

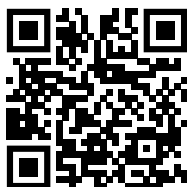


SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2026

PRESENTING SPONSORS



★ Independent Films ★ Feature Length & Shorts ★ Narrative
★ Documentaries ★ Animated ★ Made in Washington



GALAXY THEATRES ~ UPTOWN GIG HARBOR





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2026 GIG HARBOR FILM FESTIVAL

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PAMELA HOLT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello, Gig Harbor Film Festival Fans!

Welcome to the 2026 Gig Harbor Film Festival! It is my great pleasure to invite you to four unforgettable days celebrating the very best of independent cinema.

This year, we're proud to present 87 exceptional films spanning every genre. Each selection reflects our mission: to cultivate a community of filmmakers and film lovers that celebrates the power of the cinematic arts to educate, entertain, and inspire.

The magic of a film festival extends far beyond the screen. It lives in the conversations after a moving film, the laughter shared with strangers, the standing ovations, and the opportunity to meet the filmmakers whose passion brings these stories to life. Throughout the festival, you'll enjoy premiere screenings, filmmaker Q&A sessions, and opportunities to connect with artists and fellow movie lovers from around the world.

We are proud to be known as a **"Filmmaker's Film Festival,"** welcoming back talented alumni while introducing exciting new voices. Every film screens twice, with Audience Award winners and festival favorites returning for encore screenings on Sunday. **New this year, screenings begin at 10:00am on Thursday, giving you even more opportunities to experience independent film!**

The Gig Harbor Film Festival continues to rank among the **Top 100 Best Reviewed Festivals on FilmFreeway**, placing us in the top 1% of more than 14,000 festivals worldwide. That recognition belongs to our sponsors, donors, patrons, VIP and GA Passholders, Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and the entire Gig Harbor community, whose support has helped the festival thrive since Marty Thacker founded it in 2007.

As the lights dim, we hope you'll laugh, reflect, discover something unexpected, and perhaps even see the world through a new lens.

Thank you for being part of our story. Grab your favorite movie snack, settle into a luxurious Galaxy recliner, and enjoy the films.

It's showtime!

Warmly,

Pam

Photo Credit: Angie Mitchell

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2026 FESTIVAL ~ CELEBRATING THE GIG HARBOR FILM FESTIVAL ANNUAL AUCTION



Photo Credit: Tom Collins

HOW IT WORKS

Festival films are shown in “blocks.” A block features either one feature-length film or a curated series of short films. This year, we’re proud to present 14 feature films and 11 themed blocks — from laugh-out-loud comedies to heartwarming dramas to local documentaries. There’s truly something for everyone in our wonderfully eclectic lineup.

When filmmakers attend screenings, we often host an in-theater Q&A session immediately afterward. The Gig Harbor Film Festival welcomes filmmakers from across the country — and many bring along their cast and crew. It’s a rare chance to connect with the talented artists who bring these stories to life.

PASS OPTIONS

VIP Pass - \$500

Experience the Gig Harbor Film Festival as an insider. Enjoy exclusive access to every film, party, and unforgettable VIP experience throughout the four-day festival, including:

- Exclusive Opening Night Cocktail Party, followed by the Opening Night Film and dinner at Fondi
- Private “Meet the Filmmakers” Party at the beautiful Morkill waterfront home
- American Bandstand-themed Saturday night dinner and DJ
- Mimosa Breakfast before the Awards Ceremony on Sunday
- Priority seating for every screening (arrive 15 minutes before showtime)
- Exclusive access to the Filmmaker & VIP Lounge in Kiwanis Village, where you can enjoy a snack and signature cocktail between screenings

Best of all, 2026 VIP Passholders receive the first opportunity to renew for 2027 before passes are released to the public.

General Admission Pass - \$50

Join the celebration! Your collectible 2026 GHFF embossed wristband is your all-access ticket to four unforgettable days of inspiring independent films, filmmaker Q&As, and the excitement of the Gig Harbor Film Festival.

Your General Admission (GA) Pass includes admission to every film screening from Thursday morning through Sunday afternoon. Every film screens twice, so you can build the festival experience that’s right for you. Seating is first come, first served.

Purchase your pass online at gigharborfilm.org or at the Galaxy Theatres box office and discover for yourself why the GHFF is a Top 100 rated film festival!



COCKTAIL PARTY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 5:00pm-6:30pm

Outside Galaxy Theatres in the Kiwanis Village | 4649 Point Fosdick Dr NW, Gig Harbor

Get your palate warmed up for a moo-ving Opening Night! Enjoy an artfully curated charcuterie spread from gather Gig Harbor and Street Cheese (Seattle), paired with local wine, beer, and refreshing non-alcoholic beverages. Then strike a pose for red carpet photos before settling in for the Opening Night film, *The Big Cheese*.

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

6:30pm Galaxy IMAX Theatre

OPENING NIGHT FILM

**GIG HARBOR PREMIERE OF
*The Big Cheese***

Directed by: Sara Joe Wolansky | 86 minutes PG-13

What is a “cheesemonger?” It’s like a sommelier, but for cheese. It’s less pretentious and more punk rock. In Europe, cheesemongering is a vaunted, prestigious career — but in America, cheesemongering usually means working minimum wage behind a grocery store counter.

Adam “Mr. Moo” Moskowitz wants to change things by coaching an underdog American team to victory at the Mondial du Fromage — the Olympics of cheese — in France.



The ragtag, tattooed Team USA has never won against the European cheese goliaths. Will this be the year?

We are honored to welcome special guests Courtney Johnson, the main subject of the film, and Nick Weiss-Richmond, Editor. Please join us for a lively Q&A moderated by alumni filmmaker Natalie Lynch. Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn more about cheesemongering from the best in the world!

ALL PASSHOLDERS WELCOME

OPENING NIGHT AFTERPARTY



Fondi Pizzeria

8:45pm

Flash your VIP Pass and keep the Opening Night celebration going at Fondi! Enjoy authentic Italian flavors, light bites, and a selection of beer, wine, or a handcrafted cocktail. Relax on the outdoor fireside patio, mingle with fellow VIPs and filmmakers, and start planning your unforgettable festival weekend.

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

4621 POINT FOSDICK DR STE 200, GIG HARBOR



4621 Point Fosdick Dr
Uptown Gig Harbor

2515 N Proctor St
Tacoma

fondi.com

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 5:00pm | The Morkill Residence

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

MEET THE FILMMAKERS PARTY

After a full day of cinematic discoveries, come meet the creative minds behind some of your new favorite films!

Enjoy delicious appetizers and dinner, refreshing libations, and warm hospitality at the beautiful waterfront home of GHFF Board Director Peter Morkill and his wife, Liz.

