

APRIL 26–MAY 1, 2022

F I L M

16TH ANNUAL

F E S T I V A L



**FORT MYERS BEACH**  
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

# Congratulations!

Celebrating 16 years of the Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival!



Lighthouse Resort Inn & Suites is proud to be the Official Lodging Partner for the Festival.

The World Famous Tiki Bar & Grill is delighted to be the Official Filmmaker Network After Dark Sponsor



Where the fun never ends & something is ALWAYS going on poolside.

Check out filmmaker drink specials!

1051 Fifth Avenue, Fort Myers Beach, Florida 33931 (239) 463-9392



# Here's to 16 years of the Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival!

New 2022 rendering!



We look forward to "watchin' the sun bake" with everyone on Fort Myers Beach in 2023.



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## SPOTLIGHT

The spotlight shines on the beach this April 26–May 1, 2022 with the Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival. The six-day festival invites movie-goers to screen quality independent films and enjoy events designed to cultivate the spirit of visual creativity and harbor the talents of filmmakers. Independent films cater to a wide range of tastes and ages and span several genres. The Beach Theater is an intimate and welcoming venue for screenings. Audiences will enjoy independent features in a setting which offers not only quality viewing, but casual dining as well.

For more information, please contact festival staff at [hello@FMBIFilmFest.com](mailto:hello@FMBIFilmFest.com)

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## CONTRIBUTORS

Writer/Editor: Tanya Kaish Keller  
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Festival Logo Design: Ryan Clark, Xerogravity Design

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Opening Ceremony

Tuesday, April 26 from 7–9:00 p.m.  
 Beach Theater | 6425 Estero Blvd.

### Ribbon Cutting 16th Annual Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival

Wednesday, April 27 at 2:00 p.m.  
 Beach Theater | 6425 Estero Blvd.

### Closing Ceremony

Sunday, May 1 from 7–8:30 p.m.  
 Gull Wing Beach Resort | 6620 Estero Blvd.  
 Emcee—Ray Murphy, Mayor, Fort Myers Beach



## DEAR FILM ENTHUSIASTS

On behalf of the FMBIFF team, it is my great pleasure to welcome you back, and in person, to the 16th annual film festival! We are excited to have you join us on our beautiful island paradise for a fun week of films and events.

Our goal each year is to bring people together in an entertaining and culturally stimulating atmosphere while celebrating the universal appeal of the visual arts.

There are so many individuals who continue to make this event extraordinary, and I wanted to give a special thank you to Nick Campo, Drake Heroy, and the entire Beach Theater staff for allowing us to take over for the week.

The FMBIFF is fortunate enough to have the best team in place including Tanya Kaish Keller, our external communications manager, programming director, Kyle Thompson, programming team members Joe Guice, Keith Gasa, Krystle Weaver and Bryant Hendricks. These team members from Red Flight Pictures have brought new life to our festival. Our hospitality chair, Jan Fleming, continues to introduce filmmakers and guests to our local restaurants and stores, along with her constant smile and goodwill. We must give a special thanks to our art director and program guide guru, Pat Murphy of Pat Squared Design.

We cannot thank Producer/Actor Alyn Darnay enough for his invaluable experience and dedication to the festival by providing his time for our workshops.

To our fun and faithful volunteers – thank you for your time and infectious energy! The FMBIFF is run entirely of volunteers and without them, we could not continue to bring this event to Fort Myers Beach. Each one of you have had a tremendous impact in making this festival a sensation. I am so very lucky and grateful to have all of you on my CREW! A big shout out to the local businesses, their owners and staff for partnering with the Festival to ensure its success. #WeAreFMB

Finally, a special thank you to my son, Justin, who reminds me that stars are not just on the screen but in the sky. #WeGotThis

See You at the Movies!

Janeen Paulauskis *Executive Director*

*Janeen is a founding member of the Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival and has been Executive Director since 2001. Honored in Gulfshore Business' 40 Under 40 for her work on the festival and as part of the award-winning team for Marketing and Publicity from the Florida Festival and Events Association, she was recently honored with the Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce's "Commitment to the Community" award and the Town of Fort Myers Beach "Citizen of Distinction" award. Janeen is a proud and grateful supporter of the Fort Myers Beach Community and its many events.*

Congrats to the  
**FORT MYERS BEACH**  
**INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**  
 for bringing independent film to  
 the Beach for 16 years!  
**FMBarts.org**

