During this time when we are all striving to find new ways to connect, while also doing our part to keep ourselves and one another healthy and safe, the Cleveland International Film Festival is happy to announce CIFF44 has been reinvented. We have been able to create a space for our Film Festival Community to reunite to support and celebrate independent film and filmmakers.

—CIFF Board of Directors and Staff

“Streaming was easy and enjoyable for a family night-in experience.”
—CIFF44 Streams Audience Survey Participant

“Thank you so much for managing to do this on such short notice. It was a welcome and meaningful distraction to COVID-19 and felt like we gained back something that had been canceled!”
—CIFF44 Streams Audience Survey Participant

The program showcased more than 325 CIFF44 feature and short films.

JURIED AWARD WINNERS

George Gund III Memorial Central and Eastern European Competition: BEANOPELE
Directed by Kandrine Balagov
RUSSIA • 2019

Nesnadny + Schwartz Portrait Documentary Competition: MARTHA: A PICTURE STORY
Directed by Selina Miles
AUSTRALIA, USA, GERMANY, BRAZIL • 2019

New Direction Competition: LINA FROM LIMA
Directed by María Paz González
CHILE, ARGENTINA, PERU • 2019

The Cleveland International Film Festival's invaluable connections to film, filmmakers, and the community remain unbroken, as well as deepened, because of CIFF44 Streams.”
—Marcie Goodman, CIFF Executive Director

2020 TIMELINE

- Original dates (cancelled) March 25—April 5, 2020
- CIFF44 Streams dates: April 15—28, 2020
- Tagline: SEE BEYOND

MARCH 11
Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, CIFF44 was cancelled by Mayor Frank Jackson.

MARCH 25
On what would have been Opening Night of the 44th Cleveland International Film Festival, CIFF Reinvented was unveiled. The announcement included: the CIFF44 trailer release; the online sale of CIFF44 collectors’ items merchandise; the promotion of the virtual Challenge Match; the first in a series of new CIFF Speaks podcasts; access to CIFF Alums Streams, and news of CIFF44 Streams launching in April.

APRIL 15
CIFF44 Streams was launched.

APRIL 28
CIFF44 Streams wrapped up and juried feature and short film awards were announced.

MAY 4
FilmSlam Streams kicked-off. The program consisted of 100 short films available to 165+ teachers to share with their students for online viewing experiences. Study Guides accompanied many of the films to help improve the students’ media literacy and encourage them to think critically about the messages in the films.

CIFF44 STREAMS STATISTICS

42,000 STREAMS

BY ZIP CODE

Top Ten Zip Codes That Participated in CIFF44 Streams

THE PROGRAM SHOWCASED MORE THAN 325 CIFF44 FEATURE AND SHORT FILMS.