS. More recent projects include Old News, My Next Guest Needs No Introduction, The Opposition, and Wilmore. Her writing has earned her four Comedy/Variety Emmy Awards, which are useful for holding knitting yarn. Jo lives in the Catskill mountains and is a proud member of the Writers Guild of America.

Wilfred Okiche

A writer, culture critic, and film programmer who has attended critic programs and reported from film and theater festivals in Locarno, Rotterdam, Stockholm, and Sundance. Wilfred has worked on the selection teams for the Film Africa festival in London and the Encounters International Documentary Festival in South Africa. He has mentored fast-rising film critics at Talents Durban and worked on the selection committee of Berlinale Talents. Last year, he served as an international voter for the Golden Globe Awards. His writing has appeared in Variety, OkayAfrica, The Africa Report, and The Continent among other publications. He is a member of FIPRESCI and has participated in juries at the Carthage Film Festival and Berlinale.
OUR JURY

SHORTS

David Baram

David Baram has spent over 25 years in the entertainment/media industry, including more than 15 years as president of LBI Entertainment, during which he helped develop and manage the careers of many of the industry’s leading A-list artists. LBI Entertainment has also produced award-winning films and television shows, including the Martin Scorsese films Children of the Flower Moon, Hell or High Water, The Irishman, Boardwalk Empire, and others. David has also executive produced over 100 episodes of network and cable television, including the groundbreaking series Mindfreak. He has written, directed, and produced the 2022 Oscar-qualifying featurette Ball and Vase, starring Austin Pendleton. Ball and Vase was chosen by both Variety and The Hollywood Reporter as one of the top 15 films to watch for an Oscar nomination. He wrote, directed, and produced the Oscar-qualifying and recently PBS-acquired documentary One All the Way.

SHORTS

Joan Stein Schimke

Joan’s award-winning short films, including One Day Crossing (Academy Award Nominee, Student Academy Award Gold Medal), Solidarity, and Speed, have screened at over 150 festivals worldwide. Joan directed episodes of Law and Order; worked in various production positions on feature films for directors Taylor Hackford (Ray), Eric Mendelsohn (3 Backyards), and Bette Gordon (Luminous Motion), among others; and was the director of the Student Shorts Program at the Hamptons Film Festival. Joan’s feature-length script was accepted to the Sundance Screenwriting Lab, where it received a Sloan Foundation grant, and the Hamptons International Film Festival Screenwriting Lab. As a social activist, Joan has volunteered in a Bosnian refugee camp, directed a short documentary about The Center for Women War Victims (Zagreb, Croatia), and was on the original committee for V-Day with Eve Ensler. A graduate of Columbia University’s MFA Film Program, Joan is a Professor of Film and Video Production at Adelphi University.

SHORTS

Rachel Walden

Rachel Walden is a director/producer from Atlanta, GA. Her most recent short film, Lemon Tree, premiered in the Directors’ Fortnight at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival. She currently lives in Brooklyn, NY, where she runs the independent production company Gummy Films with co-founders Pauline Chalamet and Luca Balser.
**EPISODICS**

**Nicole Moller**

A Toronto-based, multi-skilled performer with a focus in acting, stunt performing, and most recently, producing. Growing up in Vancouver, Nicole began acting in theater before leaving to earn her BFA in acting from Toronto Metropolitan University. There she discovered her keen eye for detail, coordination, and love of stage combat, and went on to develop specialty skills in bladework and complex character work. Nicole’s most recent acting and stunt credits include *The Boys* (Amazon Prime), *Rabbit Hole* (Paramount), *Be Mine* (Meta Horizon Worlds), and *Slasher V* (Shudder). With her years of experience from stage to set, the premiere of *A Room Without a View* at the Lighthouse International Film Festival marks Nicole’s debut in the role of producer.

**Naeema Butt**

Naeema Butt is an accomplished Pakistani National actor, filmmaker, journalist, social/gender equality rights activist, and award-winning Theatre of the Oppressed trainer. She is a founder of NB Media & Pehlaaj StoryCenter For Change, and was nominated for the Ellen Stuart International Award in 2018, one of the most prestigious international awards for theater activists. As an actor, Naeema has gained widespread recognition for her performances, including her role in the Pakistani national television drama *Ehd-e-Wafa*, which named her one of the top Gen Next actors in the Pakistani drama industry by Gulf News and The News International, and has leveraged her skills as a journalist and host with the Daily Pakistan. Outside of Pakistan she has produced the thrilling film *Home*, based on her own story of a woman looking for safety to escape from Pakistan to the US, and has acted in films and webseries in the US directed by award-winning directors Mehreen Jabbar and Alexis Karl, among others.

**Nikolai Nikolaeff**

With a career spanning 25 years, Nikolai “Niko” Nikolaeff has worked on a wide variety of genre projects with some of the best filmmakers in the world. Beginning in his native Australia, he made the move to the US in 2013 and has continued to craft his career in North America and Europe, including appearing in projects like Netflix’s *Daredevil* and *The OA, NCIS, Camp, SIX, Sea Patrol*, and *Togo*, as well as *Power Rangers* for Disney. Recent projects include Halle Berry’s directorial debut *Bruised*, *Stranger Things* Season 4, *Call of Duty – Vanguard*, the David Fincher directed *Bad Traveling*, and *Love, Death + Robots*. Currently, he is working on another yet to be announced major first player shooter video game as well as the upcoming premiere of the much awaited horror masterpiece *The Last Voyage of the Demeter*, based on a chapter from Bram Stoker’s iconic *Dracula* and produced by Steven Spielberg’s Amblin Entertainment.
OUR JURY

LIFF PRESENTS THE
JENNIFER SNYDER BRYCELAND FILMMAKER AWARD

LIFF, the Bryceland family, the Lagralane Group, and the Chicago Media Project will join together this year in offering The Jennifer Snyder Bryceland Filmmaker Award. The $3,500 special prize will be given to a filmmaker whose feature-length documentary displays artistic excellence, incorporates environmental and social themes, and inspires optimism in audiences.

JENNIFER SNYDER BRYCELAND AWARD

Matthew Soraci

As the COO of the Lagralane Group, Matthew directs the day-to-day operations involving business development, finance, marketing, and human resources. Along with acting as COO, Matthew has garnered individual credits on Lagralane titles, acting as executive producer on The Blood Is At The Doorstep, The Body Remembers When The World Broke Open, Givers Of Death (G.O.D.), Lifeline (short), producer on Ownership (short), co-producer on Bienvenidos, and as associate producer on Harry Dean Stanton’s final film Lucky. Under the Lagralane company credit, Matthew co-executive produced the 2018 Academy Award-winning documentary ICARUS. He is also a producer of the podcast Lagralane Spirits, exploring identity & culture with cocktails. Alongside his professional credits, his penchant for creative storytelling has led to a lifelong involvement in the arts. Matthew serves on the board of Los Angeles-based Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SHORT FILMS

Maya Brewster-Dorian

Maya is a highly accomplished Chief Productions Officer at Eva Nosidam Productions, where she spearheads all production efforts. With many years of experience in the production industry, she has established herself as a true leader in the field. Throughout her career, Maya has worked with global brands, companies, and advertising agencies, including Saatchi & Saatchi, J. Walter Thompson, Anonymous Content, Partizan Entertainment, and RadicalMedia. In her various executive roles at these companies, she consistently delivered best-in-class communications, events, and experiences. In 2015, Maya launched her own company, Network Réseau, with the goal of revolutionizing content creation by introducing new and innovative approaches. This move demonstrated her entrepreneurial spirit and her ability to navigate the ever-changing landscape of the industry.
SHARE WITH THE FESTIVAL

Welcome, guests of LIFF 2023! Remember to include #LIFF2023 if you're posting at or about the festival!

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2024 SUBMISSIONS:
WWW.FILMFREEWAY.COM/LIGHTHOUSEINTERNATIONALFILMFESTIVAL
HEADLINERS

OPENING FILM

PARACHUTE
DIRECTOR: BRITTANY SNOW
EAST COAST PREMIERE

In her inspiring directorial debut, actress Brittany Snow, who is known for her playful performances in Pitch Perfect and Hairspray, brings to the screen an intimate dramatic account of two young people struggling with emotional challenges and finding comfort in each other’s strengths and deficiencies. Inspired by a whirlwind true story of unconventional romance, Riley, played by Courtney Eaton (Mad Max Fury Road, Yellowjackets), is determined to overcome her issues with body image, food, and love but soon falls for another addiction: her friend Ethan.

Eaton impresses in her highly nuanced role, which garnered her the “Best Performance Award” at SXSW. Her chemistry with co-lead Thomas Mann, with his quiet charisma, is exceptional and charges this film with both optimism and disappointment. The two leads are surrounded by an amazing supporting cast of Kid Cudi, Francesca Reale, Gina Rodriguez, Joel McHale, and Dave Bautista, all led by the sensitivity and honesty of Snow (winner of “Best First Feature Award” at SXSW) and producer Lizzie Shapiro, LIFF favorite Shiva Baby and LIFF 2020 juror.

PREMIERED AT SXSW

CLOSING FILM

LOUD & LONGING
DIRECTORS: ISABEL ELLISON & RYAN GUITERMAN
WORLD PREMIERE

Lucy and Lucien are two childhood friends who share a deeply troubled past and struggle to maintain their sanity and sobriety as they cut their teeth in the New York City arts & theater scene. As their breakout moment arrives, both are forced to grapple with a legacy of childhood trauma, addiction, and loss. They must rely on their chosen family of artists and sex workers to help bring them through their dark night of the soul.

MAIN CAST: ISABEL ELLISON, SAM ENCARNACIÓN, FRANCO GONZÁLEZ, ELL PECK, DAVID J. CORK, & MAX CARPENTER

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTORS: RYAN GUITERMAN & ISABEL ELLISON

RYAN GUITERMAN’S FIRST FEATURE FILM CANVAS PREMIERED AT LIFF IN 2021. SINCE THEN, HE HAS JOINED THE FESTIVAL’S PROGRAMMING TEAM.
CENTERPIECE FILMS

**BLEECKER**
DIRECTOR: EDITH HAGIGI
104 MIN
USA

Intertwining stories of motley characters in NYC’s Village being told with heart and humor. The straight face in this pack is Maya, who has come to the Big Apple to find her place in the world. She starts to care about these folks and really tries to help one of them in this brighter-than-bleak slice of life.