A beloved GHFF tradition, this unforgettable evening brings filmmakers and festival guests together for great food, lively conversation around the fire pit, and breathtaking sunsets.



Photo Credit: Angie Mitchell

AMERICAN BANDSTAND DINNER & DJ

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 5:00pm-7:00pm
HOSTED BY KIWANIS



Outside Galaxy Theatres in the Kiwanis Village | 4649 Point Fosdick Dr NW, Gig Harbor

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs, FILMMAKERS AND VOLUNTEERS ONLY

Grab a Philly cheesesteak and get ready to rock! Enjoy an evening under the big tent with a DJ spinning iconic hits from American Bandstand. Dig into dinner, soak up the retro vibes, grab your dance shoes, and enjoy the night with fellow filmmakers, volunteers, and festival friends.



Photo Credit: Angie Mitchell



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 | 4649 Point Fosdick Dr NW, Gig Harbor

9:00am — Mimosa Breakfast IMAX Lobby
PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

9:45am — Awards Ceremony IMAX Theatre
ALL PASSHOLDERS WELCOME

IT'S A WRAP!

MIMOSA BREAKFAST & AWARDS CEREMONY

Come Celebrate the Winning Films and Filmmakers!

Start the final day of the festival with breakfast burritos, yogurt, and fresh fruit from Metropolitan Market, plus refreshing mimosas, tea, and Cutters Point coffee in the IMAX lobby. Special thanks to Kiwanis and the Galaxy Theatre team for hosting this beloved festival tradition.

At 9:45am, join us in celebrating outstanding achievement across twelve film categories, with cash awards for filmmakers honoring the legacy of GHFF founder Marty Thacker. Returning this year, the Audience Choice Awards will be selected by festival guests!

Stay to cheer on the winners, then catch the award-winning films one more time at 11:15am, 11:30am, 1:45pm, and 2:00pm.

Photo Credit: Angie Mitchell



THEATRE 6 (cap. 128)
Sponsored By: SoundBridge
Center for Dental Arts

THEATRE 7 (cap. 86)
Sponsored By:
Puget Sound Energy

THEATRE 8 (cap. 81)
Sponsored By:
BBQ2U

THEATRE 10 (cap. 109)
Sponsored By:
Team Schulte & Co.

10:00am	10:05am Washington Docs (98 mins) <i>Rated PG</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 19	10:10am Tailwind of Love (63 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17	10:15am The Strait Guys (99 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	10:00am Somehow Hopeful: The Story of a Woodsman (80 mins) <i>Rated PG</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17
	12:35pm Locally Sourced (84 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 18	12:40pm 25 Cats From Qatar (95 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	12:45pm Our Mr. Matsura (97 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17	12:30pm Sky Bergman Presents (92 mins total) <i>Rated PG</i> The Mochi Movie (21 mins) The Prime Time Band (42 mins) The Jollytologist (29 mins) DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 17

OPENING NIGHT FUN!

KIWANIS VILLAGE

5:00pm

Cocktail Party
PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIP AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

IMAX LOBBY

5:30pm

Red Carpet Photos
All Passholders Welcome

IMAX (cap. 294)

6:30pm

The Big Cheese with filmmaker Q&A
 (86 mins) *Rated PG-13*
 DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 8 & 16
 All Passholders Welcome

FONDI'S

8:45pm

Afterparty at Fondi's
PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIP AND FILMMAKERS ONLY



Photo Credit: Angie Mitchell

FOR FILM DESCRIPTIONS, PLEASE SEE PAGES 16 THROUGH 27

Feature Film

Short Film Block

VIP and/or Filmmaker Event

THEATRE 6 (cap. 128)
Sponsored By: SoundBridge
Center for Dental Arts

THEATRE 7 (cap. 86)
Sponsored By:
Puget Sound Energy

THEATRE 8 (cap. 81)
Sponsored By:
BBQ2U

THEATRE 10 (cap. 109)
Sponsored By:
Team Schulte & Co.

THEATRE 9 (cap. 49)
OR OTHER VENUE

9:30am	9:35am 25 Cats From Qatar (95 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	9:40am Radioheart: The Drive and Times of DJ Kevin Cole (83 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17	9:45am Bob's Best Friends (99 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	9:30am What's Up Doc? (86 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 20
	12:05pm Feel Good Inc. (96 mins) <i>Rated PG</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 21	12:10pm Love . . . and Other Bizarre Concepts (69 mins) <i>Rated R Due to Mature Content</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 22	12:15pm Don't Kill My Vibe (80 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	12:00pm Eclectic Lunch (85 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 23
12:00pm	2:35pm The Best Summer (84 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	2:40pm The Rad Batch (89 mins) <i>Rated R Due to Mature Content</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 26	2:45pm The Strait Guys (99 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	2:30pm To Be Human (93 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 24
	5:05pm The Big Cheese (86 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 8 & 16	5:10pm Tailwind of Love (63 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17	5:15pm Come With Me (105 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17	5:00pm Dead Deer High (103 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17
5:00pm	7:35pm If These Walls Could Rock (90 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	7:40pm The Last Picture Shows (78 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> Preceded by Vanishing Seattle Presents: The Grand Illusion Cinema (15 mins) DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 17	7:45pm It's All Relative (81 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 25	7:30pm OMG!!! (86 mins) <i>Rated R Due to Mature Content</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 27
7:30pm				5:00pm Meet The Filmmakers Party at the Morkill's PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIP AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

**FOR FILM DESCRIPTIONS, PLEASE
SEE PAGES 16 THROUGH 27**

Feature Film

Short Film Block

VIP and/or Filmmaker Event

THEATRE 6 (cap. 128)
Sponsored By: SoundBridge
Center for Dental Arts

THEATRE 7 (cap. 86)
Sponsored By:
Puget Sound Energy

THEATRE 8 (cap. 81)
Sponsored By:
BBQ2U

THEATRE 10 (cap. 109)
Sponsored By:
Team Schulte & Co.

