We believe in the power of film, the power of inclusion, and the power of us all to move humanity forward. We do so in harmony with acceptance, respect, and love. At the Cleveland International Film Festival, everyone is welcome — always.
# WINNERS

Over $125,000 in cash prizes

## FEATURE FILMS

### $15,000

**Roxanne T. Mueller Audience Choice Award for Best Film**
Presented with generous support from the Callahan Foundation

**PRINCESS OF THE ROW**
Directed by Van Maximilian Carlson (USA)

### $10,000

**George Gund III Memorial Central and Eastern European Competition**
Presented with generous support from The George Gund Foundation

**ONE DAY**
Directed by Zsófia Szilágyi (Hungary)

**Nesnadny + Schwartz Portrait Documentary Competition**

**May The Schwartz Be With You Director’s Award**
Presented with generous support from Nesnadny + Schwartz

**HESBURGH**
Directed by Patrick Creadon (USA)

### $7,500

**Ad Hoc Docs Competition**
Presented with generous support from Anne E. Bloomberg and Tom & Anita Cook

**LOOPERS: THE CADDIE’S LONG WALK**
Directed by Jason Baffa (USA)

**American Independents Competition**
Presented with generous support from Mike and Nicki Cancelliere

**BRIAN BANKS**
Directed by Tom Shadyac (USA)

**Global Health Competition**
Presented with generous support from Cleveland Clinic International Operations
Cleveland Clinic Mikati Center for Liver Diseases
Cleveland Clinic R.J. Fasenmyer Center for Clinical Immunology

**QUIET STORM: THE RON ARTEST STORY**
Directed by Johnny Sweet (USA)

### $2,000

**FilmSlam® Student Choice Award for Best Feature Film**
Presented with generous support from Rakuten OverDrive

**LONG TIME COMING: A 1955 BASEBALL STORY**
Directed by Jon Strong (USA)
Audience Choice Award for Best Short Film Overall
Sponsored by Char and Chuck Fowler

**FIRE IN CARDBOARD CITY**
Directed by Phil Brough (New Zealand)

Best After Hours Short Award
Sponsored by Friends of Patrick McFadden

**A PURGATORY STORY**
Directed by Tom Albanese (USA)

Best Animated Short Award*
Sponsored by Reminger Co., L.P.A.

**IAN, A MOVING STORY**
Directed by Abel Goldfarb (Argentina)

Best Comedy Short Award
Endowed by David K. Ream

**RELATIONSHIP DELI**
Directed by Ian Van der Werff (USA)

Best Documentary Short Award*
Sponsored by Jules and Fran Belkin

**FOOTSTEPS OF MY FATHER**
Directed by Paul Allman (USA)

Best Family Short Award
Sponsored by University School

**FUNKY BUTT**
Directed by Jonnie Stapleton (USA)

Best International Short Award
Sponsored by MP Star Financial

**THREE PAGES**
Directed by Roger Gariépy (Canada)

Best LGBT Short Award: In Celebration of the Life of Nikki Babbit
Sponsored by Jan and Harold Babbit

**ARE WE GOOD PARENTS?**
Directed by Bola Ogun (USA)

Best Live Action Short Award*
Sponsored by Anne E. Bloomerg and Alan Gordon Lipson & Judy Harris

**UNTITLED SHORT FILM ABOUT WHITE PEOPLE**
Directed by Nicholas Colia (USA)

Best Ohio Short Award
Sponsored by Bill and Teri Koeth

**LABYRINTH**
Directed by Malen Cuturic, Colin Donovan, Andre Holland, Sam Marshall, Brendan Ours, Kyle Sminchak, James Welch (USA)

Best Student Short Award
Sponsored by MP Star Financial

**MAMMOTH**
Directed by Ariel Heller (USA)

Best Women’s Short Award
Sponsored by John and Johnson

**PICKLE MAN**
Directed by Nastasiya Popov (USA)

The Clover and Maggie Award: In Celebration of Life
Sponsored by Barbara Hawley and David Goodman

**UNDER MOM’S SKIRT**
Directed by Sarah Heitz de Chabaneix (France)

FilmSlam® Student Choice Award
Sponsored by Rakuten OverDrive

**FIND HARBOUR FOR A DAY**
Directed by Paul Marques Duarte (France)

Perspectives Award for Immersive Storytelling
Sponsored by Case Western Reserve University

**SANCTUARIES OF SILENCE**
Directed by Adam Loften, Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee (USA)

Programmers’ Choice Award: In Celebration of the Life of Don Oliverio
Sponsored by The Sloop Family

**CODA**
Directed by Erika Davis-Marsh (USA)

The Sammy Award for the Short Film with the Biggest Heart
Sponsored by Marcie Goodman

**SHAKESPEARE IN TOKYO**
Directed by Genevieve Clay-Smith (Australia, Japan)

The Spalding and Jackson Award: In Celebration of Joy
Sponsored by Marcie Goodman and John C. Williams

**ALTERNATIVE MATH**
Directed by David Maddox (USA)

*These award winners will qualify for consideration in the Short Films categories of the annual Academy Awards.*
The Cleveland International Film Festival is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.