MAIN CAST: ALICIA CROWDER, BEN STILLER, TOVAH FELDSHUH, BOB ARI, DRENA DE NIRO, CHRISTINE TAYLOR, ALICE KREMELBERG, ANITA GILLETTE, DAPHNE RUBEN-VEGA, MICHAEL GODERE, AND IRA HAWKINS, WHO ATTENDED LIFF WITH THE FILM SWAN SONG IN 2021 AND PASSED AWAY LATER THAT YEAR

■ TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: EDITH HAGIGI

**SCRAPPER**
DIRECTOR: CHARLOTTE REGAN
84 MIN
USA

A vibrant and inventive father-daughter comedy that tells the story of Georgie, a resourceful 12-year-old girl who secretly lives alone in a flat in a working-class suburb of London after her mother’s death. To survive, she steals bikes and pretends to live with an uncle to keep social workers at bay. When her estranged father, Jason, suddenly arrives, he forces Georgie to confront reality. Initially resistant to his efforts, Georgie eventually realizes that they both have a lot of growing up to do.

Harris Dickinson (Triangle of Sadness) and newcomer Lola Campbell deliver remarkable performances in this moving and frequently hilarious story. Winner of a Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival, Scraper is full of spirit, humor, and formal daring that sets it apart from much of British working-class cinema. With irresistible charm and emotional depth, it is a film about two emotionally tangled people navigating the challenges of adulthood and parenthood.

COURTESY OF KINO LORBER

■ TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: CHARLOTTE REGAN
SPOTLIGHT FILMS

GREAT PHOTO, LOVELY LIFE
DIRECTORS: AMANDA MUSTARD & RACHEL BETH ANDERSON
Photojournalist Amanda Mustard returns home to Pennsylvania to investigate the sexual abuse crimes committed by her grandfather. A visual whirlwind of memories from her family's archive unravels a world of secrets through interviews, photographs, and home movies. An eight-year cinematic journey, this doc chronicles a granddaughter's attempt to disrupt a cycle of intergenerational trauma through the voices of the survivors and her grandfather himself.
COURTESY OF HBO
PREMIERED AT SXSW

THE MAIDEN
DIRECTOR: GRAHAM FOY
A perfect summer day ends in tragedy, weaving a cosmic connection between three suburban teenagers. Best friends Colton and Kyle float the river, trade dreams, and spray paint in the local ravine. Like the boys, Whitney explores the ravine, seeking solace by writing and drawing in her diary. But when her best friend abandons her, Whitney disappears.
PREMIERED AT THE TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
WHAT DOESN’T FLOAT
DIRECTOR: LUCA BALSER
WORLD PREMIERE
Seven stories. One city. A disparate group of characters fill out this darkly comedic anthology of New Yorkers at their wits’ end. When the dailiness of urban life is suspended by an unforeseen conflict, each character must make a decision. While the outcomes vary, a unified sense of the city emerges. New York becomes a mirror to the ego, reflecting our true character, while the rest sink to the bottom. Luca Balser’s directorial debut was shot by acclaimed cinematographers Sean Price Williams and Hunter Zimny. The cast includes Pauline Chalamet and Larry Fessenden, among others.

COURTESY OF CIRCLE COLLECTIVE

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: LUCA BALSER
PRODUCER: RACHEL WALDEN

ROSE
DIRECTOR: NIELS ARDEN OPLEV
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
Rose follows two sisters, Inger and Ellen, and how their relationship is challenged on an anticipated bus trip to Paris. Inger is not solely on a trip to see Paris; she has a hidden agenda. Tucked in her pocket is a letter from an old boyfriend, her first love, who left her when she was young — an experience that might have spurred the mental illness that she still suffers from.

MAIN CAST: SOFIE GRÅBøL, LENE MARIA CHRISTENSEN, ANDERS W. BERTHELSEN

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: NIELS ARDEN OPLEV

ROSÉ
DIRECTOR: NIELS ARDEN OPLEV
106 MIN
DNK
SPECIAL SCREENINGS

12 DAYS OF TERROR
DIRECTOR: JACK SHOLDER

The year was 1916, and the citizens of New Jersey dared not step in the water for fear of meeting a grim fate in the jaws of a great white shark. For 12 days, the bloodthirsty beast would stalk the normally serene beaches of LBI and the Jersey shore awaiting the next victim to tempt fate by taking a swim. The TV drama from 2004 is based on a true story.

MAIN CAST: COLIN EGGLESFIELD, JOHN RHYS-DAVIES

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: JACK SHOLDER

CELEBRATING JULIA REICHERT
JERSEY GIRL & OSCAR WINNER
DIRECTOR: STEVE BOGNAR

A special event celebrating the life and work of Academy Award-winning documentary filmmaker Julia Reichert, who spent every summer of her childhood as a beach urchin and working class kid on LBI, where her family had a trailer in Holgate.

After a four year battle with cancer, Reichert passed away in December 2022. This event will feature clips from Reichert’s 50 years of inspiring and entertaining documentaries, in-person remembrances, and a new short film written and narrated by Reichert herself, in which she tells her story of growing up on LBI and discovering her desire to be a filmmaker in an era when women and working-class people had no clear path to that profession.

In-person guests will include Reichert’s husband and filmmaking partner Steven Bognar and her nephew, Jeff Reichert (LIFF alum). Julia, Steven, and Jeff won Oscars in 2020 for their documentary film American Factory (LIFF 2019 Closing Film).

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: STEVE BOGNAR
STANDING WITH IRANIAN FILMMAKERS:
PAIN UNDER THE SKIN
DIRECTOR: MOHSEN JAFARI RAD
WORLD PREMIERE

In a small village, a man who owns many properties is known as a trustworthy and benevolent person outside the house, but treats his two wives and nine children with strange violence inside the house. This film is the narration of the last child of the family, who is himself a well-known journalist and critic of violence and its visible and hidden dimensions.

The filmmaker Mohsen Jafari Rad, who was arrested for his participation in the anti-government protests, died January 18th, 2023, two months after his release from prison. According to the official reports, the 35-year-old documentary filmmaker and critic committed suicide by consuming aluminum phosphide tablets. According to the film’s distributor, Mohsen dedicated his film to “the Iranian women who were subjected to violence.”

NEW JERSEY’S BEST:
THE BASTARD SONS
DIRECTOR: KEVIN INTERDONATO
WORLD PREMIERE

Life for a crew of organized criminals is disrupted when Vincent Damiano’s father, the family’s boss, is murdered. Vincent and his “Bastard” brothers, a group of orphaned souls raised together, have an idea of who killed their father...his partner, Rome. In a valiant and calculated attempt to regain the business and exact vengeance on Rome over the course of one day, the Bastards wage an all-out war in order to get their pound of flesh.

MAIN CAST: KEVIN INTERDONATO, FRANK EDGAR, MALIK WHITFIELD, AL SAPIENZA

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: KEVIN INTERDONATO
CENTRAL VALLEY
DIRECTORS: NIV KLAINER & GABRIEL OLIVA
USA

When his younger brother suddenly passes away, Tim, a 35-year-old drug peddler who has never been able to take care of himself properly, must decide what to do with his 10-year-old nephew: let him go into foster care, or rise to the occasion, straighten his life out, and take care of him himself.

TALENT ATTENDING
ACTOR & WRITER: TRAVIS ANDRE ROSS
PRODUCER: MELANIE ROSENBERG

THE FIRST GLANCE
DIRECTOR: HYUN-TAK KIM
KOR

One woman wants to kill, the other woman wants to die. Hiding their inner thoughts, the two women drive perilously over the icy road. In the trunk of the car is an urn, a Pandora’s box.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: HYUN-TAK KIM
PRODUCERS: IN-AE KIM & SIYEON YU

LISSA’S TRIP
DIRECTOR: JEFFERY LANDO
USA/CAN

A struggling actress embarks on an epiphanic odyssey across Hollywood when she tries to get to her audition despite having accidentally dropped a LOT of acid.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: JEFFERY LANDO

THIS SCREENING IS SUPPORTED BY THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF CANADA IN NEW YORK.

Canada
**NOÉMIE SAYS YES**
**DIRECTOR:** GENEVIÈVE ALBERT
**US PREMIERE**

15-year-old Noémie has been living in a youth home for the last three years. When her hopes of being taken back by her mother evaporate, Noémie runs away in search of community and freedom. She joins her friend Léa, a former member of the center, whom she knows from home, and who introduces her to a gang of petty delinquents. She soon meets Zach, who offers her a job as an escort for a weekend.

**TALENT ATTENDING**
**DIRECTOR:** GENEVIÈVE ALBERT

**LISTEN**
**DIRECTOR:** MARIA DOUZA
**US PREMIERE**

Financial upheaval forces a teenage deaf girl to leave her progressive Athens school and return to her father’s struggling island where she is confronted by the danger of prejudice and intolerance — most shockingly, her own.

**TALENT ATTENDING**
**DIRECTOR:** MARIA DOUZA

**LISTEN**
**DIRECTOR:** MARIA DOUZA
**US PREMIERE**

Financial upheaval forces a teenage deaf girl to leave her progressive Athens school and return to her father’s struggling island where she is confronted by the danger of prejudice and intolerance — most shockingly, her own.

**TALENT ATTENDING**
**DIRECTOR:** MARIA DOUZA

**NO WAY TO SPIN IT**
**DIRECTOR:** KYLE MYHRE
**WORLD PREMIERE**

With her wedding mere months away, Claire’s drug-addict sister throws a wrench into her seemingly perfect life.

**TALENT ATTENDING**
**DIRECTOR:** KYLE MYHRE
WHEELS AND AXLE
DIRECTOR: JUMPEI MATSUMOTO
WORLD PREMIERE
Inspired by Georges Bataille’s provocative novel Madame Edwarda. Manami is a female student who hates her wealthy family because they are “fake”. She meets Jun, a wealthy gay man, in Kabuki-cho, Shinjuku. They go to a male host club together and begin to share a host guy called Seiya.

This film contains multiple explicit sex scenes.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: JUMPEI MATSUMOTO
PRODUCERS: BRENNAN BROOKS & JAMIE UNRUH

SHUDDERBUGS
DIRECTOR: JOHANNA PUTNAM
106 MIN
USA
Sam returns to her childhood home when her mother suddenly passes. In place of familiar spaces and memories, she finds only uneasiness and confusion. Things are missing, the environment seems unnatural, and the neighbor is suspiciously obtuse. Isolated with these mysteries, Sam wrestles with her instincts to untangle the truth.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: JOHANNA PUTNAM
PRODUCERS: BRENNAN BROOKS & JAMIE UNRUH

PRODUCERS: BRENNAN BROOKS & JAMIE UNRUH

121 MIN
JPN

WHEELS AND AXLE
DIRECTOR: JUMPEI MATSUMOTO
WORLD PREMIERE
Inspired by Georges Bataille’s provocative novel Madame Edwarda. Manami is a female student who hates her wealthy family because they are “fake”. She meets Jun, a wealthy gay man, in Kabuki-cho, Shinjuku. They go to a male host club together and begin to share a host guy called Seiya.