## 2022 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

<b>Tuesday, April 26</b>	7:00–9:00 p.m.	<b>Registration and Opening Ceremony</b> Beach Theater   6425 Estero Boulevard
<b>Wednesday, April 27</b>	Noon–1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m.  3:00–11:00 p.m.  9:30 p.m.–1:00 a.m.	<b>Filmmaker Meet and Greet—filmmakers only</b> <b>Festival Ribbon Cutting</b> Beach Theater   6425 Estero Boulevard <b>Independent Film Screenings</b> Beach Theater   6425 Estero Boulevard <b>Filmmaker Network After Dark</b> —filmmaker specials at the World Famous Tiki Bar at the Lighthouse Resort Inn & Suites. 1051 Fifth Avenue, Fort Myers Beach
<b>Thursday, April 28</b>	Noon–1:30 p.m. 3:00–11:00 p.m.  9:30 p.m.–1:00 a.m.	<b>Filmmaker Meet and Greet—filmmakers only</b> <b>Independent Film Screenings</b> Beach Theater   6425 Estero Boulevard <b>Filmmaker Network After Dark</b> —filmmaker specials at the World Famous Tiki Bar at the Lighthouse Resort Inn & Suites.
<b>Friday, April 29</b>	Noon–1:30 p.m. 3:00–11:00 p.m.  9:30 p.m.–1:00 a.m.	<b>Filmmaker Meet and Greet—filmmakers only</b> <b>Independent Film Screenings</b> Beach Theater   6425 Estero Boulevard <b>Filmmaker Network After Dark</b> —filmmaker specials at the World Famous Tiki Bar at the Lighthouse Resort Inn & Suites.
<b>Saturday, April 30</b>	Noon–1:30 p.m.  Noon–1:30 p.m. 3:00–11:00 p.m.  9:30 p.m.–1:00 a.m.	<b>Alyn Darnay Master Class: Directing Actors</b> Intimate, hands on acting workshop. Tickets required. Beach Theater   6425 Estero Boulevard <b>Filmmaker Meet and Greet—filmmakers only</b> <b>Independent Film Screenings</b> Beach Theater   6425 Estero Boulevard <b>Filmmaker Network After Dark</b> —filmmaker specials at the World Famous Tiki Bar at the Lighthouse Resort Inn & Suites.
<b>Sunday, May 1</b>	Noon–1:30 p.m. 3:00–6:45 p.m.  7:00–8:30 p.m.	<b>Filmmaker Meet and Greet—filmmakers only</b> <b>Independent Film Screenings</b> Beach Theater   6425 Estero Boulevard <b>FMBI Film Festival Closing Awards Ceremony</b> GullWing Beach Resort   6620 Estero Boulevard Doors open at 7:00—Awards begin at 7:30 Emcee—Ray Murphy, Mayor, Fort Myers Beach



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Congrats to the  
Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival  
on celebrating 16 years of movie magic!

While here, we invite filmmakers and patrons  
to stop by our boutiques on beautiful  
Fort Myers Beach!



[thebestoffortmyersbeach.com](http://thebestoffortmyersbeach.com)

# BEHIND THE SCENES

## FILMMAKER AND SCREENWRITER

### Coffee Meet And Greet

Wednesday thru Sunday at 12 p.m. at The Beach Theater

Join us every day at The Beach Theater for a filmmaker coffee and light lunch. Great time to talk with other filmmakers, hang out and enjoy a quick bite before hitting the beach or catching some films.

## Alyn Darnay Masterclass: Directing Actors

Saturday April 30 at 12 p.m. at The Beach Theater

\$20—Free to credentialed filmmakers

Join award-winning filmmaker, Alyn Darnay, as he leads an outstanding directing and acting workshop. Alyn has completed directorial work on the feature films: *Shadow Fighter* with Burt Reynolds, *Krissy Belle* featuring comic actress Carole Wood, and the multi-award-winning Holocaust film *Immunity* starring Rena Sofer. *Boyfriend Killer* his suspense feature starring Kate Mansi, Patrick Muldoon, Barbie Castro, and Yancy Butler is currently being aired on Lifetime Television and Lifetime Movie Network; it marks the second film he's done with actress Barbie Castro, the first being *Conduit* which won awards at seventeen film festivals and garnered Barbie seven Best Actress awards.

The Fort Myers Beach  
Community Foundation  
joins the  
Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival  
in celebrating 16 years of independent film!



[fmbcommunityfoundation.com](http://fmbcommunityfoundation.com)

## BAREFOOT EVENT GROUP

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# SCREENING SCHEDULE

## FILM PACKAGES

<b>Local Film Package #1</b>	Red Skies   Daniel & Nate   Skeletons   Lioness The Skunkape
<b>Short Film Package #1</b>	Eureka   Just in Case   Between the Trees   Embryo Artificial Existence   Assisted Suicide   Against Reason
<b>Short Film Package #2</b>	Adjustments of Status   To Catch a Faerie   Troubadours Celeste Cinco Meses   Beautiful Violence   Tell Me Who I Am Two Different Eyes
<b>Short Film Package #3</b>	Alpenglow   Sara & Jamie   Underdogs   Ready Forward His & Hers   Balthazar & Snirt   Intervention
<b>Short Film Package #4</b>	Mike Sizzer: A Chair Wrestling Documentary   Aurora Marie-Luise   Sink   Break Any Spell
<b>Short Film Package #5</b>	Cruise   Brando's Spoon   Ghosts of Yesterday   First Day I Mustache You   The Skunkape   Nursery Rhymes
<b>Short Film Package #6</b>	Chosen   Western Exit   Greed   Robert in the Bedroom Intervention   City Creatures   When the Rain Sets In
<b>Short Film Package #7</b>	Into Dust   First Impression   Louis & Jeanne   Salvager
<b>Short Film Package #8</b>	The Jogger   Lioness   Wiked Plans   The Other Side of Clean Twine   Skeletons   Jahrzeit   Intervention   Greed
<b>Short Film Package #9</b>	Adjustments of Status   Alpenglow   Eureka   Lioness
<b>Student Film Package #1</b>	The Third Servant   There is a Hole in the Ground   Aurora The Call of Water   Zordovia, My Love
<b>Student Film Package #2</b>	The Mourning   Night Glow   Midnight Lobbies   Embryo Not Far Out   The Call of Water
<b>Short Documentary Package #1</b>	Wildlife in our Backyard   Dajla: cinema and oblivion   Honour Me We Dance   Added Years   Damascus   Thriving on the Spectrum
<b>Short Documentary Package #2</b>	It Started with the Heart   Thriving on the Spectrum Wings of Angels   Bright Morning Stars: The Johnsons of Hemphill Rudy Hernandez: Congressional Medal of Honor

## 2022 SCREENING SCHEDULE

As of press time. Please check [FMBIFilmFest.com](http://FMBIFilmFest.com) for updates.