THEATRE 9 (cap. 49)
OR OTHER VENUE

9:30am 12:00pm 2:30pm 5:00pm 7:30pm	9:35am Feel Good Inc. (96 mins) <i>Rated PG</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 21	9:40am Our Mr. Matsura (97 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17	9:45am The Last Picture Shows (78 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> Preceded by Vanishing Seattle Presents: The Grand Illusion Cinema (15 mins) DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 17	9:30am To Be Human (93 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 24	10:00am-11:00am Kindship Studio Workshop 1: Carving a Path From Vision to Screen DESCRIPTION ON PG 15 FILMMAKERS AND VIPS ONLY
	12:05pm Locally Sourced (84 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 18	12:10pm Bob's Best Friends (99 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	12:15pm Eclectic Lunch (85 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 23	12:00pm What's Up Doc? (86 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 20	11:30am-12:30pm Kindship Studio Workshop 2: Shaping Performance From Casting to Cut DESCRIPTION ON PG 15 FILMMAKERS AND VIPS ONLY
	2:35pm Washington Docs (98 mins) <i>Rated PG</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 19	2:40pm Love . . . and Other Bizarre Concepts (69 mins) <i>Rated R Due to Mature Content</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 22	2:45pm Dead Deer High (103 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17	2:30pm Sky Bergman Presents (92 mins total) <i>Rated PG</i> The Mochi Movie (21 mins) The Prime Time Band (42 mins) The Jollytologist (29 mins) DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 17	1:00pm-2:00pm Kindship Studio Workshop 3: Digging For Storytelling Gold DESCRIPTION ON PG 15 FILMMAKERS AND VIPS ONLY
	5:05pm The Rad Batch (89 mins) <i>Rated R Due to Mature Content</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 26	5:10pm If These Walls Could Rock (90 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	5:15pm Radioheart: The Drive and Times of DJ Kevin Cole (83 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17	5:00pm It's All Relative (81 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 25	2:30pm-3:30pm Kindship Studio Workshop 4: Building a Life in Storytelling DESCRIPTION ON PG 15 FILMMAKERS AND VIPS ONLY
	7:35pm OMG!!! (86 mins) <i>Rated R Due to Mature Content</i> DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 27	7:40pm Don't Kill My Vibe (80 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	7:45pm Come With Me (105 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 17	7:30pm The Best Summer (84 mins) <i>Rated PG-13</i> DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 16	5:00pm - 8:00pm American Bandstand Dinner & DJ Kiwanis Village PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIP, FILMMAKERS AND VOLUNTEERS ONLY

FOR FILM DESCRIPTIONS, PLEASE
SEE PAGES 16 THROUGH 27

Feature Film

Short Film Block

VIP and/or Filmmaker Event

IMAX (cap. 294)
SPECIAL EVENTS

9:00am	9:00am "It's A Wrap!" Mimosa Breakfast (IMAX lobby) PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIP AND FILMMAKERS ONLY
	9:45am Awards Ceremony (IMAX) ALL PASSHOLDERS WELCOME

THEATRE 6 (cap. 128)
Sponsored By: SoundBridge
Center for Dental Arts

11:15am/11:30am	11:30am Short Film Award Winners
	2:00pm Audience Choice Winners

THEATRE 10 (cap. 109)
Sponsored By:
Team Schulte & Co.

11:15am	11:15am Feature Film Award Winner
	1:45pm Buzzworthy Short Films

FOR FILM DESCRIPTIONS, PLEASE
SEE PAGES 16 THROUGH 27

Feature Film

Short Film Block

VIP and/or Filmmaker Event

WORKSHOP + PANEL SERIES FOR FILMMAKERS!

Saturday, September 26 10:00am, 11:30am, 1:00pm, 2:30pm

The Kindship Studio (4793 Point Fosdick Dr #200, Gig Harbor - next door to Greenhouse)

Join us for a special day of workshops and conversation to help filmmakers deepen their knowledge, expand their network, and learn from accomplished working artists.

This year, our cozy space at the Kindship Studio means that we can accommodate pre-registered filmmakers and VIP Passholders. We will have a limited number of seats available for VIP and GA Passholders as space permits.

10:00am-11:00am: CARVING A PATH FROM VISION TO SCREEN

Longtime feature and documentary director **Tamra Davis**, whose Beastie Boys documentary *The Best Summer* is featured in this year's festival, shares how to communicate your vision, pitch yourself effectively, and build the collaborations that get films made and seen.

11:30am-12:30pm: SHAPING PERFORMANCE FROM CASTING TO CUT

Prolific film and television actor **Troy Metcalf** and rising director **Nick Hartanto** explore how actors and directors use communication, shared language, and creative choices to shape performance. Their award-winning short film, *Daly City*, will be screened at this year's festival.

1:00pm-2:00pm: DIGGING FOR STORYTELLING GOLD

Discovery Channel veteran **Jerry McNutt**, whose award-winning documentary *Somehow Hopeful* is featured in this year's festival, shares how to uncover stories worth pursuing, cut through the noise, and shape compelling work across genres.

2:30pm-3:30pm: BUILDING A LIFE IN STORYTELLING

Tamra Davis, **Jerry McNutt**, **Troy Metcalf**, **Nick Hartanto**, and *Man or Mountain* filmmaker **Collin Monda** come together for a candid conversation about the choices, unexpected turns, and collaborations that shape a creative life.

This approach also subtly communicates something special about the day: audiences can learn from these artists in the workshops and then encounter their work onscreen during the festival.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Big Cheese *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Sara Joe Wolansky
86 mins | Made in Washington

THURS 6:30PM | FRI 5:05PM

What is a "cheesemonger?" It's like a sommelier, but for cheese. It's less pretentious and more punk rock. In Europe, cheesemongering is a vaunted, prestigious career — but in America, cheesemongering usually means working minimum wage behind a grocery store counter.

Adam "Mr. Moo" Moskowitz wants to change things by coaching an underdog American team to victory at the Mondial du Fromage — the Olympics of cheese — in France.

Our ragtag, tattooed Team USA has never won against the European cheese goliaths. Will this be the year?



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

25 Cats From Qatar *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Mye Hoang
95 mins | USA/Qatar

THURS 12:40PM | FRI 9:35AM

Multi-national rescuers in Qatar team up with a cat cafe owner from America to rescue 25 cats amidst a population crisis.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Don't Kill My Vibe *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Stephen Takashima
80 mins | USA

FRI 12:15PM | SAT 7:40PM

What begins as a nostalgic road trip for two estranged friends quickly spirals out of control when they discover they've been unwittingly transporting drugs, forcing old tensions in their relationship to bubble to the surface.



WA STATE PREMIERE
BOB'S BEST FRIENDS *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Randy Kent
99 mins | USA

FRI 9:45AM | SAT 12:10PM

A lonely man discovers he has an ability to talk to dogs after a sudden illness strikes. Through a series of adventures, mishaps, and conversations with his new "friends", Bob rediscovers life's joys. It's a story of love, loss, and renewal. A drama/comedy for all ages.



WA STATE PREMIERE

If These Walls Could Rock *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Tyler Measom & Craig Williams
90 mins | USA

FRI 7:35PM | SAT 5:10PM

IF THESE WALLS COULD ROCK is the untold story of the Sunset Marquis—the legendary West Hollywood hideaway where rock stars checked in, passed out, and made history. Featuring a Hall of Fame lineup including Ringo Starr, Slash, Cyndi Lauper, Morrissey, and Dave Grohl, the film dives deep into the debauchery, the music, and the magic that made the Marquis the heartbeat of rock 'n roll for over six decades.