DURING THE 12 DAYS OF CIFF43...

CHALLENGE MATCH ANNUAL CAMPAIGN
in partnership with Cuyahoga Arts & Culture

OUR **105,839**
ATTENDEES RAISED

$156,249
IN CHALLENGE MATCH DONATIONS.

*Thank you for your generous support!*

The Cleveland International Film Festival is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.

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CAPTIONS FOR THE PHOTOS ON THE RIGHT

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<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>Thank you to each and every one of you who helped us meet the challenge!</td>
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<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>The Festival hosted dozens of extended filmmaker Q&amp;As in the Chat Room.</td>
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<td><strong>C</strong></td>
<td>Festival patrons took time before their screening to read through the Program Guide.</td>
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<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>Approximately 2,000 Festival attendees gathered around The Grand Staircase in Tower City Center for the Closing Night Ceremony, with an additional 3,195 joining via live stream.</td>
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<td><strong>E</strong></td>
<td>A big thank you to the 318 CIFF43 staff members who kept things running smoothly throughout the Festival!</td>
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Our **8** full-time staff and **40** board members were fortunate to work alongside **318** dedicated seasonal staff and **971** inspiring volunteers!

### CAPTIONS FOR THE PHOTOS ON THE RIGHT

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<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>CIF43 Opening Night Film and Reception took place at the historic Playhouse Square in downtown Cleveland.</td>
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<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>Opening Night special guest, associate producer <strong>Emanuel Cohn</strong>, during his post-film Q&amp;A.</td>
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<td><strong>C</strong></td>
<td>More than 1,800 people attended the screening of the Opening Night film <strong>THE ETRUSCAN SMILE</strong> in the Connor Palace.</td>
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<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>Opening Night attendees enjoyed the post-film reception, which took place in the KeyBank State Theatre.</td>
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THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS, PARTNERS, AND DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF CIFF43.

SAPPHIRE SPONSORS

PLATINUM SPONSORS

FOUNDATION SUPPORT

p. 5
We connected with **192** sponsors and funders, and **66** media and neighborhood outreach partners, who were champions of the Festival through their generosity and support.
TO BE CONTINUED:
The Cleveland International Film Festival's Ongoing Focus On Women Filmmakers

The issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion are taking on new urgency today. At the CIFF, however, they have long been core values of our organization.

Of particular importance to the CIFF are women filmmakers. In fact, nearly 40% of our feature and short film directors at CIFF43 were female, a far cry from the industry standard, which has remained at 4% for the last 20 years.

At CIFF43, we were intent on focusing our efforts on women more than ever with our umbrella program, To Be Continued. The goal of the program is to help bridge the gender inequality gap in the film industry by providing opportunities to showcase the female perspective and accentuate the female voice. We were honored to be doing so through our Director Spotlight Award, DReam Catcher Program and Award, ReelWomenDirect Award, Someone to Watch Award, and Women of the World sidebar.

To Be Continued is our way to help change perceptions, confront and expose stereotypes and myths, and simply make a difference.

Presented with generous support from:
We paired 166 Community Partners (other nonprofits in northeast Ohio) with films in the Festival that lined up with the organizations’ missions.
We presented nine FilmForums (moderated and interactive panel discussions), which featured filmmakers, community leaders, and scholars who were knowledgeable about the topics at hand.

DIVISION TOPICs INCLUDED:

- The exploration of our Global Economy
- Structural racism
- Child sexual assault
- Barriers of achieving racial diversity
- The impact of blockchain technology
- How to put a stop to rape culture
- Factory farming and its effect on neighboring communities
- Providing health care for the underserved
- The value of free press
Greater Cleveland Film Commission
Greater Cleveland Food Bank
Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity
Greater Cleveland Interfaith Alliance
Greater Cleveland NOW
Greater Cleveland Sports Commission
Greater Cleveland Urban Film Festival
HandsOn Northeast Ohio
Heights Arts
Heights Community Congress
Heights Libraries/Friends of Heights Libraries
Heights Youth Theatre
Holden Forests & Gardens
Hudson Library & Historical Society
Human Rights Campaign
ICA–Art Conservation
International Youth Leadership Foundation
InterReligious Task Force on Central America & Colombia
IPM (International Partners in Mission)
Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center
Kol Israel Foundation
Lake Erie Ink
LATINA, Inc.
LatinUs Theater Company
League of Women Voters Greater Cleveland
LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland
LifeAct
The Links, Incorporated, Cleveland Chapter
Literary Cleveland
Lorain Public Library System
Magnolia Clubhouse
Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
Mandel Jewish Community Center Cleveland Jewish FilmFest
Margie’s Hope
Medworks
moCa Cleveland
MotivAsians for Cleveland
The Musical Theater Project
NAMI Greater Cleveland
Nature Center at Shaker Lakes
Near West Theatre
The Nightlight Cinema
North Coast Men’s Chorus
North Eastern Ohio Education Association
North Union Farmers Market
Northeast Ohio Consortium for Middle East Studies
Northeast Ohio Sierra Club
The NotMom
Notre Dame Club of Cleveland
OCA–Asian Pacific American Advocates, Greater Cleveland Chapter
Ohio Fair Trade Network
Ohio Regional Music, Arts, and Cultural Outreach (ORMACO)
Our Lady of the Wayside
PFLAG Cleveland
Plexus LGBT and Allied Chamber of Commerce
Polish-American Cultural Center
Positive Education Program
Press Club of Cleveland
Recovery Resources
The Refugee Response
Refugee Services Collaborative of Greater Cleveland
Rock & Roll Hall of Fame
Rocky River Public Library
Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland, Inc.
Seeds of Literacy
Society of Professional Journalists, Cleveland Pro Chapter
SPACES
Stocker Arts Center
Stonewall Sports Cleveland
Swedish American Chamber of Commerce–Ohio Chapter
Swedish Cultural Society
Telugu Association of North America
Towards Employment
Transformer Station
Tri-C JazzFest
Twelve Literary Arts
The Up Side of Downs of Northeast Ohio
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
US Together
Vasa Order of America: Nobel-Monitor Lodge 130
Visiting Nurse Association of Ohio
West Creek Conservancy
West Side Catholic Center
Westlake Porter Public Library
Windsong, Cleveland’s Feminist Chorus
Women in Film & TV–Ohio
Women’s Happy Hour (WH2)
Wright State University Alumni Association
Young Latino Network
Zonta Club of Cleveland
We showcased **213** feature films and **237** short films. Perspectives (our immersive storytelling exhibition) included **15** virtual reality films and **3** interactive media projects. Our programming represented **71** countries. We hosted nearly **400** guest filmmakers from around the world who were on-hand for Q&As and panel discussions for the majority of our record-breaking **635** screenings.

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FilmSlam® welcomed a record-breaking 11,087 students from 127 schools over the course of seven weekday mornings. Filmmakers and featured subjects were on-hand to speak with students following all FilmSlam® screenings.

CAPTIONS FOR THE PHOTOS ON THE RIGHT

| A | WELCOME to FilmSlam, CIFF’s longest-running educational program. |
| B | FilmSlam students know the importance of movie snacks. |
| C | Director Mike Berry and screenwriter Logan Dior Williams engaged in a Q&A following the screening of their film BLANKET BLESSINGS. |
| D | That post-FilmSlam screening happiness is strong with this group. |
| E | FilmSlam students are all smiles as they head into the theaters. |
FilmSlam ® welcomed a record-breaking 11,087 students from 127 schools over the course of seven weekday mornings. Filmmakers and featured subjects were on-hand to speak with students following all FilmSlam ® screenings.
CIFF43 expanded its footprint into two arts districts: **CIFF West in the Gordon Square Arts District and CIFF East in University Circle**. At CIFF West attendees were treated to musical performances—like Opus 216—while they waited for their film to begin. At CIFF East attendees were able to enjoy exhibits between films at the Cleveland Museum of Art and Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

**C**

Our dream team of **971 volunteers donated 12,729 hours** to ensure the success of CIFF43.

**D**

**Perspectives**, the Festival’s immersive storytelling exhibition, celebrated its fourth year at CIFF43 with virtual reality, interactive media projects, and a handful of other platforms for patrons to experience.

**E**

Grace Sullivan and the **CIFF43 Green Team** lead the charge in diverting 9,192.5 pounds of waste from landfills during the Festival.
The mission of the Cleveland International Film Festival is to promote artistically and culturally significant film arts through education and exhibition to enrich the life of the community.
SAVE THE DATES
MARCH 25–APRIL 5, 2020
TOWER CITY CINEMAS

Donate today to help bring the newest and best independent films to Cleveland for CIFF44!
clevelandfilm.org/donate

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Instagram: CleFilmFest
LinkedIn: ClevelandFilm
YouTube: ClevelandFilmFest