This film contains multiple explicit sex scenes.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: JUMPEI MATSUMOTO

106 MIN
USA
AMERICAN POT STORY: OAKSTERDAM
DIRECTORS: DAN KATZIR & RAVIT MARKUS
EAST COAST PREMIERE

The unknown origin story of how a handful of underdogs risked everything to ignite the current worldwide revolution in cannabis policy. Filmed over a decade, this groundbreaking film illuminates the power of the activist, no matter the cause.

PREMIERED AT SLAMDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTORS: DAN KATZIR & RAVIT MARKUS

BATATA
DIRECTOR: NOURA KEVORKIAN
US PREMIERE

Shot over an unparalleled 10 years, Syrian-Lebanese director Noura Kevorkian’s intimate camera follows the plight of Maria and her family of Syrian migrant workers who find themselves unable to return to their hometown of Raqa, Syria. This Peabody Award and Amnesty Award-winning film captures an entire decade while documenting not only the age-old conflict between two nations, but also the unbending spirit of a woman who puts family ahead of all else.

PREVIOUS FESTIVALS: HOT DOCS

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: NOURA KEVORKIAN
PRODUCER: PAUL SCHERZER

THIS SCREENING IS SUPPORTED BY THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF CANADA IN NEW YORK.

HEALING DAKOTA
DIRECTOR: JAMES LAMONTE

K9 Dakota was the K9 that tracked down the Boston Terrorist in 2013 and soon after developed PTSD and was set to be euthanized. This love-inspiring movie documents a chance meeting that changes his life. La Monte also helped found the organization K9PTSD which helps to rehabilitate other dogs like Dakota that are featured in the film, many of whom have been placed with veterans and their families.
Located along a sun-bleached stretch of Fresno, CA, Motel Drive was a row of historic motels that had seen better days. Originally a regional hub for performers on the circuit, Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, and The Rolling Stones stayed and played there. But when California’s High-Speed Rail Project bypasses the strip, the motels disintegrate into a locale infamous for illicit activity, full of drugs and prostitution. A vérité, street-level vantage of post-industrial America, documented over eight years, on one city block.

Premiered at Sundance Film Festival

OUT THERE: A NATIONAL PARKS STORY
DIRECTOR: BRENDAN HALL
70 MIN USA
Two childhood friends embark on a 10,000 mile road trip through the U.S. national parks, revealing a heartfelt tapestry of stories from the people they meet along the way. Far from any clichéd narrative, they hear profound stories of people from all ages, walks of life, and cultures that come to the parks seeking tranquility, healing, motivation, and connection to the natural world.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: BRENDAN HALL

STORIES FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE
DIRECTOR: DEBORAH DICKSON
88 MIN USA
World Premiere
Beginning in the year preceding a global pandemic and culminating in the present day, Stories from the Lighthouse follows three young people on the verge of adulthood as they work toward fulfilling their dreams while “adapting to a sighted world.” A film about growing up blind, about friendship, about loss, about transcendence.
TO KILL A TIGER
DIRECTOR: NISHA PAHUJA
EAST COAST PREMIERE

On the night of a family wedding in a village in India, a 13-year-old girl is gang raped by three men. Her father takes on the fight of his life when he demands the accused be brought to justice. With tremendous access to all facets of the story, the film charts the emotional journey of an ordinary man thrown into extraordinary circumstances, and forces a social reckoning that will reverberate for years to come.

PREMIERED AT TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: NISHA PAHUJA

THIS SCREENING IS SUPPORTED BY THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF CANADA IN NEW YORK.

WE ARE TENACIOUS
DIRECTOR: ASH KREIS
EAST COAST PREMIERE

This family of dedicated pioneers, made up entirely of transgender alpaca ranchers, have set out to make the Tenacious Unicorn Ranch in Colorado (located “somewhere in the middle of nowhere”) a Queer Utopia. But as they pursue their true liberation, they also battle fierce weather, impossible finances, far-right militia, and their own internal conflicts, leading to a discovery of what tenacity really means.
ABRUPTIO
DIRECTOR: EVAN MARLOWE
EAST COAST PREMIERE

Les Hackel is a guy down on his luck who wakes to find an explosive device has been implanted in his neck. He must carry out heinous crimes in order to stay alive while trying to identify the mastermind manipulating the now twisted and strange world around him.

MAIN CAST: JAMES MARSTERS, JORDAN PEELE, ROBERT ENGLUND, SID HAIG, HANA MAE LEE

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: EVAN MARLOWE
ACTOR: DARREN DARNBOROUGH

BROOKLYN 45
DIRECTOR: TED GEOGHEGAN

Five military veterans gather in the ornate parlor of a Brooklyn brownstone. Best friends since childhood, they’ve reunited to support their troubled host, but when his invitation for cocktails turns into an impromptu séance, the metaphoric ghosts of their past become all too literal.

MAIN CAST: ANNE RAMSAY, JEREMY HOLM, LARRY FESSSENDEN

PREMIERED AT SXSW

ENTER MYCEL
DIRECTOR: DANIEL LIMMER

After the death of her mother, thirteen-year-old Lena struggles to keep her family life and her own sanity together, juggling the challenges of caring for both her newborn baby sister and her depressed father, who seeks relief in a communication system enabled by a natural fungal parasite called Mycel.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: DANIEL LIMMER

THIS SCREENING IS SUPPORTED BY THE AUSTRIAN CULTURAL FORUM IN NYC.
GHOST BABE
DIRECTOR: PIPE DELGADO
Three surfer bros get tangled up in an 80-year-old murder mystery after inheriting a mansion haunted by the foxy spirit of a legendary 1930s Hollywood starlet. Is this the end for them, or just the beginning?

TALENT ATTENDING
WRITERS/PRODUCERS: BRADEN BACHA & ANI ORRIS

UNICORN BOY
DIRECTOR: MATT KIEL
When a heartbroken young artist is sucked into a unicorn-run alternate dimension, they must help conquer a dark force in order to bring peace to the kingdom and themselves.

PREMIERED AT SLAMDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

MAIN CAST: MATT KIEL, MARIA BAMFORD, PATTON OSWALT, MICHELLE TRACHTENBERG, HAROLD PERRINEAU

SPECIAL SCREENING
THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO
DIRECTOR: NIELS ARDEN OPLEV
The first installment of Stieg Larsson’s Millennium Series (2009). A troubled computer hacker and a disgraced journalist are hired by the wealthy Henrik Vanger to investigate the suspicious disappearance of his niece 40 years earlier. As the pair dig deeper, they discover evidence pointing to a scripture-minded serial killer.

MAIN CAST: NOOMI RAPACE, MICHAEL NYQVIST

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: NIELS ARDEN OPLEV
A BODY APPEARED AT THE LAKE TODAY 5 MIN USA
DIRECTOR: BRIAN RATIGAN
A found footage examination of what happened at the lake today. Images randomly selected from found footage; poems written without images; music written without images or words. A collaborative work by Non Films. 8mm found footage. New York, 1953. Assembled in Brooklyn.

ALIENATION 14 MIN CAN
DIRECTOR: RAY RAGHAVAN
A young Mexican girl, lost in the forest, must find her mother while being pursued by border patrol agents and something otherworldly.

BENEATH CRACKED PAVEMENT 16 MIN USA
DIRECTOR: MARCUS FAHEY
Three Brooklyn highschoolers set out to make a quick buck selling candy bars in their neighborhood, but after stumbling onto the scene of a gruesome murder, the teens wind up being kidnapped and taken hostage by the occult hipsters who’ve just moved in.

BIRDHOUSE 11 MIN USA
DIRECTOR: JESCA PRUDENCIO
A curious young boy and his family arrive at an AirBnb filled with birdhouses that are both whimsical and haunting.

BLACK DRAGON (RÖNG DEN) 14 MIN USA
DIRECTOR: ALEXANDER THOMPSON
Vietnam, 1968. A feared American colonel, nicknamed the Black Dragon by Vietnamese locals, must face his inner shadow when his platoon presents him with a captured Viet Cong girl who harbors some very unusual powers.

CONSUMER 12 MIN USA
DIRECTOR: STEPHANIE IZSAK
Tortured by toxic beauty standards, thirteen-year-old Rein discovers an unconventional and disturbing way to lose weight. She thinks she’s found a fast track to perfection...but ends up biting off more than she can chew.

ECHO 3 MIN USA
DIRECTOR: MATTHEW BRENNAN
A woman plays back a mysterious old tape.

THE BREAKTHROUGH 14 MIN USA
DIRECTOR: DANIEL SINCLAIR
Jane and Teddy are on the brink of divorce, but when their marital problems come to a sticking point, they have an unexpected breakthrough. Starring Greta Lee, Ben Sinclair, Kristin Slaysman, and Hana Marie Kim. Winner of Best Live Action Short Film at the Phoenix Film Festival and Special Jury Award for Performances at the Sonoma International Film Festival.

ELISABETH 14 MIN CHE
DIRECTOR: MONICA DE ALMEIDA
Recently widowed, Mr. Bojac feels like he’s losing his mind. Oppressed by dreams, death, and a name repeated over and over again, he tries to understand their meaning. Even Jo, brought in to help him regain some mental clarity, leads him instead into psychological turmoil.
ESCALATION
DIRECTOR: CHRISTIAN BACHINI

A paranoid and self-centered man has to decide what kind of person he is inside, or it may just eat him... alive.

FLORENCE IN CUSTOMER CARE
DIRECTORS: JORDAN SOMMERLAD & CORY STONEBROOK

A customer care representative at a furniture website begins to unravel as a mysterious rash appears on her body.

EMPTY WINDOWS
DIRECTORS: ANDREW ROSENSTEIN & JOSEPH ROSENSTEIN

A little boy with schizophrenia survives a murder-suicide attempt at the hands of his mother. Haunted by the past, he stops taking medication to confront his demons.

GET AWAY
DIRECTOR: MICHAEL GABRIELE

A group of friends spending the weekend at a remote vacation rental in the desert play a mysterious VHS tape and realize that there are too many strange and terrifying coincidences.

GIVEN AGAIN
DIRECTOR: JAKE OLESON

A painter’s obsession with a pattern in nature disrupts her sense of what is real. The more she fixates on this pattern, the more reality falls apart.

HALF SAMURAI
DIRECTOR: RASHAD HAUGHTON

A mysterious drifter wanders into a bar owned by a psychopathic Yakuza gang on Halloween night.