But behind the famous awning and trashed rooms lies a deeper tale: the emotional journey of the visionary founder and his business-minded son, who saved the hotel from ruin and transformed it into a sanctuary. It's the story not just of a family, but of family in general; a celebration of the creative spirit, and the importance of connection and community in an increasingly disconnected world.

And, yeah, it's got some seriously wild party stories.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Best Summer *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Tamra Davis
84 mins | USA

FRI 2:35PM | SAT 7:30PM

A found footage documentary from a concert tour in 1995 that features live performances, candid interviews, and a behind-the-scenes view of what it's like to be on tour with Beastie Boys, Sonic Youth, Foo Fighters, Beck, Pavement, Rancid, The Amps and Bikini Kill.



WA STATE PREMIERE

The Strait Guys *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Rick Minnich
99 mins | Germany

THUR 10:15AM | FRI 2:45PM

A 76-year-old engineer is on a mission: to connect the United States and Russia with a 100-kilometer long train tunnel beneath the Bering Strait.

THE STRAIT GUYS follows a Czech-born mining engineer, George, and his fast-talking protégé, Scott, along the proposed route of the InterContinental Railway through Alaska to the Bering Strait and onward to Russia. The "Strait Guys" endeavor to convince international governments, corporations, and indigenous tribes to green-light their \$100 billion railway project—with the promise to become the Panama Canal of the 21st century.

2026 FILMS ~ FEATURE FILMS CONTINUED



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

Dead Deer High *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Jo Rochelle

103 mins | Made in Washington

FRI 5:00PM | SAT 2:45PM

Created by teachers, Dead Deer High follows a team of high school slam poets and their English teacher as they prepare for a national poetry competition one year after a tragedy changed their lives forever.



WORLD PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Tailwind of Love *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Hunter Scott Smalling

63 mins | USA

THUR 10:10AM | FRI 7:40PM

Tailwind of Love follows a young man as he bikes across America retracing the journey his late father once took years before. Guided by old photographs, journals, and stories left behind, the journey becomes more than a physical adventure. It is an emotional search for connection, understanding, and healing.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Radioheart: The Drive and Times of DJ

Kevin Cole *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Peter Hilgendorf & Andrew Franks

83 mins | Made in Washington

FRI 9:40AM | SAT 5:15PM

RADIOHEART: The Drive and Times of DJ Kevin Cole explores the life and career of DJ Kevin Cole, tracing his path from the club dance floors of Minneapolis' First Avenue to the digital halls of Amazon.com, to the global stage of Seattle's KEXP.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Last Picture Shows *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Rustin Thompson

78 mins | Made in Washington

FRI 7:40PM | SAT 9:45AM

Filmmaker Rustin Thompson journeys into the American West on a search for traces of what was once a center of small-town life: the movie theater. On the trip, he finds long abandoned and forgotten cinemas, movie houses that have fallen into disrepair, theaters recently closed, theaters struggling to hold on, and theaters that—thanks to their thoughtful caretakers—are not only surviving but thriving.



PRECEDED BY:

WA STATE PREMIERE

Vanishing Seattle Presents: The Grand Illusion Cinema

Directed by: Drew Highlands | 15 mins | Made in Washington

After 55 years, The Grand Illusion Cinema in Seattle's University District moved out of its original location. As The Grand Illusion searches for a new home, its vibrant history and legacy will live on.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Come With Me *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Aaron Harvey

105 mins | Made in Washington

FRI 5:15PM | SAT 7:45PM

COME WITH ME follows Simon, a working class man who finds his life upended after suffering a traumatic home invasion. Compounded by trouble at his job and the loss of his best friend, and fueled by a rhetoric-spewing radio host, Simon begins a deadly descent into his own mind, trying to rectify the perceived wrongs and cleanse the injustice he starts to see in the world around him.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

Our Mr. Matsura *Rated PG-13*

Directed by: Beth Harrington

97 mins | Made in Washington

THUR 12:45PM | SAT 9:40AM

Frank Matsura, the orphaned son of a samurai, emigrates to the American West in 1901, settling in remote Washington State. His work, which transcends the prosaic photographs typical of the times, is characterized by unusual self-portraits and playful collaborations with his subjects.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Somehow Hopeful: The Story of a

Woodsman *Rated PG*

Directed by: Jerry McNutt

80 mins | USA

THUR 10:00AM

Somehow Hopeful is the story of a man committed to a real-life revolution. His greatest ally in this battle is perhaps man's oldest and most reliable teammate - the workhorse. For forty years, Jason Rutledge has been a voice for the natural world and restorative forestry methods. His primary power source is a rare horse breed called the Suffolk Punch.

SKY BERGMAN PRESENTS

GHFF Alum Sky Bergman will be in attendance to present a block of her latest films.. *Rated PG*

92 mins total | THUR 12:30PM | SAT 2:30PM



The Mochi Movie | 21 mins

A heartwarming celebration of mochi, memory, and Japanese American heritage, this charming film explores how a centuries-old New Year's tradition connects generations through family, culture, and plenty of rice flour.



The Prime Time Band | 42 mins

In Santa Barbara, a group of older adults is proving that it's never too late to make music, find community, and rediscover joy.



The Jollytologist | 29 mins

In a world often overshadowed by hardship, Allen Klein, a self-proclaimed "Jollytologist®" shows how humor, laughter, and positivity can transform lives, even in the face of adversity.





GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

What if I Die Flying Over Oklahoma?

Directed by: H. Nelson Tracey

5 min | Made in Washington

Trapped in the middle seat, singer-songwriter Rae Isla spirals into an existential crisis that transforms airplane anxiety into a surreal question of "what if?"



WORLD PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Man or Mountain

Directed by: Collin Monda

16 min | Made in Washington

Defying evacuation orders and denying scientific evidence, notorious lodge owner Harry R. Truman is sent cascading through memories of a life lived without regret on Spirit Lake, as mounting tremors rock his cherished world.

Still basking in the limelight of his rebellion, imminent cataclysm calls him to finally face the bet he made against the very force of nature he built his life around.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Abduction(s)

Directed by: Martin Timothy Coleman

9 min | Made in Washington

A busy young adult is invited to his friend's house to watch him sleep, convinced that aliens are abducting him every night.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Breathe

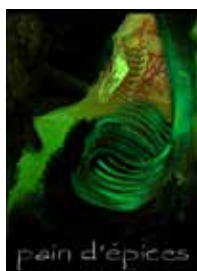
Directed by: Lindy Boustedt

19 min | Made in Washington

After her release from prison, Nova is offered an unexpected place to land. As she reconnects with her estranged grandfather and the relationships that once defined her, she must decide what it means to accept help, what it might cost to refuse it, and whether she believes

she deserves it. BREATHE is a quiet, clear-eyed portrait of reentry, addiction and the fragile work of starting over.