Day	2:00 pm	3:00 pm	3:30 pm	4:00 pm	4:30 pm	5:00 pm	5:15 pm	5:30 pm	6:00 pm	6:30 pm	6:45 pm	7:00 pm	7:30 pm	8:00 pm	8:30 pm	9:00 pm	9:30 pm	9:45 pm	10:00 pm	10:30 pm	Category	
<b>Wednesday, April 27</b>	Ribbon Cutting	Greyland 3-4:20	Not to Forget* 3-4:30		One Pint at a Time* 4:30-6:00			Short Documentary Package #1* 5:15-6:45			Short Film Package #1* 6:45-8:20		Delivering Hope* 7:30-9:00								Short Film Package #2 9-10:45	Local Films
<b>Thursday, April 28</b>		Dear Aubrey* 3-4:30			Marvelous and the Black Hole* 4:30-6:00			Short Film Package #3* 5:15-6:45			Student Film Package #1* 6:45-8:15		Local Film Package #1* 7:30-8:30								Short Film Package #4* 9:00-10:25	Short Films
<b>Friday, April 29</b>		Short Documentary Package #2* 3-4:30					Heart of the Gun* 5:15-6:45				Sound of Us 6:45-8:45		Short Film Package #6* 7:30-8:50								Sweet Disaster 9:00-10:30	Documentary
<b>Saturday, April 30</b>		Not to Forget* 3-4:30						Short Film Package #8* 5:15-6:45					Malibu Horror Story* 7:30-8:50								Short Film Package #9 9:45-10:45	Student Films
<b>Sunday, May 1</b>		Fighting for Day Break* 3:00-4:10											Awards Ceremony 7:00-8:30 Awards begin 7:30								*Filmmaker Q&A following screening	Special Events

## Midnight Lobbies

This film about a boy searching for more. It's an examination of the disconnected and discontented. It speaks on feelings of loneliness and human being's desire for connection, while simultaneously exploring themes of mental escapism and its effects.



## Underdogs

At the California Men's Colony in Central California, a special connection forms between dogs and their inmate handlers, as the prisoners lovingly prepare the canines to become fully operational service animals.



## Not Far Out

For his training, an extreme swimmer goes to the sea at dawn. On this day the waves are very rough, and the man has

problems to keep his head above the water. In what will probably be his last moments, he makes an unexpected discovery.

## There is a Hole in the Ground



While mowing her lawn Janice uncovers a hole in the ground and is forced to navigate its ever-looming sounds and presence.

## Night Glow

A man's sleepless night with a woman who loves chocolate.



## Zordovia, My Love

Two friends enter a mysterious forest with the hopes of finding the birth mother of one of the friends.

## Skeletons

Haunted houses are scary. And, sometimes, dads are scary, too.



## The Mourning



A psychological drama about Kate, a young single mother, raising her son Jimmy after the loss of her husband. One day on a run alone in the woods, the grief from her husband's loss comes back to haunt her.

## The Third Servant

Two teens cross each other's paths in a citrus grove. Both victims of trauma and cynicism. Together they discover friendship and the power of words insists, "Daddy's on vacation."



## The Call of Water

Three estranged sisters reluctantly reunite over a hopeful inheritance.

## Embryo

Taking care of an egg for health class? Easy. Taking care of an actual child? Much harder. Harper Ales is a single mother in a surreal world where babies hatch from eggs, but, even in this world, the struggles of motherhood are just as difficult.



## One Pint at a Time



Craft beer generates tens of billions of dollars annually for the US economy. Despite beer's Egyptian and African heritage, these traditions have been mostly forgotten and are rarely found in American brewing

culture. Today, Black-owned breweries make up less than 1% of the nearly 9,000 breweries in operation. Eager to shift the historical perception of who makes and drinks beer, Black brewers, brand owners and influencers across the country are reshaping the craft beer industry and the future of America's favorite adult beverage.

## The SkunkApe



Bigfoot hunters Donny Jones and Skeeter find more than a Bigfoot in the swamps of Northwest Florida.



## Red Skies

Set in 2006 during the War on Terror and the peak of "Don't ask, Don't Tell" laws in America, best friends Noa and Nessa struggle with their attraction to one another in the days leading up to Noa's military departure.

## Daniel & Nate

Daniel's a typical sarcastic teenager. He's into football and video games. But for most of Daniel's life, he's assisted his family as a caregiving youth, providing essential care for his younger brother Nate. Daniel is one of 3.4 million children between the ages of 8 and 18 that act as caregivers for a family member.



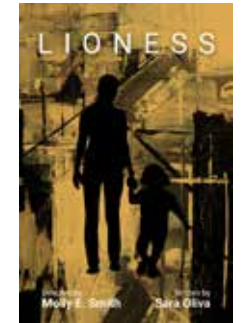
## Aurora

Charlotte, 22, a recently-graduated composer who feels insecure about singing in public finds herself unexpectedly smitten by Aurora, 22, her star performer classmate. Charlotte is soon devastated by the discovery that her feelings are unrequited. This erodes her confidence and heightens her confusion about her sexuality, which she must overcome to find her own voice.



## Lioness

Barricaded in a motel room, a mother's determination and primal instincts kick in to protect her child's innocence.



Dr. Nancy Bouchard and her entire crew congratulate the Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival in celebrating 16 years of independent film!



Smiles with Care  
Dr. Nancy Bouchard

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## Sink

A man finds himself falling apart after a horrific attack as told entirely from above the bathroom sink.



## Ready Forward

Ready Forward is a poignant love story of human connection and the transformative power of forgiveness in an aging couple's relationship. Desperate to reconnect with his wife following a family tragedy, a retired Navy captain tries one last time to gain her affection.



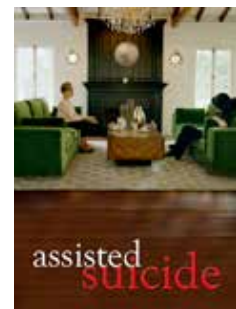
## Eureka

A young indentured Chinese prostitute must overcome her toxic dependency on the brothel madam on the eve of the 1885 anti-Chinese riot in Eureka, California.