HIGHER GROUNDS
DIRECTOR: JOE KRAMER

On the fateful day intelligent life arrives to destroy Earth, a slacker alien gets sidetracked from his mission when he’s smitten with a bitter barista. Suddenly, our survival depends on whether this space-schmuck can get her number before his plucky partner blows us sky high.

JUNE
DIRECTOR: DWAYNE CAMERON

Willow and David receive serious news causing their world to disintegrate over the following 24 hours. This one day in June for the couple holds raw despair, unleashing carnal natures, but a transcendent occurrence offers them the hope of new life.

IN THE MOUNTAINS
DIRECTOR: WALLY CHUNG

A couple go hiking and something weird happens.
THE LAKE MERRITT MONSTER
DIRECTOR: BENJAMIN MULHOLLAND
17 MIN
USA

When Ollie Henderson’s mother is attacked by a monster hiding in the depths of Lake Merritt, he sets out on a mission to find her — discovering instead a hidden network of monster hunters tasked with protecting Oakland from its own dark underbelly.

LATE NIGHT
DIRECTOR: OBEID UDDIN
12 MIN
NPL

After a late-night study session, Tara decides to head home. But the driver she booked has a mysterious history with her family... and ulterior motives against her.

THE KEYS
DIRECTOR: PANN MURUJAIYAN
18 MIN
AUS

Rupert, a real estate agent in 1949 Los Angeles, pilfers an estate listing to prove his merit but soon discovers that his actions have put him in grave danger.

THE LITTLE MERMAN
DIRECTORS: CRISTIAN PALUSO & MELANIE OOI
13 MIN
USA

An isolated woman on the Puget Sound makes a mysterious discovery on the beach in this psychological fantasy.

MICKEY DOGFACE
DIRECTOR: ZACH FLEMING
10 MIN
USA

Halloween night, three friends high in a van, and an urban legend surrounding a cult singer’s mysterious death in a fire — what could go wrong?

MINCEMEAT MANOR
DIRECTORS: HEDLEY HARLAN & RYAN M SHAW
6 MIN
USA

After accidentally waltzing his ravishing wife into a cattle pulverizer of his own creation, a disgraced inventor and his enemies hold a séance to set the record straight with the dearly departed spouse.

NIGHT AFTER-LIFE
DIRECTOR: LUKE MILLER
7 MIN
USA

After gorging himself on alcoholic teenagers, an ancient vampire comes face-to-face with Death—and Death would like a few words.

PUNISHMENT
DIRECTOR: CRISTINA DI LORITO
18 MIN
ITA

The life of a shepherd changes after the arrival of a spirit in his farm. The spirit has come to protect the animals he took advantage of during his whole life.

SONAR
DIRECTOR: JAMES HUGHES
6 MIN
UK

A swimmer detects an unusual sound late at night, and she decides to investigate.
VARIATIONS ON A THEME
DIRECTOR: PETER COLLINS CAMPBELL

A couple has begun physically splitting into many different versions of themselves and must investigate an uncomfortable mutation that has arisen. Peter Collins Campbell is the director of *DimLand*, LIFF 2021 Jury Award winner for Best Narrative Feature.

UKUKU
DIRECTORS: SCOTT BEKISZ & RONALD RODAS

When Sami, a young woman who works for a mining company, tries to evict a Shaman from his home, he places a curse on her which summons a mythic creature called the Ukuku.
A ROOM WITHOUT A VIEW
DIRECTOR: SACHA SEWHDAT
WORLD PREMIERE

When a downtrodden man tries his luck at a futuristic brothel, he finds himself in a session with an uncomfortably familiar, artificially intelligent sex worker. Neither has any idea how much their short time together will affect their futures.

TALENT ATTENDING
LEAD ACTRESS & PRODUCER: NICOLE MOLLER, LIFF Episodics Juror 2023

BALL AND VASE
DIRECTOR: DAVID BARAM

When an ailing and widowed elderly magician learns his grandson will not be visiting for his last Christmas, he struggles to reconnect with the world—and himself—by attempting to perform at a local pub that he used to visit with his wife.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: DAVID BARAM, LIFF Shorts Juror 2023

HOME (EPISODIC)
DIRECTOR: NAEEMA BUTT
WORLD PREMIERE

A Pakistani woman’s journey in search of a place to call home in the bustling city of New York, as she navigates her identity and grapples with the duality of perception, all in one unforgettable night.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR & ACTRESS: NAEEMA BUTT, LIFF Episodics Juror 2023
LEVITICUS
DIRECTOR: ALEXANDRA RAINIS
US PREMIERE

When seminarian Eduard is caught kissing a fellow seminarian in church, he is forced to decide between his faith and his love. Director Alexandra Rainis is a LIFF programmer.

VACATION HOME
DIRECTOR: JOAN STEIN SCHIMKE
WORLD PREMIERE

When Dora goes on vacation with her daughter Hannah, she begins to see the world differently.

TALENT ATTENDING
DIRECTOR: JOAN STEIN SCHIMKE, LIFF Shorts Juror 2023
A BELLEVUE LOVE STORY
DIRECTOR: MICHAEL WOLFE
A manic and a depressive begin a hospital romance that forces us to question everything we thought we knew about medicine and everything we want to believe about the healing power of love.

A LOT OF YOU ARE ASKING
DIRECTOR: LIZA RENZULLI
Alexis strives for a life of intentional, curated, elevated perfection — and to share that life with her cadre of social media followers.

A NATURAL FORCE
DIRECTOR: GORDON LEPAGE
Two raccoons follow different paths along to the physics of things. A stop-motion animated short.

A NIGHT IN THE CÓSMICO
DIRECTORS: LUIS DE VAL & DIEGO HERRERO
Based on the book “The End of the World” by Javier Prieto, A Night in the Cósmico explains the story of two people who, as they have lost everything, can finally live without fear.

AN IDEAL OF LIBERTY
DIRECTOR: NOEL PAGANOTTI
In 1929, an African American couple are forced out of their home by the government after a railroad is set to be built on top of their land. Bill will have to choose between leaving with his wife and baby or staying to protect his house and legacy.

ANNIVERSARY
DIRECTOR: LAIN KIENZLE
In anticipation of what she hopes is a surprise anniversary dinner from her husband, a middle-aged woman enlists the help of her best friend to give her a stunning makeover that’s been long overdue.
ASKING FOR IT
DIRECTOR: CHRISTY LEE HUGHES
A victim of a crime quickly becomes the suspect in this gender flipped adaptation of a satirical play directed by Lighthouse International Film Festival Alumna Christy Lee Hughes (Guardian, 2021).

EVERGREEN
DIRECTOR: MALIN BARR
In the award-winning short film Evergreen, the line between reality and dream blurs for Swedish Mia (Malin Barr) who suffers from anxiety induced paranoia on the day of her immigration interview.

GPS
DIRECTOR: NELL DASHIELL
Kim and Jamie—an upscale, young urban couple—have just arrived home after an evening out with friends when Kim hears a noise. Fearing that a burglar may be downstairs, Kim dispatches Jamie to investigate. As it happens, Kim is on the right track. BUT...

HANGMAN
DIRECTOR: MEGAN BROTHERTON
A recently widowed woman works through the complexities of grief with the help of friends, strangers, and Tupperware. Starring: Sarah Rodenbaugh, Bonnie Helman, Suzy Nakamura, Travis Coles, JP Manoux.

HE CAN SLEEP ON THE COUCH
DIRECTOR: AHINOAM CAPON
In her own domestic Garden of Eden, a young writer tangles herself in a love triangle with her stable boyfriend and his famous younger brother who is forced to sleep on their couch following a breakup. (Jerusalem Film Festival, Special Mention: Best Live Action Short Film)

HOMO DEUS. DIVINE HUMAN
DIRECTOR: YULA DEGLINA
Two partygoers, Nazar and Ulia, intervene to save a man having a bad drug trip and contemplating suicide on a rooftop. What was supposed to be a one-night stand turns into a day of caring for the troubled stranger and forming an unexpected friendship.
HOW TO PACK UP YOUR LIFE IN ONE DAY
DIRECTOR: ALBERT BENIADA

This short film explores the emotional journey of a woman who must pack up and say goodbye to her life, inspired by actress Sam Garland’s own experiences. Set to an eponymous poem, the film delves into the anguish, thrill, and grief of starting anew, discovering what must be left behind to move forward.

ICE CREAM. SLADOLED
DIRECTOR: STEVE SPREMO

A Day in the Life of a recent immigrant, where no one understands anyone else, and a trip to buy ice cream triggers a series of absurd misadventures. Premiered at Palm Springs Int’l ShortFest. LIFF is this short’s 18th film festival and New Jersey Premiere.

LEAVE ME TENDER
DIRECTOR: RACHEL COLLIGNON

Leo came to the countryside a year ago, battling crippling depression. Tonight, she’s ready to find new horizons. But her hosts have a different idea in mind. Rachel Collignon wrote, directed, and stars in this short film, receiving several acknowledgments in European festivals.

I WANTED TO BE VITTORIO GASSMAN
DIRECTOR: CRISTIAN SCARDIGNO

In 1962, 40-year-old actor Aldo Marianucci returns to his hometown, Cisterna di Latina, hoping for his big break. While spending the weekend with lifelong friends and a young American woman he met on a movie set in Rome, he anxiously awaits a life-changing call.

LIV
DIRECTOR: KASPER VEJLO KRISTENSEN

A young woman unknowingly discovers a mystical power whereby she can bring back the dead, but only if she is the cause of death. When she finds out that her boyfriend is terminally ill, to save her love, she must choose between her power and destiny.

LES CÂLINS CHEAPS (CHEAP HUGS)
DIRECTOR: SARAH BASKIN

Two strangers, reeling from the loss of their mutual friend, find themselves in an unexpected moment of connection on the streets of Montreal. Starring Valéry Lessard, Miryam Magri & Sarah Baskin. Best Drama (Toronto Shorts); Special Jury Award, Le Train Bleu (Cinema on the Bayou).
LUNCHBOX
DIRECTOR: ANNE HU
16 MIN
USA
When a Taiwanese American woman prepares lunches from her childhood, she struggles to forgive herself for pushing away her immigrant mother.

MOTHERLAND
DIRECTOR: CHRISTINA YOON
18 MIN
USA
A Korean adoptee raised in America returns to Korea to search for her birth mother. She is met with secrecy from the adoption agency as well as her own family but remains relentless on her solo journey, driven by her longing to discover the truth of her origins.