The screenplay was written by incarcerated students in the SHARE Screenwriting program. Produced by students, alumni and faculty of Shoreline College.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

Pain d'épices

Directed by: Reese Elizabeth Whipple

10 min | Made in Washington

After being thrown to the landfill, a gingerbread man decides to dedicate himself to studying the meaning of life, and how animals exist. Being confused by his own anatomy, he befriends another one of his kind to dissect and take apart convincing them it's for a greater cause,

until this experiment inevitably gets tired of the abuse and snaps on him.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Better Days

Directed by: Kyle Broulette

5 min | Made in Washington

Grey, a heart-broken musician, treks along the rough streets of Seattle in search of solace from his lost love Allie.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Shimmer

Directed by: Harrison Todd

8 min | Made in Washington

In a dystopian future, a teenage girl is accidentally abandoned by her brother trying to escape an invasion of Earth. But could the legend of the Shimmer -- a mythical portal to the future -- be her salvation?



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Souvenirs

Directed by: Rachel Taggart

12 min | Made in Washington

Relentless Detective Lieutenant closes in on a notorious serial pedophile, but as the investigation deepens, dark secrets emerge that threaten to shatter everything.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Sitio Aimetua: Breaking Barriers, Planting Possibilities

Directed by: Mari Clemen
24 mins | Made in Washington

This documentary follows Cátia and Daphne, two visionary women in rural Brazil, as they transform a degraded landscape into a thriving agroforestry system. Driven by a dream of autonomy, they cultivate ancestral plant species and traditional techniques to reconnect with nature's cycles, bolstering food security in their community.

Through an intimate lens, the film captures their daily lives, from working the land and preparing food deliveries to preserving culinary traditions. Against the backdrop of Brazil's agribusiness-dominated landscape, Cátia and Daphne's story highlights agroecology as a powerful solution for sustainable farming and social equity. Their journey is a testament to resilience, biodiversity, and the importance of connecting back to the land and traditional practices to shape a more sustainable and equitable future.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Sound Again

Directed by: Carlos R. Correa
12 mins | Made in Washington

Sound Again is about a boy with degenerative hearing loss who decides, at the age of 12, to get cochlear implants. The procedure renders him technically deaf without the appliance (hearing devices), but leads to a new kind of "hearing." Almost as a joke, he takes a high school music engineering class and discovers an unexpected talent for music. Incredibly, he becomes a talented, charismatic musician.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Story of Frog Rock

Directed by: Howard Brock
9 mins | Made in Washington

On Bainbridge Island, a humble boulder is transformed into a beloved landmark—and, in the process, helped shape a lifelong love story. The Story of Frog Rock reveals the 1971 creation story, when high school sweethearts Bob and Ellen Green braved the rain and darkness to paint a drab roadside rock into the now-iconic Frog Rock. Through heartfelt interviews, the couple reflects on their youthful creativity, their enduring bond, and the unexpected legacy of a quirky local treasure. The short film gives voice to Frog Rock itself, reminding us that even the most ordinary things—like an old rock—can hold extraordinary stories of community, love, and transformation.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

Facing The Sun

Directed by: Mathew Cerf
12 mins | Made in Washington

An enigmatic, unhoused man spends his days giving free haircuts to the homeless – offering a lesson in love, and a window into the complex human dynamics at the center of America's housing crisis.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Unrecognized: The Duwamish Tribe

Directed by: BJ Bullert
29 mins | Made in Washington

UNRECOGNIZED is about power, politics and culture. Drawing on historical records, lived experience, and behind-the-scenes decisions about public art, the half-hour film shows how the struggle for recognition is both political and cultural.

Despite organized opposition from federally recognized tribes and ongoing federal barriers, UNRECOGNIZED shows how the Duwamish Tribe refuses to be erased.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

The Chimney Sweeper

Directed by: Jack Raese

9 min | USA/Germany

Markus – whose great-great-great-grandfather invented the nutcracker – makes nutcrackers for a living, as did each of his forefathers between him and the great inventor. Markus discusses his life decisions.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Tuktuit: Caribou

Directed by: Lindsay Aksarniq McIntyre

15 min | Canada

An experimental documentary created with handmade and manufactured emulsions exploring the close and enduring connections between Inuit, caribou, lichens, and land use. Lichen developers help bring the images to life, while caribou hide is processed into gelatin to make handmade emulsion. Filmed primarily on the land

in Nunavut where caribou struggle to maintain their lifeways amidst burn events, habitat disruption, and changing conditions.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE – Q&A AFTER FILM

The Last Houseboat

Directed by: Colin D'Amelio

31 min | USA

The Last Houseboat dives into the history of a unique wooden vessel, lovingly crafted by a family patriarch in 1970. Anchored on the Rhode Island coast for over 50 years, the houseboat became a landmark, a cherished family tradition, and a symbol of connection across

three generations. When unforeseen circumstances force the family to dismantle the beloved vessel, they confront a profound sense of loss while celebrating its enduring legacy. A poignant tale of resilience, memory, and the ties that bind, The Last Houseboat invites viewers to reflect on the traditions and stories that shape their own families.



WA STATE PREMIERE

The Deep Dive

Directed by: Nancy Donnelly

12 min | USA

The 2025 MATE ROV World Championships are set to unfold at Michigan's Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, pitting the brightest young minds and their custom-built underwater robots against complex, real-world Great Lakes and ocean challenges. This global

competition of engineering skill takes on an unprecedented twist with the local rivalry among members of Alpena's Thomson family, locked in a head-to-head battle to reach the winners' podium. Family patriarch Bob Thomson serves as mentor for daughter Lydia's high-school team, while daughter Liz mentors the team from the high school where she teaches, and brother Clayton pilots the ROV for his local community-college team. Watch as innovation meets ambition in this high-stakes documentary, where the ultimate prize is not just engineering glory, but family bragging rights. Who will command the winning robot and emerge victorious in this thrilling showdown?



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE – Q&A AFTER FILM

The Boys and the Bees

Directed by: Arielle C. Knight

19 min | USA

The Boy and the Bees chronicles the changing seasons in the life of the Ray Family as they pursue their dream of freedom — raising bees on a farm in rural Georgia while teaching their young sons what they need to steward the planet they call home.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

Dick's-A-Thon

Directed by: Dylan Young

18 min | Made in Washington

26 Miles, 5 Meals, 1 Wild Tradition. Learn about Seattle's wackiest marathon and it's mission to honor a friend and give back to the outdoors.