## Assisted Suicide

A grim encounter between two women ends in tragedy.



## Sara & Jaimie

Two people go on a blind date.



## Cincos Meses

I was motivated to make this film after working on a documentary about the children of immigrants in the Latinx community in Brooklyn. Their fear of deportation for their parents and the lengths to which families are willing to go to remain together in the U.S. was a topic that repeatedly surfaced and stayed with me long after interviews ended. I decided to create a fictional family to represent the very real families who had shared their stories with me.



## The Jogger

A woman's jog through the park reveals a shocking discovery.



## Between the Trees

Alone on a camping trip, Darcy must overcome the threat of a serial killer and a supernatural being to survive. Darcy is on a journey of grief and healing. Her road trip takes her past a broken-down car with a man, Adam, waiting outside. She doesn't stop to help, but, Jessica, in the car behind her pulls over to give him a ride – a decision that proves fatal. Darcy and Adam collide in the forest, where, unbeknownst to either of them, a mythical creature roams between the trees as a protective and vengeful apparition.



## The Other Side of Clean

Two people, filled with guilt and indecisiveness, must make a decision about their relationship and how it will effect those close to them.



## I Mustache You

"This film is a whimsical magical realistic comedy, inspired by Buster Keaton, Looney Tunes, and NYC. It's about Abby, a woman with social anxiety, OCD and agoraphobic tendencies who receives an invitation to love, self-acceptance, and the outside world.



## Speak

After being teased by classmates, a young girl with a speech impediment gains confidence through learning we all have things about ourselves we try to hide.



## City Creatures

Joann and Stephen, a recently relocated couple, confront the financial strains of their new home and the peculiarity of their new neighbors. Overzealous cat and dog bumper stickers cover every car in the neighborhood – painting a hostile environment for their eight-year-old son, Matthew. When Joann and Stephen discover a mysterious stone in their backyard and fossilized paw-prints by their garage, they are forced to contemplate animal grave-robbing and its consequences. Luckily, a group of locals helps them reconsider the unthinkable.



## Brando's Spoon

Two brothers at odds, bicycle across New York City in hopes of locating a beloved family heirloom.



## Western Exit

Three estranged sisters reluctantly reunite over a hopeful inheritance.



## Chosen

A drug addict wakes up from a near fatal overdose to find out he might be a direct descendant of Jesus Christ.



## Robert in the Bedroom

Lottie, an elderly woman prepares to start her day, but nothing is going right. Her husband Robert won't come out of the bedroom, the coffee's burned and when her daughter Sylvia shows up out of the blue--she accuses Lottie of being forgetful. Is Lottie just having a bad day, or is there something terribly amiss in her world?



Scan for ticket sales

## Adjustment of Status

An immigration officer has a surprise revelation during a not-so-routine Green Card interview.



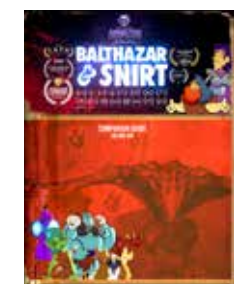
## Alpenglow

Alpenglow is the story of Mia, caught between her devotion to protecting the Earth and providing for her son. Set in the palpable angst of the late 90s, Mia and a small group of fellow environmental extremists execute the protest of their lives, targeting a destination ski resort set for expansion into a nearby national forest. Mia's life is thrown into a spiral when their act of arson results in the accidental death of a local boy. When a future of incarceration proves inevitable, it forces Mia to collide with grief and wrestle with her responsibilities as a mother.



## Balthazar & Snirt

During the age of monsters and magic... A fearless village idiot and an anxious wizard-in-training team up to slay a dragon on a quest full of a thousand monsters and exotic lands.



## Yahrzeit

Two young men are tormented by a spirit when they disrespect a sacred Jewish memorial candle (Yahrzeit candle)



## Twine

A young couple explore a newly inherited home, finding hidden messages from the past weaved with dark impulses from the present, forcing them into a confrontation with the afterlife.



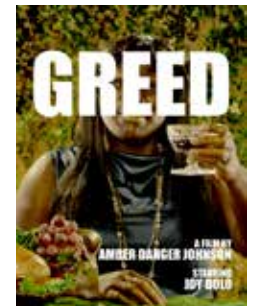
## First Impressions

Randall wants to impress his girlfriend and her friends at their weekly game night with his favorite game, but things don't quite go as planned.



## Greed

A revolutionary message for women everywhere to break the binds of their patriarchal overlords, dispel the myth of greed and take what is rightfully theirs.



Men take heed, a reckoning is coming. Closed captioning and audio description can be provided upon request..

## Artificial Existence

A mother desperately yearns to escape an oppressive dystopian society where humans have merged with machines and life is automated by artificial intelligence, but her family would rather live in technological comfort than escape with her into the unforgiving wilderness.





## First Day

Having immigrated to the states, on September 11, 2001 a young Iranian boy attends his first day of school

## Mike Sizzer | a chair wrestling documentary

Meet Mike. He wrestles chairs. And yeah, he's pretty dang good at it.



## To Catch a Faerie



To Catch a Faerie ~ A young girl manages to catch a woodland faerie but holding a captive faerie comes with challenges and choices she did not envision.

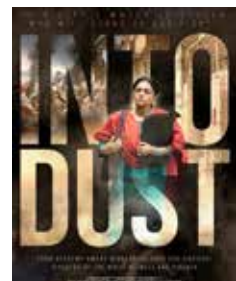
## Beautiful Violence

A powerful and gripping story about a white terminally ill businessman who uses racism to force an African American man he never met before to kill him so his family can receive his life insurance money.