NAKAM
DIRECTOR: ANDREAS KESSLER
33 MIN
DEU
Ukraine, 1942. Twelve-year-old violinist Mitka plays in a Ukrainian restaurant with pianist Yegor. Nobody knows that Mitka is part of a Jewish partisan movement. When an opportunity arises to execute an attack on SS officers in the restaurant, Mitka puts his only friend, Yegor, in grave peril.

NOCTURNAL BURGER
DIRECTOR: REEMA MAYA
28 MIN
USA
A 13-year-old girl and a 30-something man are brought to a police station in Mumbai in the middle of the night by two strangers. Amidst questionable motives and unreliable narrators, a frustrated female constable investigates what happened that night, and what could've happened.

OMI
DIRECTOR: ADAM LEBOWITZ-LOCKARD
15 MIN
USA
When he’s ready to take the next step with his shiksa girlfriend, a young Jewish man gets possessed by the spirit of his dead Yiddish grandmother, Omi, who has plans of her own.

ONE NIGHT WITH LOVE
DIRECTOR: SALVATORE E. SUTERA
27 MIN
USA
Vanessa Rubio, of Cobra Kai, leads a stellar cast in a story where, over the course of one night, the entity of LOVE takes the form of a human again, coming to the aid of a former Latina dancer who has lost her way.
SHORT FILMS

REQUIEM
DIRECTOR: EMMA GILBERTSON

Requiem is set in 1605 against the backdrop of the witch trials. It’s a coming of age story, following Evelyn (Bella Ramsey) as she engages in a game of cat and mouse against her father, Minister Gilbert, in order to be with Mary (Safia Oakley-Green), the woman she loves.

OVER MY DEAD BODY
DIRECTOR: MEITAL COHEN NAVARRO

When a disenchanted mermaid-for-hire is mistaken for a real one, she plays along to disastrous consequences. Starring Marlee Learner, Anabelle Murphy. Best Short, Myrtle Beach International Film Festival. Best Student Film, Julien Dubuque International Film Festival.

OUT OF WATER
DIRECTOR: MADI STINE

When a disenchanted mermaid-for-hire is mistaken for a real one, she plays along to disastrous consequences. Starring Marlee Learner, Anabelle Murphy. Best Short, Myrtle Beach International Film Festival. Best Student Film, Julien Dubuque International Film Festival.

OVERDUE
DIRECTOR: MELISSA SKIRBOLL

Maureen, a laid-off widow working at a dive bar, reconnects with former student Jason after he receives bad reviews for his play. They find hope for a better tomorrow.

RABIES
DIRECTOR: ALBERTO DÍAZ

Filomena’s life is struck by poverty and the sad obscurity of hardship and torment. Terrible occurrences will mark her character during her childhood growing up in a Galician hamlet towards the end of the 19th century. Might she have the opportunity to change her fate?

REMNANTS OF A BROKEN HEART
DIRECTOR: RICH TOULMIN

Award-winning director Rich Toulmin uses his experience with Autism to tell a story about a man experiencing a breakup from an abusive relationship, showing how he struggles to deal with emotions as a male in modern society, and as a neurodivergent.

CONT’D
SPLIT
DIRECTOR: ANU VAIDYANATHAN
Split is about the fissures in a marriage and how a couple, Natalie and Joseph, overcome them in the presence of a foreigner, Sheila, who looks to become a mainstay. An ode to writers, to writing, despite everything.

SOLIDARITY
DIRECTOR: MARK L. MAZZEO
When Reilly and Darwin hear about budget cuts at the office, they agree to act in solidarity to save their jobs. Starring Melanie Rosedale, Matthew Schmid, and Patrick Heraghty.

SHELL SHOCKED
DIRECTOR: PAULA CAJIAO
After 2 years of unsuccessful treatment, a combat veteran suffering from Battle-induced stuttering discovers a controversial drug banned since World War II that has the possibility to cure him.

ROUNDABOUT
DIRECTORS: VINNY ANAND & RONALD AUSTIN JR.
10 MIN
USA
When a finance all-star walks in on a surprising and scandalous scene involving his boss and trans sister, he’s thrown into a world of moral turmoil. As he’s forced to confront his own values and beliefs, he begins to realize that nothing is what it seems in his inner circle.

STOLEN DREAMS
DIRECTOR: JUSTIN FERRATO
12 MIN
USA
A detained migrant escapes a detention center and tries to survive on the run. A fever dream into the psyche of a migrant teenager traumatized by his journey. Houston WorldFest 2023, Platinum Remi Award Winner (Live Action Short).

TART
DIRECTOR: ROSE SCHIMM
11 MIN
CAN
An elderly widow lives in a lonely grey world until she adopts a big lovable dog who brings love and color back into her life.
### SHORT FILMS NARRATIVE COMPETITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>THE REWRITE</strong></td>
<td>Director: Ken Aguado</td>
<td>9 MIN</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>A British screenwriter asks his estranged writing partner to read a letter that turns out to be a suicide note, but tempers flare and old wounds resurface when the estranged partner insists on a major rewrite. Starring Chris Geere (<em>You’re the Worst, This is Us</em>) &amp; Chris Webster (<em>Reacher, Most Dangerous Game</em>).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE AVON LADY</strong></td>
<td>Director: Carolina Espiro</td>
<td>13 MIN</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<td>An elderly immigrant named Rosa decides to face her fears of speaking English and becomes an Avon Lady. She’s a fantastic failure until she meets an eccentric customer who shows her she’ll need more than English to make a sale.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE CHOSEN ONE</strong></td>
<td>Director: Elazar Fine</td>
<td>19 MIN</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After impulsively shaving off his beard and sidelocks, Eli Eisenstein is thrown out of his Hasidic family home. He finds refuge with his estranged ex-religious aunt Shifra, but inner turmoil forces him to flee her apartment in the middle of the night.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE FAMILY CIRCUS</strong></td>
<td>Director: Andrew Fitzgerald</td>
<td>17 MIN</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Vietnamese-American family’s plan to cover up a drunk driving accident begins to unravel when their emotional baggage spills out in front of the police.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE HOPE CHEST HAS A SECRET DRAWER</strong></td>
<td>Director: Laura Frenzer</td>
<td>15 MIN</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A daughter working to reach her mother lost in Alzheimer’s uncovers a dark family secret. Starring Amy Hargreaves (<em>Homeland, Blue Ruin</em>) and Anna Stuart (<em>As the World Turns, All My Children</em>). An award-winning screenplay by Laura Frenzer, and a women-led team.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE RITZ</strong></td>
<td>Director: Allex Tarr</td>
<td>15 MIN</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>In 1950s Oklahoma, a 16-year-old girl must decide whether to stay with her abusive father or elope with her new beau. Based on a true story.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
WHAT WILL BE, WILL BE
DIRECTOR: JACK WAKE-WALKER
UK
Kutaisi, Georgia: A Ukrainian refugee and a local taxi driver must navigate around specific problems in their lives, while Fate looms over them. Starring and co-written by Darina Rulova, who fled Mariupol in March 2022.

YOU CAN STAY HERE IF YOU WANT
DIRECTOR: SARAH ROSEN
USA
Breaking up is hard to do—especially during a crisis. When a couple breaks up on the eve of the New York City lockdown, their relationship gets a second shot. Shot on 16mm, a dramatic comedy about what we owe our lovers, our neighbors, and ourselves.

YUVALO
DIRECTOR: ADI NAGAR
ISR
Yarden calls the police on her manic-depressive brother. She is forced to face both her family, who are in denial, and law enforcement, who do not take the matter seriously. Will her brother Yuvalo finally receive treatment, or will he be sent back home again?

TO BE HONEST
DIRECTOR: JOHN ROBERT HAMMERER
USA
Two exes attempt to reconnect, unaware they each have something to hide.

WHEN YOU LEFT ME ON THAT BOULEVARD
DIRECTOR: KAYLA ABUDA GALANG
USA
Teenager Ly and her cousins get high before a boisterous family Thanksgiving at their auntie’s house in southeast San Diego in 2006. Received the 2023 Sundance Film Festival Short Film Grand Jury Prize and the 2023 SXSW Special Jury Prize for Vision.
SHORT FILMS  
DOCUMENTARY  
COMPETITION

**REQUIEM FOR A WHALE**  
DIRECTOR: IDO WEISMAN  
From an encounter with a whale’s corpse washed ashore at Nitzanim beach in Israel, a collective experience shines, regarding the dialogue between life and death. Winner of IDFA award for Best Student Film.

**ASTOR PLACE, THE AMERICAN DREAM**  
DIRECTOR: GIUSEPPE MALPASSO  
Evolved through time, legendary multiethnic hair salon Astor Place has become a beacon of New York City cool. Between its forty artists, they share their stories that show the commitment of immigrants who came to America in pursuit of their dreams and still believe that there is light beyond the horizon.

**A PERFECT LOVE**  
DIRECTOR: KYLE SAYLORS  
An inspirational story of one family’s dream to adopt a child with special needs from China. Eight years and six special needs children later, the family copes with the struggles of bringing two cultures together to form an everlasting bond.

**POWERS**  
DIRECTOR: PAIGE MORROW KIMBALL  
A budding artist in her 60s hangs whimsical trash sculptures on telephone poles to spread joy in her urban community. Worried it may be illegal, she disguises herself as a man and through her random acts of kindness comes into her own, making peace with her troubled past.

**#MOCRAZYSTRONG**  
DIRECTORS: JAMIE MOCRAZY & MARK LOCKI  
Professional skier Jamie MoCrazy’s life was flipped upside down after a traumatic brain injury from a ski accident. In this inspiring story witness Jamie’s journey from a statistically improbable survival to recovery with groundbreaking treatment and the support of her family and the medical community.

**DARON, DARON COLBERT**  
DIRECTOR: KEVIN EDWARD STEEN  
An actor living on the edge of one of the most polluted zip codes in the United States prepares for a role.

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SALT LINES
DIRECTOR: DAN MCDougall
UK
16 MIN

One woman’s unlikely journey from law student to fifth-generation Captain of her own lobster trawler. Balancing work with raising her son while also pregnant with her next child. A career path sought out of passion and tradition.

UNDER G-D
DIRECTOR: Paula Eiselt
USA
24 MIN

“Under G-d” is a Sundance 2023 documentary short about the Jewish response to the Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization Supreme Court decision. It follows the legal challenges to abortion bans on religious freedom grounds and the fight to protect democracy while upholding the separation of church and state.

THE EYE BEGINS IN THE HAND
DIRECTOR: Yehuda Sharim
USA
15 MIN

A tribute to the artwork of Ruben A. Sanchez, who has been largely absent from critical conversations on Chicanx art, as well as an unsentimental reckoning with the fate of many cultural workers that struggle between paying rent and/or creative endeavors.