WORLD PREMIERE

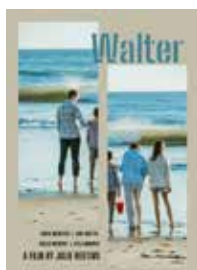
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Discovering The Secret World Of Comics

Directed by: Justin Zimmerman

4 min | USA

Where did the owner of the largest and snazziest comic book store in the Pacific Northwest come from? His secret origin story might surprise you!



WA STATE PREMIERE

Walter

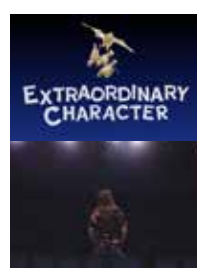
Directed by: Julie Restivo

12 min | USA

A ten-year-old boy insists his red plastic bucket contains his pet wave.

Walter is a tender, imaginative portrait of a child navigating grief within a fractured family learning to find a new sense of stability. Blending whimsy with emotional

truth, the film explores the rhythms of life—how things build, crest, and fall—and the quiet resilience it takes to begin again.



WA STATE PREMIERE

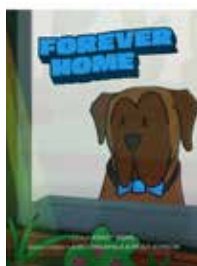
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Extraordinary Character

Directed by: Alex Astrella

17 min | USA

'Extraordinary Character' follows the Mainstage Players as they bring an original adaptation of Janell Cannon's beloved 'Stellaluna' to local schools, fostering a love for theater and literacy in young audiences.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Forever Home

Directed by: Ashley Wong

3 min | Made in Washington

Benson, the three-legged mastiff, lives alone in a quiet house. He spends his days content to watch the world pass by until one day a mysterious dog shows up at his doorstep, followed by many more. A story of friendship,

loyalty and unconditional love.



WORLD PREMIERE

FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Precious Little Theater

Directed by: Charles Atkinson

35 min | Made in Washington

In Central Washington, a humble community theater has quietly been changing lives for 25 years. Precious Little Theater is a love letter to the performing arts, following four directors as they reflect on the moments that pulled them toward the stage and ultimately led them to this

theater. Their passion draws together actors, dancers, singers, and musicians from every walk of life, creating a rare space of belonging, connection, and healing on a truly remarkable stage.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Like Father

Directed by: Jared Callahan

7 min | USA

A poignant look at the work of renowned children's author Richard Scarry as his son carries on the family legacy.

2026 FILMS ~ Love ... and Other Bizarre Concepts - Short films showcasing the complexities of love and romance (69 mins, Rated R)

FRI 12:10PM | SAT 2:40PM



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Pic

Directed by: Frances Chewning
7 min | USA

Single mom Jen gets an unexpectedly provocative pic from her friend Steve (Dan Lippert, "Comedy Bang-Bang," "Hacks"). Through the course of a phone conversation, she tries to figure out what's going on in this modern screwball romantic comedy.



WORLD PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Gaa Ghar (Home)

Directed by: Vaibhavi Bansal
9 min | Made in Washington

As V's visa nears expiration, Z and V share their final moments before leaving for the airport. Seated on the trunk of their car, they reflect on their journey—reliving the intimate, everyday moments of their relationship, tracing back through the days, weeks, and months to the

very beginning when they first met.



WORLD PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Thank you!

Directed by: John Redlinger
8 min | USA

In this dark comedy, a couple argues about a nightmare, a psychotic slasher, when to say "thank you" and if a hot dog is considered a sandwich.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Albatross

Directed by: Amandine Thomas
14 min | USA

Maria, burdened with caregiving for her sick husband, gets invited to a party.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

A Little Help Here?

Directed by: Vee Hua
9 min | Made in Washington

A married man struggles to persuade his wife of his honesty and faithfulness when she discovers his best friend is an actual person and not an imaginary friend as she believed.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Silver Springs Stranger

Directed by: Kelly Tatham
7 min | Canada

A famous musician accidentally casts a spell to end the tumultuous relationship with her band mate.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Given

Directed by: Marissa Vonn
15 min | USA

When an encounter with her high school boyfriend, Eric, reveals life shaking news to Callie, a woman hiding out from life by working as a desert diner manager, she must decide if she will stay in her safety bubble or change a decision she made 25 years ago that will set her life on

an unknown course.

2026 FILMS ~ **Eclectic Lunch** – An intriguing assortment of mixed genre short films (85 mins, Rated PG-13)

FRI 12:00PM | SAT 12:15PM



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Bike Short

Directed by: Kevin McDevitt
9 min | USA

When a mountain biker steals another's "lucky" drying bike shorts, mistaking them for a curbside discard, a wild chase into the mountains ensues.



US PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

KAI

Directed by: Graham Cantwell & Amy-Joyce Hastings
21 min | Ireland

A neurodivergent detective and his new partner search for a missing person, battling lies and prejudice as they sift through their life to uncover the truth of what happened to them.



WORLD PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Broken Tomorrow

Directed by: David Bradburn
7 min | USA

"The Broken Tomorrow" follows Zen, a woman from a forgotten past who is suddenly thrust into the modern age. Through her eyes, the world feels unfamiliar and overwhelming, crowded yet lonely, advanced yet deeply

disconnected. Without words, her movements reveal what we often ignore: the absence of presence, the loss of empathy, and the quiet erosion of human connection.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Fre\$h Dough

Directed by: Seth McTigue
6 min | USA

A pizza delivery driver makes the wrong turn when he decides to break into homes to support himself after his mother's death. A chance encounter with a seasoned thief turns into a partnership that delivers them into dark waters.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Three Days

Directed by: Jasmine McLeod
14 min | USA

Three Days is a quiet psychological drama that explores grief, guilt, and acceptance through a series of emotionally charged encounters between two strangers connected by tragedy. As unresolved pain slowly

surfaces, the film examines the complexity of forgiveness and the human desire to make sense of loss.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

Balloon Animals

Directed by: Anna Baumgarten
7 min | USA

Two grocery store employees have a helium-fueled encounter with a late-night customer.



WORLD PREMIERE

From Croatia, With Love

Directed by: Steven Wyble
21 min | Made in Washington

This documentary chronicles a father's sacrifice that changes the trajectory of their family forever as two small girls journey from Croatia to America to live a new life.