## Wicked Plans

Style Dayne, the Pizza Guy from Deadpool stars as a foreign extremist from Amadajiya, who accidentally chooses Halloween to enact a moment of terror. To his surprise, he discovers that North American life and culture is truly special, unique, and sweet.



## Into Dust

When Perween Rahman is murdered, her sister Aquila returns to Karachi, Pakistan to investigate. Finding herself caught up in powerful forces stealing the city's water, her sister exposed the impact of corruption. Based on a true story of one activist who worked tirelessly to protect the rights of Pakistan's poor.

## Louis & Jeanne

Louis and Jeanne are two brother and sister with a fusalional relationship, but their bond is damaged when he discovers that she has a boyfriend. From then on, ambiguous feelings are emerging and revealing in the teenager's mind.



## Marie-Luise

Submitted from Germany



## Cruise

We've all received scam phone calls, but what about the person making the calls? Cruise is a dark workplace satire about a hapless telemarketer trying mightily to give away a free cruise. And if he fails, there will be dire consequences.

## Break Any Spell

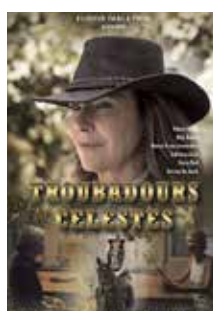
A teenage girl uses live-action role-playing to cope and escape from her mother who suffers from early-onset Alzheimer's



## Salvager

Special ops police officer Lou Kerrigan is on a mission to capture a rogue, human-like police robot. When she is ordered to destroy him, her loyalties are put to the ultimate test – her captive is her former partner, Dante. Kerrigan spares Dante but the bomb she placed on his chest is still primed. Now, Kerrigan's trust in Dante and her refusal to follow orders are about to have potentially fatal consequences.

## Troubadours Celestes



Submitted from France

## His and Hers

When a couple goes shopping before their wedding day, they learn there are some things they're just not ready to share.



## Ghosts of Yesterday

"Ghosts of Yesterday" is the story of a young musician named Emily, whom we find in the depths of an overwhelming depression. The film follows her as she leaves home with a guitar case full of antidepressants, trudging through the harsh city streets on a cold winter night, as she makes her way to the bar where she intends to play her final show, and take her final breath. While there, however, she realizes, perhaps too late, that something inside her still wants to live. That maybe she's made a mistake and maybe life isn't as bleak as she thought.

## Tell Me Who I Am

A woman wanders through the city looking for herself and her lost memory...



## When the Rain Sets In

Kenzie and Treyden, a couple who've been swept up in a whirlwind six-month romance, find themselves confronting a painful question: Has their love story come to an end? From the Oscar-nominated editor of the "Green Book."



## Two Different Eyes



'Two Different Eyes' is about two different views of being a person with a disability from the two eyes with significantly different eyesight. The main character 'Juseung Lee' had grown up with discrimination and mockery when he was young. Meanwhile, he found music as a language of his voice, and he has dreamed as an artist. However, in his journey of being an artist, he has encountered the gaze of looking at the sublime achievement of 'overcoming' disability.

## Nursery Rhymes

1940's colonial Singapore. A Chinese girl must play a nursery game among English children and is reminded of her place. Another Chinese girl must sing a Japanese nursery song for an official while her true voice remains silenced.



## Against Reason

When two exes meet up for a spontaneous night of fun, the two get more than they bargained for when playful reminiscing turns into a review of what led to their breakup.



## Just in Case

Within the ambiguous safety of a service station, a concerned father and his scared daughter take refuge. Rachel lives with bipolar disorder and the invisibility of her condition has become all too real for both herself and Mark. What happens when they realize that neither of them could save her life? In collaboration with Bipolar UK, 'Just in Case' explores the harsh reality of what it's really like to live with bipolar disorder.



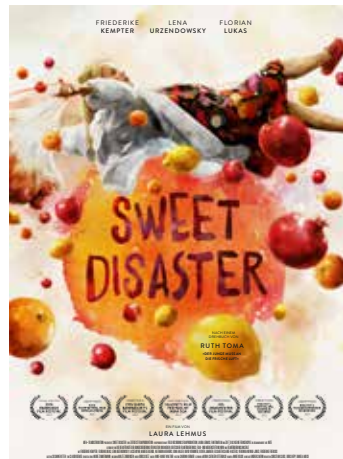
Scan for ticket sales





## Sweet Disaster

SWEET DISASTER tells the story of Frida, 40-year-old German-Finnish painting therapist. Two events change the usual course of her life. She gets unexpectedly pregnant and Felix, the father of her child breaks up with her to re-unite with his ex who is suddenly back. Felix admits that it is not the best timing, however it does not prevent him from leaving. Frida cannot accept Felix' decision. Although some serious health problems caused by the late pregnancy force her to rest, she tries to get Felix back with the help of absurd, exaggerated and sometimes absolutely comic actions.



## Malibu Horror Story

A team of paranormal investigators search a sacred Native American cave for clues in the unsolved disappearance of four local teens.



## Heart of the Gun

Travers, a doctor who deserted his military post, searches the frontier for the wife who left him. His quest is thrown off course when he saves Sarah, a woman left for dead after a wagon raid. With the cavalry, the law, and deranged outlaws on their trail, Sarah and Travers set off together to find this missing woman. Heart of the Gun is a psychological thriller and a romance drama wrapped in a gritty Western setting.