THIS IS A STORY ABOUT NEON SIGNS
DIRECTOR: Erika Mercedes Barker
USA
7 MIN

Join me as we explore the dazzling world of neon sign-making in New York City. Meet the talented artisans who hand-bend tubes to create stunning works of art that light up the city. Get ready to be wowed by their fascinating history and cultural significance.
EPISODICS

COMPETITION

BLIND STITCH
DIRECTOR: ALEXANDER BERGMAN
17 MIN
USA

A Koreatown tailor finds success in America by living a double life as a gang surgeon. In a city of secrets, he knows them all.

BROKEN TOILETS
DIRECTOR: JESSE TOLEDANO
22 MIN
USA

BROKEN TOILETS is a comedy about a Hasidic property manager who harbors a love for hip hop. When this is discovered by two of his tenants, who are aspiring hip hop artists themselves, they form an indelible trio and together they figure out how to balance their artistic passions with the realities of everyday living.

CAMP GREENWOOD
DIRECTOR: KOURTNEY BELL
22 MIN
USA

Camp Greenwood is a serialized dark comedy about six toxic narcissists who get trapped in a haunted cabin in the Adirondacks, and it won’t set them free until they become better people.

CARLY DOLLS
DIRECTORS: MAUDIE SCHMIDT & JASON POWER
20 MIN
USA

A homeschooled fourteen-year-old, Carly, is forced to face public high school. She turns to her dolls, Lily and Mermaid, for comfort and advice.

COUPLE OF GUYS
DIRECTOR: DEBRA MARKOWITZ
21 MIN
USA

A newly divorced attorney comes out and is ready to live it up with a flirtatious rocker who is ready to settle down, and together, they try for a second chance at love.

EASILY SOLVED MYSTERIES
DIRECTOR: KEVIN RALSTON
9 MIN
USA

EAST COAST PREMIERE

A woman wakes up in her apartment to find something wasn’t how she left it. The search for an answer changes her life when it really doesn’t need to.

GRIEVANCE GULCH
DIRECTOR: JIM HODGSON
7 MIN
USA

A group of inept gunslingers try to form their own town so they won’t get hanged. They discover that running a town just might be worse.

HEADLESS: A SLEEPY HOLLOW STORY
DIRECTOR: WILLIAM J. STRIBLING
19 MIN
USA

In this modernized, comedic update on the Washington Irving classic short story, “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow,” awkward science teacher Ichabod Crane finds himself roommates with the legendary Headless Horseman and must embark on a mysterious journey to find his new friend’s old head while discovering himself along the way.

HIT MAN: SECRETS OF LIES
DIRECTOR: ELIAS PLAGIANOS
19 MIN
USA

A reflective hitman from New York City travels to a small town where he is confronted with an artifact from his past that forces him to re-examine his profession and his personal history. Based on the best selling “Hit Man” book series by Grand Master of mystery Lawrence Block.
LOST IN CALIFORNIA
DIRECTOR: MATHIEU ROCHET
Larry, a Frenchman living in Los Angeles, sets out to track down Dr. Dre after making an untenable promise to his girlfriend: to bring her the unreleased Detox album he claims to have for a party. Larry has four days to find a record that was never released. Through this quest, he introduces us to Los Angeles and the Gangsta Rap culture.

MASHED
DIRECTOR: STACEY MALTIN
A tender, raunchy, and queer exploration of female pelvic pain and sexual dysfunction that follows a woman struggling with vaginismus as she tries to connect with her sexuality through rushed and reckless intimacy and vigorous EMDR trauma therapy.

THE MERRY MAKERS
DIRECTOR: JEAN-SEBASTIEN BUSQUE
The Merry Makers is a TV show where JS and Fred, two likable yet slightly irreverent tinkers, work on awesome projects and show young people how to make tons of practical stuff while cultivating their curiosity and know-how!

METAL MAN
DIRECTOR: LAUREL PARMET
CREATOR: TOMAS PAIS
EAST COAST PREMIERE
Metal Man is a comedy about a heavy metal handyman who gets called for various jobs and always gets entangled in the lives of his unruly customers.

STONED BREAKUPS: HANNAH
DIRECTOR: BENJAMIN-SHALOM RODRIGUEZ
WORLD PREMIERE
Despite having asthma, comedian Hannah Pilkes smokes a fat blunt and shares details about a past relationship when she was just a 17-year-old improv-loving high schooler dating a 27-year-old guy who loved ketamine.

UN$UITED
DIRECTOR: TOM BALDINGER
Greg makes the “bad” decision to walk away from his inheritance to become a professional poker player, not knowing the tremendous risks and implications his decisions will have on him and his family and friends.

WHAT THE ELF?!
DIRECTOR: TATE HANYOK
CREATOR: CAMERON KELLY
When a B-list actress gets canned from her network show, she takes the only other job she’s qualified for: a Christmas Elf at the mall.
BIG WAVE GUARDIANS
DIRECTOR: LUKE STIRTZ

Hawaii’s North Shore is the world’s most dangerous 7 mile stretch of beach. As surfers push the limits and crowds increase, a small group of heroes have reinvented water safety on a parallel track to the rising dangers.

STOP PLAYIN’ WITH ‘EM
DIRECTOR: SEAN MADDEN

Quest Soliman and Paul Godette are Rockaway Beach based skaters turned surfers. Trading frigid winter waves for Panamanian shores, the two celebrate diversity, brotherhood, and adventure.
SURF SHORTS

BAGUS LAGI - THE DREAM NEVER ENDS
DIRECTOR: ALEXANDRE RIBAS

Pedro Booman is a free surfer from Portugal who loves traveling to Indonesia in search of perfect barrels. After 3 years of restrictions due to the pandemic, he finally has an opportunity to return, this time staying 63 days in the northern Mentawai Islands, a true paradise on earth.

THE GIFT OF BATHSHEBA
DIRECTOR: ZACH HELLMUTH

A documentary that explores Kevin “Buju” Nicholls’ personal connection to his village on the East Coast of Barbados.

WAVES APART
DIRECTOR: JOSH GREENE

A Jewish surfer confronts the dark, anti-semitic history of the sport he once found solace in. He investigates the swastikas carved into the first commercially produced surfboards, the German-American bund, and Hollywood’s first surf film.

YAMA
DIRECTORS: LUCY SMALL & MADDIE MEDDINGS

Join Australian surfer and activist Lucy Small as she travels to Ghana to meet with a group of pioneering female surfers and skaters.
INDUSTRY EVENTS

MASTER CLASS
STUNTS AND ACTING: INTERSECTIONALITY IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY
WITH NICOLE MOLLER

In entertainment today, there’s an ever-mounting pressure to stand out amongst the crowd. This pressure, mixed with the outdated idea that one must work their way up in one field only, creates a barrier to up-and-coming artists who have yet to secure the opportunity to work, but still have much to contribute to their industry. Longevity is key in an industry that takes diligence, patience, and constant vulnerability to carve one’s place in it. Nicole Moller, a stunt performer and actor from Toronto, Canada, will explore the role of career intersectionality in the entertainment industry and how this approach is both professionally sustainable and personally fulfilling.

WORKSHOP
GLAM TO GORE
WITH SOPHIA-MARIE ROMAN

Get ready to transform from glam to gore with Sophia-Marie Roman! As a licensed cosmetologist and makeup artist, Sophia-Marie is a master at creating stunning makeup looks for special occasions, TV, film, and theater. You might have seen her work in Bel Air on Peacock, The Retaliator on HBO Max, or Free Meek on Amazon Prime.

Sophia-Marie is skilled in prosthetic applications, using latex and silicone, blood rigging, character makeup, and face painting to achieve realistic and impressive results. Want to learn how to create realistic wounds, cuts, bruises, and burns like a pro? Then join Sophia-Marie in this special effects makeup workshop!

In this class, you’ll witness Sophia-Marie’s amazing skills as she demonstrates step-by-step how to achieve gory effects that you usually only see in movies and TV. You’ll also get hands-on experience with the techniques and tools used in the industry. So, if you’re ready to take your makeup game to the next level and get a little gory, come attend Sophia-Marie’s special effects makeup workshop. Don’t miss out on this unique opportunity to learn from one of the best in the business!
CLOSING PARTY & AWARDS CEREMONY

Celebrate with us at Joe Pop’s, an iconic shore bar. Enjoy great cocktails and dinner provided by local restaurants, mingle with old and new friends, and await the highly anticipated awards announcements. Let’s bid farewell to a wonderful festival and raise a glass to the memories made. Join us for a night of fun! See you at Joe Pop’s!

Filmmakers, Industry Guests, Press, All Access Pass Holders, Staff, and Volunteers only.

WEDNESDAY LAUNCH PARTY

Let’s start the festival off with a bang! Join us as we come together to celebrate independent films on LBI. Happy Hour drinks and the Happy Hour menu will be available all night long exclusively for those with a festival badge. It’s the perfect opportunity to meet new people, mingle, and most importantly, have a fantastic time.


FRIDAY NIGHT PARTY

We would like to extend a warm invitation to join us at Wally’s in Surf City for an unforgettable evening under the stars in their lovely tented outside courtyard. This is the perfect opportunity for filmmakers, film programmers, film buffs, and festival staff to mingle, share stories, and connect with one another.


SATURDAY NIGHT PARTY

Join us for an enchanting evening celebrating independent films from around the world under the stars on Barnegat Bay. Sip wine, enjoy a beer, and nibble on delicious bites from the Queen City Market as you mingle with fellow film buffs and meet the filmmakers. Come for the stunning view, stay for the fun and entertainment! We can’t wait to see you there.


SPECIAL EVENTS

BREAKFAST WITH THE FILMMAKERS

Filmmakers Panel with Q&A

Start your day off on a high note with some scrumptious bites and a cup of java, courtesy of Private Dining by Francis, the acclaimed executive French chef of LBI! Not only will your taste buds be delighted, but you’ll also be treated to an engaging and enlightening conversation. The filmmakers behind many of the festival’s narrative and documentary feature films will be there too, ready to answer your burning questions and share their insights.

Just a friendly reminder that this event is exclusively open to All Access Pass Holders, Filmmakers, Industry Guests, and Members of the Press. We’re expecting a high turnout, so be sure to arrive on time. Don’t miss out on this exciting opportunity!