2026 FILMS ~ **To Be Human** - Dramatic short films that examine the human condition (93 mins, Rated PG-13)

FRI 2:30PM | SAT 9:30AM



WA STATE PREMIERE

Butcher's Stain

Directed by: Meyer Levinson-Blount

26 min | Israel

Samir, a Palestinian butcher working at an Israeli supermarket, is accused of tearing down the Israeli hostage posters in the break room. Samir sets out to prove his innocence in order to keep his job he desperately needs.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Something Pointless

Directed by: Asa Bailey

14 min | Canada

When a bullied young boy discovers an elderly man quietly covering a forgotten brick wall with painted eggshells, an unlikely friendship forms — and a "pointless" act becomes something transformative.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Meeting Your Maker

Directed by: Gregory JM Kasunich

18 min | USA

Meeting Your Maker is a darkly whimsical short film that follows Otis, a beloved puppet on a long-running children's show, as he faces an existential crisis just before the series' milestone 300th episode.



WA STATE PREMIERE

The Machine Shop

Directed by: Jon Flahr

10 min | Canada

A worn down machinist takes up a hobby that reignites his joy for life.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

A Good Day Will Come

Directed by: Amir Zargara

25 min | Iran/Canada

Arash is a professional wrestler with dreams of representing his country and winning gold medals. The country is in turmoil and its people are suffering. Arash must decide between using his platform to stand up to tyranny, or put his head down and remain silent.

2026 FILMS ~ **It's All Relative** – Shorts that keep it all in the family (81 mins, Rated PG-13)

FRI 7:45PM | SAT 5:00PM



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Daly City

Directed by: Nick Hartanto

16 min | USA

An Indonesian boy and his mother attend a church potluck and lie about their dish.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Little Drummer Boy

Directed by: John Gray

10 min | USA

All is not what it seems when a father and son have a violent confrontation on Christmas Eve.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Birthday Gift

Directed by: Arianna Ortiz

16 min | USA

In this playful, cross cultural family drama, an unexpected guest upends the lives of an Argentine mother and daughter over the course of an intimate birthday dinner one icy Chicago night.



WA STATE PREMIERE

The Bird's Placebo

Directed by: Rami Jarbou

19 min | Tunisia

Yahya, a young man in a wheelchair from a marginalized neighborhood in Tunisia's capital, dreams of crossing the Mediterranean. As he grapples with his reality, a strange and transformative encounter sets him on a new path.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Only In This World

Directed by: Dorothy Xiao

12 min | USA

When an empty nester loses her ability to summon her daughter back from the afterlife, she is forced to find help from the person she resents the most: her ex-husband's mistress.



WORLD PREMIERE

Raven Steals The Sun

Directed by: Sydnee Mason Renee

8 min | Made in Washington

A young Native woman coping with grief has to convince her family members to set her grandmother's spirit free. Based on a Coast Salish legend, this film explores loss, family, and disrupting the status quo.

2026 FILMS ~ The Rad Batch – short films that play it cool (89 mins, Rated R Due to Mature Content)

FRI 2:40PM | SAT 5:05PM

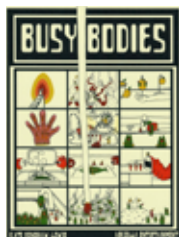


WA STATE PREMIERE

1981

Directed by: Carolyn London & Andy London
8 min | USA

It's 1981 in suburban Long Island, New York. The mullets are long, the metal is heavy and 14-year old Douglas gets a birthday surprise that will change life forever. "1981" is a psychedelic coming-of-age story that captures the beauty and terror of teenage desire.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

Busy Bodies

Directed by: Kate Renshaw-Lewis
6 min | USA

Busy Bodies is a hand-drawn animation that combines inkjet and screen printing. Inspired by Rube Goldberg machines, the film explores the undisclosed production journey of easily disposable objects. The images of the film cycle and deteriorate, visualizing the repetition, speed, and destructive nature of the factory method supply chain.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

Ivar

Directed by: Markus Tangre
4 min | Norway

Noticing her husband Ivar's new scent, Anne lies awake at night with a nagging question: should she leave him?



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

The Gnawer of Rocks

Directed by: Louise Flaherty
14 min | Canada

Two young women, out for a walk on the tundra, follow a trail of colourful stones left on the ground -- but it leads them to danger. They become trapped in the lair of the Mangittatuarjuk, the Gnawer of Rocks. The young women are terrified when they realize what the monster has been doing. The women and their village must use the teachings of their elders to defeat the monster.



WA STATE PREMIERE

New Trees

Directed by: Brian Imakura Guthmann
12 mins | Made in Washington

An exploration of commercial trees.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Bill's Cube

Directed by: Weston Auburn
8 min | USA

Bill's Cube is at first glance a fun, time-traveling stoner film. But, beyond that, it is a reflection our late-stage capitalism and our greed as a society and our desire to cut corners at every turn. But it's also just a silly, time-traveling stoner short.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Glitterbomb

Directed by: Brian Leahy
11 min | USA

Based on a true story, a woman on the verge of a career breakthrough is having another breakthrough entirely. Gushes of glitter are pouring out of her during one of the most important interviews of her life and there's no signs of stopping.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Texas Strange

Directed by: Justin Eugene Evans
9 min | USA

After two months on a distant planet, John Thurston returns to his ragtag crew of criminals and thieves. He expects a heroes welcome...instead they've held themselves a vote.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Midnight City

Directed by: Bill Watterson
9 min | USA

Dutch Lazarus is a detective who specializes in strange cases. When a new client walks into his office and stymies him at every turn, we begin to wonder what her game is, and if Dutch already knows a lot more than she's telling.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Sorrow Doesn't Sleep At Night

Directed by: Josefina Montino & Martín André
9 min | Chile

The ghosts of his past begin to torment him, forcing him to face his fears and guilt while trying not to be consumed by madness.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Tuna Tartare

Directed by: Lena Greene
11 min | USA

In a karaoke bar in post-apocalyptic Los Angeles, an expired can of tuna fish and a fake Louis Vuitton purse encourage each other to believe in their artistic voices even if the world sees them as trash.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Desecrated

Directed by: John Gray
8 min | USA

A young morgue attendant working the night shift encounters an unwelcome visitor.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Hide

Directed by: Brenden Hubbard
16 min | USA

Still reeling from an incredible loss, a father (Shakey Graves) and daughter cling to a bedtime routine keeping them safe in a town where an unfathomable horror visits its inhabitants night after night.



WA STATE PREMIERE

The Pearl Comb

Directed by: Ali Cook
15 min | USA

In 1893, a fisherman's wife becomes the first person to cure someone of tuberculosis. A doctor, intent on proving a woman's place is in the home and not practicing medicine, investigates – only to discover the source of her unearthly power.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

Before The Sky Took Him

Directed by: David Over
5 min | Made in Washington

Jack is down on his luck and trying to mend his relationship with his estranged daughter. The night before her birthday party, he encounters a pair of creatures not from this world.