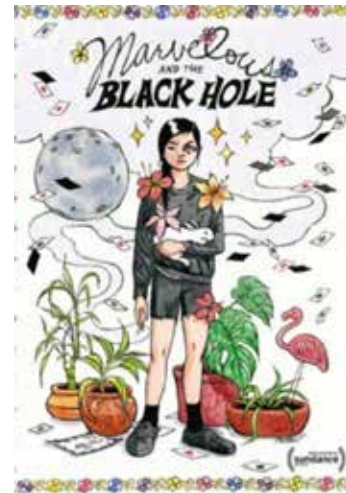
## Not to Forget

This is a drama that stars five Academy Award winners. After a life of little scams, a self-centered millennial is sentenced to take care of his grandmother, who is affected by Alzheimer's. As he realizes the extent of her wealth, the protagonist gets closer to the treasure he's been looking for.



## Marvelous and the Black Hole

A teenage delinquent teams up with a surly children's party magician to navigate her dysfunctional family and inner demons.



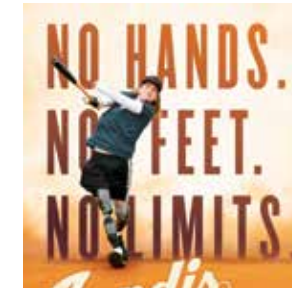
## The Ugly Truth

Mona, her husband Theo and daughter Hanna live in an idyllic villa on the outskirts of Berlin. When the attractive 18-year-old daughter of a friend comes to visit, the profound problems and fragility of the small family reveal a tragic downward spiral.



## Landis, Just Watch Me

In partnership with Challenged Athletes Foundation, comes the inspiring true story of Landis Sims, a 15-year-old baseball player born with quad-congenital limb deficiency. Landis defies the odds on and off the baseball diamond every day. Witness the eight-year journey of Landis growing from a plucky little leaguer into a dedicated young man set on achieving his goal of motivating kids to live without limits. Along the way, he gains wisdom and inspiration from Major League Baseball's best, including pitcher Joe Musgrove and Manager Joe Girardi. With no hands, no feet and no limits, Landis: Just Watch Me will have you believing that anything is possible with the right mindset.



## Greyland

Greyland is the story of what was the fastest shrinking city in the United States, Youngstown, Ohio. Once the booming centre of American steel, when the bottom fell out of the industry in the 1950s, 60% of the population moved out. Today, 37% of those left, live beneath the poverty line. Like Rocco and Amber. A recovering heroin addict turned urban archeologist, Rocco hunts through hundreds of abandoned houses. Vintage clothing, records, art works, everything he finds goes to Greyland, his art gallery come thrift store, to be converted into cash. Meanwhile Amber is a single mother and the president of the Neighbourhood Association of Homeowners, leading the fight against city hall for their inaction in cleaning up her neighborhood.



## Delivering Hope

On November 16, 2019, eight days before his 50th birthday, ultra-runner Kevin Kline set out to become the first person in history to run the northernmost 300 miles of Alaska's dangerous Dalton Highway, in winter, to raise awareness for children battling pediatric cancer. Traversing the world's 10 most dangerous road, Kline and his crew face a hostile environment of -40F temperatures on a road made of ice in near total darkness to run an 8lb backpack full of childhood cancer names to the virtual top of the world. When Kline's body shuts down after 200 miles, the crew is faced with a life-changing dilemma.



## Fighting for Daybreak

At the inaugural Daybreak music festival, 2000 camping fans suffer freezing winds, & rain, and knee-deep mud in hopes of seeing their favorite artists. Behind the scenes, a struggling crew fights to keep the multi-million dollar show from slipping through everyone's fingers. Determined not to be another FYRE festival, the Daybreak crew and Darren Bond (the venue owner/ financier) battle to save their beloved investment. As the fear of total failure grows, the deeper purpose of the festival begins to surface...but is it enough to save Daybreak?



## The Sound of Us

Music is the sound of truth, the sound of hope. It is the sound of unity and courage. During this critical time in history, the profound truth remains that music is the great, universal language. "The Sound of Us" chronicles a series of wide-ranging, diverse stories that exemplify the power of music and the triumph of the human spirit.

## Dear Aubrey

Acclaimed activist filmmaker Martin Duckworth has devoted his life to peace and justice. But now he's put down his camera to fight for the most important cause he's ever faced—caring for his wife, Audrey Schirmer, through her final stages of Alzheimer's. The film is a powerful testament to Martin's love and devotion, which deepens over the decades. While Audrey gradually fades away—and as their autistic daughter Jacqueline struggles with her mother's illness—Martin commits everything he's got to making their lives creative and meaningful.



## In Search of Weeping Jim

James Ambrose Kearns was born to James and Catherine Quinn Kearns on January 13, 1871, on the tiny inner island of Inishcuttle Kilmeeena, County Mayo, Ireland. He emigrated to America in 1884 at the age of 13, becoming a lawyer in Chicago where he served as Alderman, Clerk of the Municipal Court and City Treasurer. He is considered "the father of the Chicago flag".

The story of Weeping Jim is the story of the Irish immigrant in America. This film tells the story of one man from Mayo but could be the quintessential story for the Irish Diaspora



# SHORT DOCUMENTARY

## It Started With the Heart

Christophe Lafontant was born healthy and had no childhood illnesses, but at age six he had a near death experience due to heart failure and a lifesaving pacemaker was implanted. He was diagnosed with a cardiomyopathy of uncertain etiology.

In his junior year of high school, he was faced with severe deterioration of his heart and received his first heart transplant in March 2000. Despite complications after surgery and several readmissions, he graduated with honors and was admitted to Columbia University in 2001. In 2004, he faced rejection of his first donor heart and after eight months in the ICU, he received his second heart transplant.

In 2010, he developed generalized weakness, followed by respiratory failure with multiple intubations and ventilator support. After an extensive workup, he was diagnosed with a rare disease, Myofibrillar Myopathy, caused by a genetic mutation. He needed a tracheostomy and continued respiratory support and required several months of intensive rehabilitation and physical therapy.

Christophe continues to overcome his struggles due in part to his faith, optimism, and support of his loving family and a wide circle of friends. He self-published his autobiography, *1 Man, 3 Hearts, 9 Lives* in November 2015 and is on a mission to spread awareness of this very rare disease.



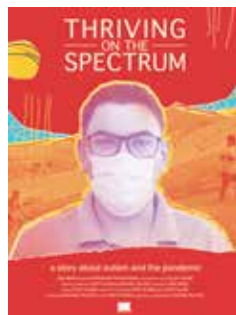
## We Dance

From the world renowned Wideman-Davis Dance Company and award-winning filmmakers Ethan Payne and Brian Foster, *We Dance* is a love story, deconstructed and distilled into its most elemental ingredients. Dreams. Memories. Family. And environments. Tanya Wideman-Davis and Thaddeus Davis take us from Chicago to Montgomery, from New York to the point where their lives meet and become one. Along the way, they honor and signify on Black American art, poetry, and literature. They offer commentary on the importance of movement and migration to Black American identity, lived experience, and consciousness. And they show how all of our stories are kept, in the places we've been, in the food we eat, and in the dreams that we so steadfastly chase.

## Thriving on the Spectrum

Our lives were profoundly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, but the autism community was hit especially hard. With changes to supports, routines, communication, and much more, the autism community had to find new ways to persevere.

*Thriving on the Spectrum* is a documentary about the Denver-Metro area's autism community in the face of this global challenge. Award-winning autistic filmmaker Scott Klumb jumped into this project with a sense of urgency and desire to capture the experience and the closeness of this community. Through intimate interviews with autistic individuals, teachers, employers, and professionals, the complex emotional fabric of this marginalized population is clearly articulated.



## Bright Morning Stars: The Johnsons of Hemphill

Mabel and Gwen Johnson are pillars of their post-coal community in Eastern Kentucky. Faced with unspeakable obstacles, they pulled together and started a community center and a bakery.



## Damascus

Working in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, blacksmith Tommy Carroll completes a decade long project: a blade of Damascus steel forged beneath a solar eclipse. Heat treating the blade beneath the full moon, Tommy must come to terms with the permanence of his work.



## Dajla: cinema and oblivion

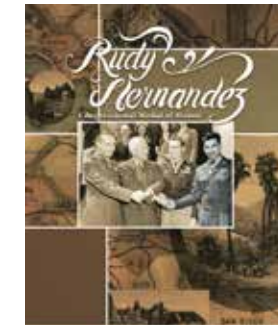
Life is going on in Dakhla, one of the Sahrawi refugee camps in southern Algeria, forgotten for 45 years. The celebration of a film festival, the Fisahara, breaks the monotony. The event ends, life (and oblivion) continues.



Scan for ticket sales



## Rudy Hernandez: Congressional Medal of Honor



Medal of Honor recipient Rodolfo P. Hernandez, faced down death along the 38th parallel. The Korean War, Hernandez and fellow Marines

combat the onslaught of Communist North Korean forces as they attempt to repel the invasion into South Korea. A story of heroism, overcoming, and duty. Rodolfo P. Hernandez proved that even in the direst circumstances a Marine can still guarantee mission accomplishment.

## Honour Me

Abused by her family, forced into marriage, raped, pregnant at 13 then hunted down for violating her family's honour. This is the shocking, compelling true story of Sameem's struggle to break free from her past and fight back against her upbringing.



## Wings of Angels

Film follows Ken Roche', the founder of Equestrian Angel, a non-profit ministry whose mission is to bring the proven benefits of equine therapy to the disabled and intellectually challenged.

## Wildlife in Our Backyard

It is often said that we must tolerate wildlife, but what happens if we learn to thrive with them instead?

What can this mean for the wildlife? What can it mean for the people of Florida? And what can it mean for the endangered Florida panther?

*Wildlife in Our Backyard* shows us some of the problems facing the wildlife as well as the hope of a brighter future as we learn to share the landscape with them.



## Added Years

A film essay of an aging man's love and devotion for his horses, and the joy and optimism they bring him.

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## WRITING FOR THE SCREEN PANEL

**Thursday April 28 at 3:00 p.m. at The Beach Theater**

Join some of our 2022 screenwriters for this discussion on writing for motion pictures. You'll hear what it takes to write a good story and how to get noticed by producers. Cost: \$9.75 Free to credentialed filmmakers.

## WOMEN IN FILM PANEL

**Friday April 29 at 3:00 p.m. at The Beach Theater**

Meet some of our women filmmakers as they discuss diversity in the film industry and how to effect change among the industry. Cost: \$9.75 Free to credentialed filmmakers.

## THE ART OF THE SHORT FILM PANEL

**Saturday April 30 at 3:00 p.m. at The Beach Theater**

Join some of our shorts filmmakers to hear what went into making their film and the creative process it takes to create an impactful short film. Cost: \$9.75 Free to credentialed filmmakers.

## FILM FESTIVAL BEHIND THE SCENES

**Sunday May 1 at 3:00 p.m. at The Beach Theater**

Join festival directors, programmers and judges to talk a little about what it means to put together a film festival and of course what we look at when making selections to our film festivals. This is a great peek behind the curtain on what it takes to put an event together and hopefully, we can share some tips to better your chances for some film festivals. Cost: \$9.75 Free to credentialed filmmakers.