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Filmmakers, Industry Guests, Press, All Access Pass Holders, Staff, and Volunteers only.
WRITE BY THE BEACH

Long Beach Island has a rich history of inspiring artists and writers for decades, and the Lighthouse International Film Festival is proud to continue this tradition with our annual Write by the Beach series. This special retreat offers a unique opportunity for selected screenwriters to unleash their creativity, connect with peers, and be inspired by the breathtaking beauty of Long Beach Island.

At the Lighthouse International Film Festival, we understand the challenges faced by women in the film industry, and we are committed to supporting women storytellers. We showcase women-written, directed, and produced films, and provide networking opportunities to help women advance their careers in this highly competitive field.

We believe that diversity of voices is essential to the art of storytelling, and our selection process reflects this commitment. Each year, we receive hundreds of applications from talented filmmakers and screenwriters, and we select three exceptional women who have a proven track record of success. To be eligible, applicants must have served as the primary screenwriter on at least one produced and completed short or feature film.

At the Lighthouse International Film Festival, we are proud to offer our Write by the Beach series and support the creativity and success of women in film. We believe that by providing opportunities for diverse voices to be heard, we can enrich our culture and society with fresh and compelling stories.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT FILMS COMPETITION

ESCORTED
ADRIAN ANTONSEN
Norway | 22:49 min

EURYDICE
 IMOGEN RUSSELL
USA (NY) | 5:54 min

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARGOT
ANDRIANA YATSYSHYN
USA (NY) | 14:15 min

HARDCORE
MADELEINE CASE
USA (CA) | 9:57 min

MAYA! THE MUSICAL
ELLA LAMBIASE & MEAGHAN KRANTZ
USA (NJ) | 4:57 min

REDUCE SINGLE-USE
AARON DIAMENT
USA (NJ) | 0:59 min

THE SUMMER WIND
LUKAS CORNINE
USA (NJ) | 2:39 min

TAKING INVENTORY
AARON DIAMENT
USA (NJ) | 2:35 min

WELL-DYING
JUNHYEOK "ERIC" KIM
South Korea | 13:50 min

WILD ANIMALS
STEVEN MINAYA
USA (NJ) | 2:41 min
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These featured beach properties have generously donated to the Film Festival and are still available for rent. Call us for availability!

Enjoy Lakeside Retreat, a mid-century modern, lakefront home. After a day on the lake, relax in the soothing hot tub or sit by the cozy fireplace. Located on Lake Manahawkin, yet only minutes away from the pristine beaches of LBI.

Welcome to Vicino Alla Torre. Located in the tranquility of the island’s south-end. Includes a beautifully appointed pool and immediate access to both the ocean and bay activities with some of the best surfing NJ has to offer.

At Sun Kissed, happiness comes in waves. This immaculate south-end beach house is decorated throughout in a warm and tasteful coastal decor. After a fun day at the beach, relax in the soothing hot tub or take a spin on the Peloton bike should you enjoy too many ice cream cones 😊

We still have plenty of rentals for the 2023 season! For up-to-the-minute availability, Scan the QR code to see our 40+ rental listings.

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Memorial Day Weekend
Thursday May 25th
Tony Kane 4PM • Deuling Piano 8PM
Friday May 26th
Greg Warren 4PM • Big Mix 10PM
Saturday May 27th
Todd Meredith Trio 4PM • The Nerds 10PM
Sunday May 28th
Chad Miller 4PM • Turning The Tide 10PM

May 25th - 29th • Open at 12 pm
May 30th - 31st • Closed
June 1st - 14th • Open Thur & Fri 3 pm
Open Sat & Sun • 12 pm
June 15th - Labor Day • Open 7 days 12 pm

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AMANDA STEUER

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Loveladies, NJ 08008

LBI HISTORICAL MUSEUM
129 Engleside Avenue
Beach Haven, NJ 08008

Please arrive at the venues at least 15 minutes prior to the screening times to ensure seating. Be prepared to queue up outside the venue.

TICKET & PASS INFORMATION

WWW.LIGHTHOUSEFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: $12
OPENING NIGHT TICKETS: $15
ALL ACCESS PASS: $150
FILMS ONLY PASS: $120

LIFF’s All Access Pass is the full cinematic experience, including 2 Breakfasts with the Filmmakers, Opening Party, Friday Night Party, Saturday Night Party, Sunday Awards Ceremony at Joe Pop’s, LBI Shuttle rides, and priority entry for screenings.

LIFF’s Films Only Pass is perfect for our film patrons who love to binge ALL films, all festival long. Includes LBI Shuttle rides and priority entry for screenings.

PASSES can be purchased online at www.lighthouseff.com and at the Lighthouse International Film Festival Headquarters.

Tickets to individual films can be purchased via our website: www.lighthouseff.com. Advance purchase of tickets is strongly encouraged. Rush tickets may be purchased at the venues 20 minutes prior to screening times, pending availability.

FESTIVAL HEADQUARTERS

LBI OFFICE SHARE
285 West 8th Street
Ship Bottom, NJ 08008

2023 FESTIVAL HEADQUARTERS HOURS:
Thursday, June 1...........................................11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Friday, June 2.............................................4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Tuesday, June 6.........................................11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Wednesday, June 7.................................11:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Thursday, June 8....................................11:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Friday, June 9...........................................11:00 AM - 7:30 PM
Saturday, June 10.................................11:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Sunday, June 11.................................11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Pick up your passes, grab a program, purchase Festival merchandise, and obtain LBI information at our Headquarters. Passes can be picked up at all venues during the Festival with proof of purchase. Passes can also be picked up at Things A Drift in Ship Bottom 10am – 5pm, during Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences office hours, and at the Manahawkin location of Agnello’s Cafe prior to the Festival. Please have proof of purchase.

Assisted listening headphones are available at the Regal Theater upon request. Call ahead 844.462.7342.

Communication assistance is available upon request with 3 weeks notice.

All locations are wheelchair accessible.
# LIFF Schedule

## Wednesday, June 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Film Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>LBI Foundation</td>
<td>12 Days of Terror</td>
<td>90 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Regal Cinemas</td>
<td>Stop Playin' with Em</td>
<td>63 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Ship Bottom Firehouse</td>
<td>10:00-Closing Wednesday Launch Party @Nardi’s</td>
<td></td>
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## Thursday, June 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Film Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>LBI Foundation</td>
<td>Pain Under the Skin</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>Regal Cinemas</td>
<td>Shorts Block 1 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>120 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>LBI Foundation</td>
<td>Friends of the Fest • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>70 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>Regal Cinemas</td>
<td>Episodics Block 1 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>120 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>LBI Foundation</td>
<td>Shorts Block 2 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>120 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>LBI Foundation</td>
<td>Celebrating Julia Reichert • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>LBI Foundation</td>
<td>Darkhouse Shorts 1 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>105 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>LBI Foundation</td>
<td>Parachute • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>97 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>LBI Foundation</td>
<td>Shorts Block 3 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>120 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>LBI Foundation</td>
<td>Brooklyn 45</td>
<td>93 min</td>
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</table>
### FRIDAY, JUNE 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>9:00 - 10:30 BREAKFAST W/ FILMMAKERS @ST. THOMAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>LISTEN + Q&amp;A 108 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 AM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>OUT THERE + Q&amp;A 70 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>REGAL CINEMAS</td>
<td>BATATA + Q&amp;A 120 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>SHIP BOTTOM FIREHOUSE</td>
<td>SHORTS BLOCK 4 + Q&amp;A 120 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>LBI HISTORICAL MUSEUM</td>
<td>SHORTS BLOCK 4 + Q&amp;A 120 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>WE ARE TENACIOUS + Q&amp;A 86 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>CENTRAL VALLEY + Q&amp;A 90 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>WORKSHOP STUNTS &amp; ACTING W/ NICOLE MOLLER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>EPISODICS BLOCK 2 + Q&amp;A 120 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>UNICORN BOY + Q&amp;A 90 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>NOÉMIE SAYS YES + Q&amp;A 116 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>HEALING DAKOTA + Q&amp;A 82 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>SHORTS BLOCK 5 + Q&amp;A 120 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>DARKHOUSE SHORTS 2 + Q&amp;A 105 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>LISSA'S TRIP + Q&amp;A 75 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>BLEECKER + Q&amp;A 104 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>WHEELS AND AXLE + Q&amp;A 120 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>GHOST BABE + Q&amp;A 80 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>THE MAIDEN 117 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION</td>
<td>10:00-CLOSING FRIDAY NIGHT PARTY @ WALLY'S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Categories:**
- **HEADLINER**
- **SPOTLIGHT**
- **DOCUMENTARY**
- **FEATURES**
- **SURF**
- **DARKHOUSE**
- **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
## SATURDAY, JUNE 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>LBI FOUNDATION</th>
<th>REGAL CINEMAS</th>
<th>SHIP BOTTOM FIREHOUSE</th>
<th>LBI HISTORICAL MUSEUM</th>
<th>SPECIAL EVENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>STORIES FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>THE FIRST GLANCE • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>11:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>STORIES FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>THE FIRST GLANCE • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>11:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>1:15</td>
<td>SHORTS BLOCK 6 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>1:15</td>
<td>SHORTS BLOCK 6 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>1:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>MOTEL DRIVE • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>SHUDDERBUGS • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>1:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>3:45</td>
<td>AMERICAN POT STORY • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>3:45</td>
<td>AMERICAN POT STORY • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>3:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>4:00</td>
<td>SHORTS BLOCK 7</td>
<td>4:00</td>
<td>WORKSHOP GLAM TO GORE W/ SOPHIA-MARIE ROMAN</td>
<td>4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>5:45</td>
<td>DARKHOUSE SHORTS 3 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>5:45</td>
<td>DARKHOUSE SHORTS 3 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>5:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>6:15</td>
<td>SCRAPPER • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>6:15</td>
<td>SHORTS BLOCK 8 • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>6:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>THE BASTARD SONS • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>THE BASTARD SONS • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>7:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 PM</td>
<td>8:45</td>
<td>WHAT DOESN'T FLOAT • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>8:45</td>
<td>WHAT DOESN'T FLOAT • Q&amp;A</td>
<td>8:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>SURF SHORTS</td>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>SURF SHORTS</td>
<td>9:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 - CLOSING SATURDAY NIGHT PARTY @ QUEEN CITY MARINA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Headliner**
- **Spotlight**
- **Documentary**
- **Features**
- **Surf**
- **Darkhouse**
- **Special Presentations**
### SUNDAY, JUNE 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION, LOVELADIES, NJ</td>
<td>BIG WAVE GUARDIANS + Q&amp;A</td>
<td>91 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>REGAL CINEMAS, MANAHAWKIN, NJ</td>
<td>HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SHORT FILMS + Q&amp;A</td>
<td>90 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>SHIP BOTTOM FIREHOUSE, SHIP BOTTOM, NJ</td>
<td>DARKHOUSE SHORTS 4 + Q&amp;A</td>
<td>120 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>LBI HISTORICAL MUSEUM, BEACH HAVEN, NJ</td>
<td>NO WAY TO SPIN IT + Q&amp;A</td>
<td>86 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 PM</td>
<td>SPECIAL EVENTS</td>
<td>SHORTS BLOCK 9 + Q&amp;A</td>
<td>120 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td>THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO + Q&amp;A</td>
<td>152 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td>GREAT PHOTO, LOVELY LIFE + Q&amp;A</td>
<td>112 MINS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td>SHORTS BLOCK 10 + Q&amp;A</td>
<td>120 MIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 - 7:00 AWARDS CEREMONY/CLOSING PARTY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>LBI FOUNDATION, LOVELADIES, NJ</td>
<td>LOUD &amp; LONGING + Q&amp;A</td>
<td>90 MINS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Categories:**
- **HEADLINER**
- **SPOTLIGHT**
- **DOCUMENTARY**
- **FEATURES**
- **SURF**
- **DARKHOUSE**
- **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Scan Code:**
![Scan Code Image]
SHORTS & EPISODICS
BLOCK LINEUP