WA STATE PREMIERE

On Broken Glass

Directed by: Timothy Troy
10 min | USA

After a messy breakup, Jess takes matters to the extreme when her ex comes begging for forgiveness.



WORLD PREMIERE

FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Flies

Directed by: Nicolas Morse Magalhaes
8 min | USA

A young woman returns home to clean her father's house after he has passed away. As she packs his old belongings and her past, her grief begins physically manifesting...in an unsettling way.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Mermaids

Directed by: Adriana Vecchioli
15 min | USA

Sex, rage, and tentacled transformation collide when two women realize their pleasure kills... and they like it.



GIG HARBOR PREMIERE

My Severed Arm

Directed by: Casey de Fremery
9 min | USA

A woman tries to escape a serial killer using DIY videos, but the internet won't stop trying to sell her things first.



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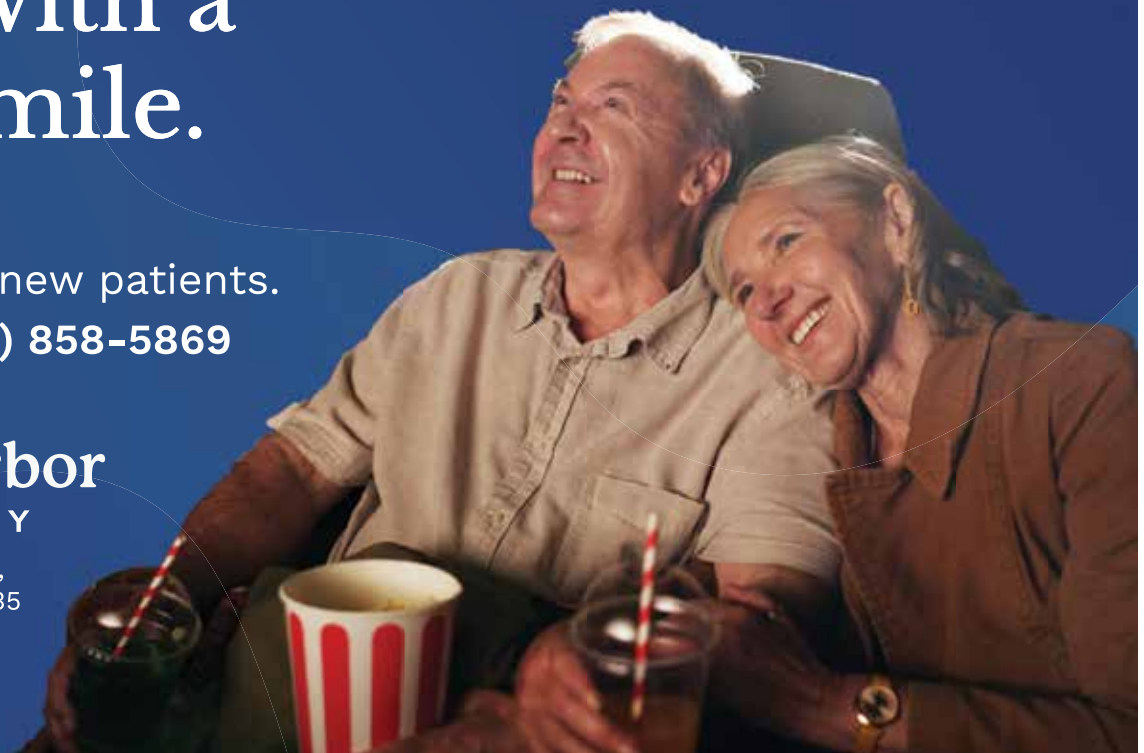
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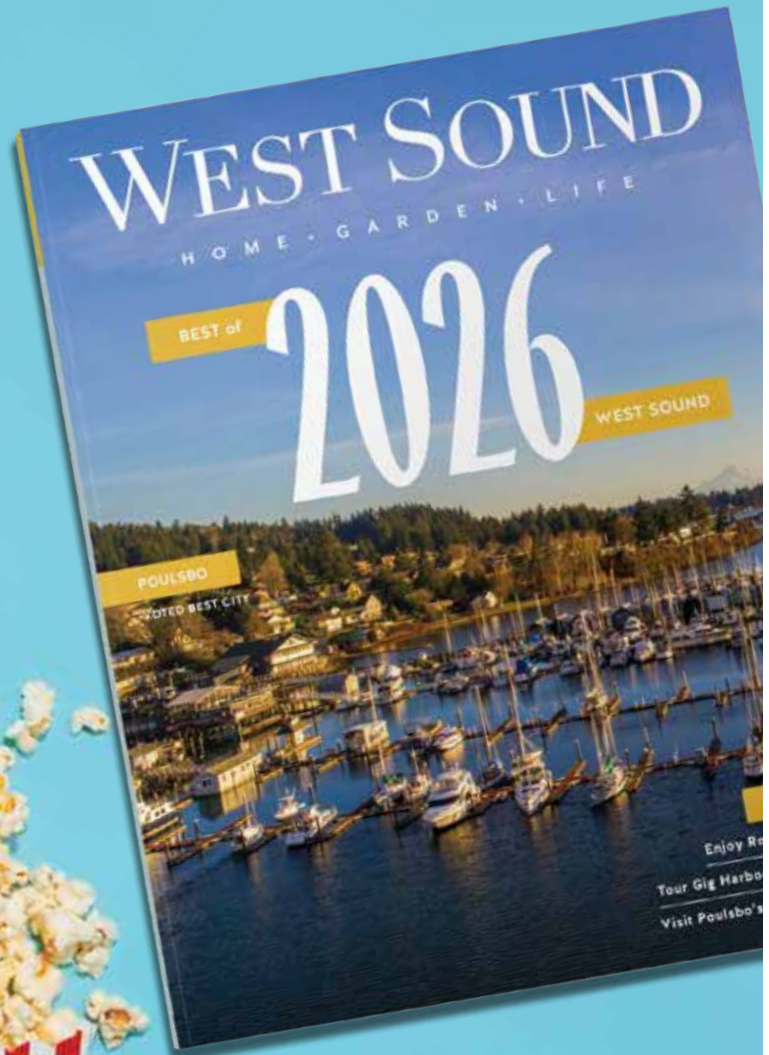


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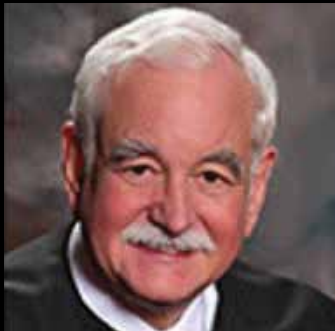
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