### The Shining Star Volunteer Award

Given each year in memory of stellar volunteer,  
Darryl Paulauskis

This year's Shining Star Award recipient is Drake Heroy. The man behind the scenes for the past 14 years, Drake has "built" our movies, run the DVR, and now prepares the DCPs for each film screened during the Festival. From former manager at the Beach Theater to Partner and General Manager at Marco Movies, our Festival couldn't happen without him jumping into action, whenever needed. Sound issues? Film not in focus? Technical terms? Executive Director meltdowns? Drake handles it with patience and kindness for all. Thank you, Drake, for making our Festival the successful event it is today. Be sure to stop him and congratulate him during the festival - he loves the attention!



"You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give."

Winston Churchill

## STAR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**Greg Hollimon** You can see Greg in *In Search of Weeping Jim* screening Sunday, May 1 at 5:15 pm.

Greg Hollimon, best known for his work on Comedy Central's *Strangers with Candy*, grew up in the Chicago housing projects of Cabrini-Green. In 1986, he began taking improvisation classes at The Players Workshop, where he met Paul Dinello and later, Amy Sedaris. Hollimon then began doing stand-up at a few local comedy clubs and dabbled in comedy writing, while honing his craft of improvisation at Players Workshop.

Hollimon graduated from The Players Workshop in 1988 and enrolled in classes at Chicago's famed The Second City. While still taking classes, he was hired into Second City's National Touring Company, where he met Stephen Colbert. A year later, Sedaris, Dinello, Colbert & Hollimon were all touring together, performing nightly improvisational theater at colleges & universities all over America.

After leaving Second City in 1993, he then wrote and performed in a two-man play called *The RIC Show-Revelations, Indictments and Confessions* with his friend and fellow actor Michael McCarthy. They performed the play to rave reviews at the Dublin Theater Festival and eventually staged the show in Los Angeles.

Hollimon returned to Chicago to work in the theater. He performed in plays, including Eugene Lee's *East Texas Hot Links* and Pearl Cleage's *Flying West*. He then moved on to film, appearing in Stephen Gyllenhaal's *Losing Isaiah* and Richard Pearce's *A Family Thing*.

Sedaris, Dinello, and Colbert created the role of Principal Blackman with Hollimon in mind for the *Strangers with Candy* TV series. Blackman's deep, oratorical speaking style is quite different from Hollimon's actual speaking voice. The second season of *Strangers* features a commentary track where it is revealed that Hollimon is a very skilled rollerskater, so Sedaris, Dinello, and Colbert incorporated this talent into the show.

We're happy you're here. Congratulations, Greg!!



## RISING STAR AWARD

**Janel Tanna** You can see Janel in *Intervention* screening Saturday, April 30 at 5:15 pm.



Congrats to our Rising Star Winner for 2022 Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival, Janel Tanna. Janel was our 2020 Best Actress award winner and will be joining us this year for a special screening of the short film, *Intervention*.

Janel Tanna is an actress and producer, SAG AFTRA. She is trained at the Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institute in method acting, Meisner Technique with James Brill at the Neighborhood Playhouse NYC, character work with Carl Ford of Susan Batson Studios.

She enjoys exploring every aspect of the human condition and how someone got to present day to fully feel and unveil the truth. She has been grateful to receive over 30 acting awards and nominations in the last five years and considers all projects a collaboration and twist of fate, as well as manifesting to bring things to life.

She stars in award-winning, *Intervention*, Julia Silverman, co-star and producer. They also worked together in award winning *Sienna's Choice*, a film about end-of-life care, released on Amazon Prime. She is slated to film several projects this year, including Black Poetry created by Stewart

Thomas. Graduating summa cum laude from University at Buffalo School of Medicine, Janel is also an MD, specializing in psychiatry.

We celebrate Dr. Tanna! Congratulations!

# SPONSORS

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The Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival extends a special thank you to the following 2022 sponsors to date who continue to support bringing independent films to our beach community.

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# PREVIOUS YEARS AWARDS

## PREVIOUS YEARS AWARDS

### 2021

**Star Achievement**  
Zack Gottsagen  
**Rising Star**  
Laurel Levey

### 2016

**Star Achievement**  
Rena Sofer  
**Rising Star**  
Peter Pardini

### 2005

**Star Achievement**  
Steven Bauer  
**Rising Star**  
Erin Smith

### 2020

**Star Achievement**  
Brenden Hubbard  
**Rising Star**  
Rylie Behr

### 2015

**Star Achievement**  
Christopher Atkins  
**Rising Star**  
Ryan Potter

### 2004

**Star Achievement**  
Maxwell Caulfield  
**Rising Star**  
Josh Blake

### 2019

**Star Achievement**  
Karen Black  
**Rising Star**  
Annalaura di Luggo

### 2014

**Star Achievement**  
Stanley Isaacs  
**Rising Star**  
Tara Cardinal

### 2003

**Star Achievement**  
Tim Curry  
**Rising Star**  
Hilary Duff

### 2018

**Star Achievement**  
Kyle Thompson  
**Rising Star**  
Jeffrey A. Johns

### 2013

**Star Achievement**  
Danielle White  
**Rising Star**  
Billy DaMota

### 2002

**Star Achievement**  
Harry Groener  
**Rising Star**  
Leighanne Littrell

### 2017

**Star Achievement**  
Alyn Darnay  
**Rising Star**  
Tessa Thompson

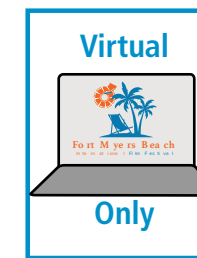
### 2012

**Star Achievement**  
Sal Richards  
**Rising Star**  
Kimberly McCullough

## 15 YEARS OF PROGRAM COVERS



2021



2020



2019



2018



2017



2016



2015



2014



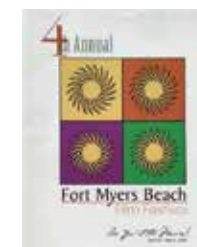
2013



2012



2006



2005



2004



2003



2002





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