SHORTS BLOCK #1
THURSDAY 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM
THE REWRITE
RABIES
ICE CREAM
SLADOLED
LIV
OVER MY DEAD BODY
GPS

SHORTS BLOCK #3
THURSDAY 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM
I WANTED TO BE
VITTORIO GASSMAN
WHAT WILL BE,
WILL BE
THE CHosen ONE
ASKING FOR IT
THE FAMILY CIRCUS
HOMO DEUS, DIVINE HUMAN

SHORTS BLOCK #5
FRIDAY 5:15 PM - 7:15 PM
NAKAM
ANNIVERSARY
YOU CAN STAY HERE
IF YOU WANT
TO BE HONEST
NOCTURNAL BURGER

SHORTS BLOCK #7
SATURDAY 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
MOTHERLAND
HANGMAN
AN IDEAL OF LIBERTY
HE CAN SLEEP ON THE COUCH
REMNANTS OF A BROKEN HEART

EPISODICS BLOCK #1
THURSDAY 3:45 PM - 5:45 PM
HEADLESS: A SLEEPY HOLLOW STORY
GRIEVANCE GULCH
LOST IN CALIFORNIA
INCIDENT CALL
THE MERRY MAKERS
BLIND STITCH

EPISODICS BLOCK #3
SATURDAY 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
CAMP GREENWOOD
WHAT THE ELF?!
HIT MAN
MASHED
BROKEN TOILETS
UNCONDITIONAL

EPISODICS BLOCK #5
SATURDAY 1:15 PM - 3:15 PM
REQUIEM FOR A WHALE
#MOCRAZYSTRONG POWERS

EPISODICS BLOCK #7
SATURDAY 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
TART
THE AVON LADY
LUNCHBOX
REQUIEM
A LOT OF YOU ARE ASKING
SOLIDARITY

EPISODICS BLOCK #9
SUNDAY 12:15 PM - 2:15 PM
ONE NIGHT WITH LOVE
A BELLEVUE LOVE STORY
ROUNDABOUT

SHORTS BLOCK #2
THURSDAY 5:15 PM - 7:15 PM
OUT OF WATER
LEAVE ME TENDER
YUVALO
SPLIT
EVERGREEN
HOW TO PACK UP YOUR LIFE IN ONE DAY
LES CÂLINS CHEAPS (CHEAP HUGS)

SHORTS BLOCK #4
FRIDAY 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
A NIGHT IN THE COSMICO
STOLEN DREAMS
THE HOPE CHEST
HAS A SECRET DRAWER
THE RITZ
OMI
A NATURAL FORCE
OVERDUE

SHORTS BLOCK #6
SATURDAY 1:15 PM - 3:15 PM
REQUIEM FOR A WHALE
#MOCRAZYSTRONG POWERS

SHORTS BLOCK #8
SATURDAY 6:15 PM - 8:15 PM
TART
THE AVON LADY
LUNCHBOX
REQUIEM
A LOT OF YOU ARE ASKING
SOLIDARITY

SHORTS BLOCK #10
SUNDAY 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
A PERFECT LOVE
THE EYE BEGINS IN THE HAND
ASTOR PLACE, THE AMERICAN DREAM
SALT LINES
DARON, DARON COLBERT

SHORTS BLOCK #10
SUNDAY 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
A PERFECT LOVE
THE EYE BEGINS IN THE HAND
ASTOR PLACE, THE AMERICAN DREAM
SALT LINES
DARON, DARON COLBERT
THANK YOU!

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CINELEASE STUDIOS
ECHOES OF LBI
JOE POPS SHORE BAR
LBI DREAMMAKERS
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MICROMEDIA PUBLICATIONS, INC
NJ MONTHLY
OCEAN COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE
COMMISSION
QUEEN CITY MARINA & MARKET
REGAL CINEMAS
THE CHEESE SHOPPE
THE GABLES
THE SANDPAPER
WALLY’S

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JAIME & ANGELA RYAN

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BAY MAGAZINE
BEACH HAVEN MARLIN & TUNA CLUB
COASTAL SIGN AND DESIGN
CORAL SEAS MOTEL
CREATIVELY YOURS, DAYNA
DRIFTING SANDS OCEANFRONT MOTEL
ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR
ENGLESIDE INN AND RESTAURANT
FUSARO’S PIZZA & PASTA
GIGLIO AWNING
GRUNIN FOUNDATION
HAVEN BEACH MOTEL
HOT BUTTERED MEDIA
HOT BUTTERED MEDIA
HOT BUTTERED MEDIA
HOT BUTTERED MEDIA

FAN
$500 - $999
MARIANNE DESKA
EMMA LAPSANSKY
DIANE MCBABE
FRED & ARLENE SCHRAGGER
LISA WILLoughby
DR. WOLFDORF
BUY RITE 72 LIQUORS
EILEEN HESSEL
EGRAMER v.

ACTOR
$100 - $249
ANITA DREICHLER
BAGELS & BEYOND
BLACK PEARL PIRATE TOURS
BLUE WATER CAFÉ
BRUNO’S MEAT MARKET
CALLOWAY’S RESTAURANT
DAYMARK
ELEMENT RESTAURANT & BAR
HARVEY CEDARS MARINA
JOEY’S PIZZA AND PASTA
LA BAMBA MEXICAN RESTAURANT
LBI TABLE
MANERA’S STEAK & SEAFOOD
NEPTUNE MARKET
SPEAKEASY PIZZERIA
STAFFORD DINER
TGI FRIDAY’S
THE AR LtN GT

PARTNERS
CONSULATE GENERAL OF CANADA IN NEW YORK
CONSULATE GENERAL OF GREECE IN NEW YORK

SIDE EYE SOUND
SOUTH END SURF ’N PADDLE
SURF UNLIMITED
THE BEACH CREW
TOM’S TIKI BOAT ADVENTURES
WAYMARK WEBSITES
WAYMARK WEBSITES
WOODIES DRIVE- IN

FILM BUFF
$250 - $499
WILLIAM & EMMA HAMILTON
ANTHONY’S RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA
BUCKLEW’S RESTAURANT & TAVERN
CHICKEN OR THE EGG
DOCK & CLAW CLAM BAR
LA CABANITA MEXICAN RESTAURANT
LATINO FLAVOR GRILLE
LBI ROTARY FOUNDATION
OLIVE GARDEN
PICNIC PERFECT
PIETRO’S ITALIAN RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA
SHORE DESIGN
ZEN

WWW.LIGHTHOUSEFF.COM/FILM-SOCIETY
AND PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING
THANK YOU!
Those colorful LBI shuttle buses running up and down Long Beach Island BLVD are for you!

**SHUTTLES ARE FREE FOR LIFF PASS HOLDERS**
LBI shuttle buses will be stopping at all screening venues, parties, Breakfasts with the Filmmakers, and events to help you get where you are going. Please, no alcohol or smoking on shuttle buses!

**HOW DO YOU CATCH THE LBI SHUTTLE?**
Stand on any corner on Long Beach Blvd. When you see a colorful ‘LBI SHUTTLE’ bus approaching, wave vigorously — no need to dance (but feel free to!).

**IF SOMEONE IN MY PARTY DOES NOT HAVE AN ALL ACCESS PASS, CAN THEY RIDE?**
Yes, the fee is $2 until 7:00 pm and $5 after 7:00 pm.

**HOW OFTEN DOES THE LBI SHUTTLE RUN?**
The shuttles run on a continuous loop. A bus should be at the venues every 20 minutes depending on traffic and road conditions. There should be a bus at the end of a screening or event to take you to other venues.

---

**SHARE WITH THE FESTIVAL**
Welcome, guests of LIFF 2023! Remember to include #LIFF2023 if you’re posting at or about the festival!

- [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/lighthouseinternationalfilm)
- [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/lighthouseinternationalfilm)
- [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/lighthouseinternationalfilm)
- [Twitter](https://twitter.com/lighthousefilm)

**2024 SUBMISSIONS:** [WWW.FILMFREEWAY.COM/LIGHTHOUSEINTERNATIONALFILM.FESTIVAL](https://www.filmfreeway.com/lighthouseinternationalfilm)
WELCOME TO
LONG BEACH ISLAND

FILM FESTIVAL LOCATIONS

1. Lighthouse Visitor Center / Barnegat Lighthouse State Park / Barnegat Light, NJ
2. Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences / 120 Long Beach Blvd / Loveladies, NJ
3. Northside Bar & Grille / 1500 Long Beach Blvd / Surf City, NJ
4. St. Thomas of Villanova Church / 13th St. & Long Beach Blvd / Surf City, NJ
5. Wally’s / 712 Long Beach Blvd / Surf City, NJ
6. Festival Headquarters, LBI Office Share / 285 W. 8th Street / Ship Bottom, NJ
7. Regal Cinemas / 733 RT 72 East / Manahawkin Commons / Manahawkin, NJ
8. Joe Pop’s Shore Bar / 2002 Long Beach Blvd / Ship Bottom, NJ
10. The Gables / 212 Centre Street / Beach Haven, NJ
11. LBI Historical Museum / 129 Engleside Ave / Beach Haven, NJ
12. Martin Bar & Restaurant / 2 S. Bay Ave / Beach Haven, NJ
13. Queen City Market/Marina / 225 2nd Street / Beach Haven, NJ
14. Bird & Betty’s / 529 Dock Road / Beach Haven, NJ

ALL LOCATIONS ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE