

DO FILM DIFF

DIFF
D A L L A S

2026 - 2027
PARTNERSHIPS

DO FILM DIFF



**DIFF DALLAS IS COMMITTED TO
PROVIDING ACCESSIBLE, INCLUSIVE, IMMERSIVE, EDUCATIONAL, AND ENTERTAINING FILM
EXPERIENCES FOR ALL. IT IS THROUGH CURATION OF THE BROADEST RANGE OF EXPRESSION
THROUGH FILM THAT WE FOSTER HUMAN CONNECTION AND GREATER APPRECIATION
FOR OUR COMMON HUMANITY AND OUR RICH DIVERSITY.**

DIFF Dallas is widely recognized as the leading 501(c)(3) nonprofit film organization in North Texas.

As presenters of the OSCAR® Qualifying Dallas International Film Festival annually in the spring and the DIFF SHORTS Film Festival annually in the fall, along with a robust year-round schedule of film-focused programs and events, DIFF Dallas offers its partners a wide variety of unique opportunities for marketing exposure and community engagement.

A partnership with DIFF Dallas will provide you and your stakeholders an experience unlike any other.

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WHO WE ARE

DIFF was established as Dallas Film Society, Inc., in 2006 with the foundational idea that film is art and its artists are the filmmakers. Advertising legend Liener Temerlin and filmmaker Michael Cain, co-founders, believed that “film should be placed on the same pedestal as all of the other arts”, and that both the art of film and the art of filmmakers needed to be elevated and celebrated.

Twenty years later, DIFF’s original mission statement is as relevant as it was at the organization’s founding: to **celebrate films** and their impact on society, to **honor filmmakers** and recognize their achievements and contributions in enhancing the creative community, to **provide educational programs** to students to develop better understanding of the role of film in today’s world, and to **promote the City of Dallas** and its commitment to the art of filmmaking.

We are passionate about building the film community, which we do through year-round programs and events that provide our partners myriad ways to integrate into the Dallas film scene.

These opportunities include an educational screening and talk series for area high school and college students with industry professionals, themed film series in collaboration with nonprofit community partners, monthly mixers, an Indigenous Film series, free advance screenings of new studio films, film premieres, classic film anniversary celebrations, an annual OSCARS® Night Watch Party, the annual Dallas International Film Festival, the annual DIFF SHORTS Film Festival, and more.

To partner with DIFF is to become a true part of our community, and we welcome the chance to explore with you all the ways to bring that vision to life.



OUR REACH

31,000

FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

<https://www.facebook.com/WeAreDIFFDallas> | <https://www.facebook.com/WeAreDallasFilm>

12.4K+

INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

<https://www.instagram.com/wearediffdallas/>

1.41 MILLION

ORGANIC CONTENT VIEWS

Dallas International Film Festival Coverage Report, 04.01 - 05.10.2026

16,465

E-NEWSLETTER CIRCULATION

49

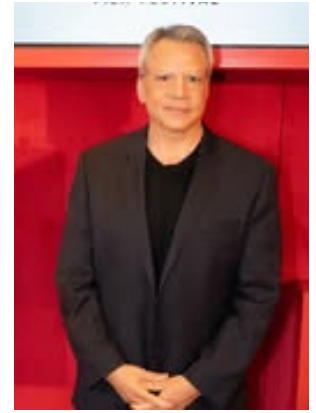
COMMUNITY PARTNER RELATIONSHIPS

<https://diffdallas.org/community-partners>

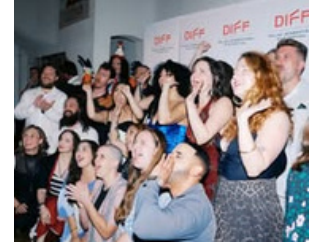
700

MEDIA PLACEMENTS

Dallas International Film Festival Media Coverage Report, 01.01 - 05.15.2026



DIFF 2026 BY-THE-NUMBERS



11,000 ATTENDEES

3,000 FILM AND SCREENPLAY SUBMISSIONS

129 SCREENINGS + **11** INDUSTRY PANELS

300+ FILMMAKERS, SCREENWRITERS, CAST, CREW

21 NORTH TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL FILMS

8 NIGHTLY RED CARPETS

3 SCREENING AND PANEL VENUES

6 SPECIAL EVENT VENUES

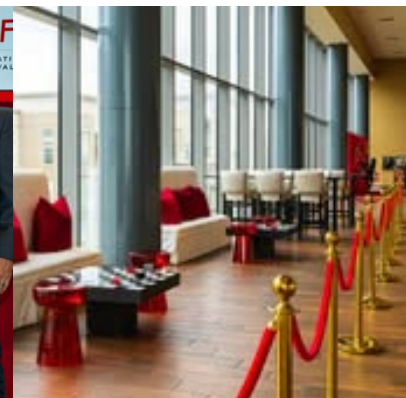
4 SCREENPLAY LIVE TABLE READS

1,321 PASS HOLDERS

113 CREDENTIALLED MEDIA MEMBERS

20+ EVENTS, PARTIES, ACTIVATIONS

150+ TEAM MEMBERS



PARTNERSHIP DELIVERABLES

DIFF Dallas partnerships provide opportunities for year-round engagement and visibility with our audience, including the following and more!

ADVERTISING

- 30-second pre-film commercial spots
- Pre-film logo slides
- Brand inclusion in festival e-news and monthly e-newsletters
- Logo slide inclusion in sizzle reel(s)
- Brand inclusion in press releases
- Logo inclusion on promotional materials
- Ad inclusion in official digital festival Program Guide
- Brand inclusion on DIFF Dallas website

ACTIVATION

- Sponsorship of a special event or film series
- Private screenings
- Naming of a festival award
- On-site activation space
- Panel discussion participation
- Executive speaking opportunities
- On-site branded activation space
- On-site sampling at festival venues or events
- Literature distribution at festival venues

ACCESS

- All-access passes
- Discounts on group tickets
- Invitations to exclusive events with special guests
- Special access to advance screenings
- Festival film and panel tickets
- Opening Night, Closing Night, and Chairman's Reception tickets
- VIP event access

Partnership benefits are subject to DIFF Dallas approval and are based on level of support. Let us customize a partnership plan that's perfect for you!



YEAR-ROUND BRAND OPPORTUNITIES

With our captivating calendar of programs and events throughout the year, DIFF Dallas offers an endless array of opportunities to put your brand or product in the spotlight.

Join such global brands as **AT&T**, **Harwood International**, **Panavision**, **Virgin Hotels Dallas**, and **W Dallas Hotel** – to name a few DIFF Dallas partners – in showcasing your company or cause with our “never bored, never boring” community.

Ready to take your place on the DIFF Red Carpet?

Get in touch to explore how you can gain access to and be a part of the **creative, glamorous, entertaining** world of film through a partnership with DIFF Dallas.

We'll see you at the movies!



DALLAS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The signature program of DIFF Dallas is the **Dallas International Film Festival**, which recently celebrated its 20th edition, April 23 - 30, 2026.

A landmark achievement for the organization occurred in 2024 when the Dallas International Film Festival was named as an **OSCAR® Qualifying Festival** by the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences**. The Dallas International Film Festival is one of only 59 film festivals in the United States and only 181 film festivals worldwide to earn this designation.

The **2027 Dallas International Film Festival** will mark the 21st year for the program. Set for **Thursday, April 22, to Thursday, April 29, 2027**, the festival will include approximately 120 films submitted by filmmakers from Dallas to more than 125 countries worldwide.

DIFF 2027 will be a global adventure that showcases premiere feature film screenings, nightly red carpets, eye-opening documentaries, intriguing short films, filmmaker and film industry panels at the DIFF Industry Conference, Q&As with diverse filmmakers following their screenings, "table reads" of winning screenplays by professional actors, the DIFF Dallas Honors Luncheon, a Filmmaker Luncheon, a Filmmaker Awards Presentation ceremony, daily Filmmaker Receptions sponsored by industry organizations, creative activations and popup "surprise-and-delight" experiences, an enhanced filmmaker hospitality program to welcome visiting filmmakers to the City of Dallas, an Opening Night Party for filmmakers and supporters, a Closing Night Party, and other dedicated gathering spaces and events where filmmakers, screenwriters, film industry leaders, celebrities, sponsors, volunteers, our nonprofit community partners, and our audience can all come together to enjoy and discuss film.

Since its founding, the Dallas International Film Festival has screened **more than 2,500** widely diverse new films from 60 countries, provided **more than \$1.1 million** in awards and hosted **more than 100,000** filmgoers and filmmakers.

WELCOME

INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026

DIFF + DALLAS
DALLAS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL FILM COMMISSION



DIFF INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

The inaugural **DIFF Industry Conference** in 2026 had an impressive start, prompting this *IndieWire* headline: **"Can Dallas' Film Festival Industry Conference Do for Texas What Toronto Does for Canada?"** *The inaugural DIFF Industry gathering will feature Hollywood heavyweight (and DFW resident) Michael De Luca as its first keynote speaker.* See the lineup of panels below, and read the *IndieWire* piece [HERE](#).

KEYNOTE



MICHAEL DE LUCA
Co-Chair and CEO, Warner Bros. Motion Picture Group.
In Conversation at DIFF
Friday, April 24
at Cinépolis Luxury Cinemas Victory Park
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

LOCATIONS PANEL




RYAN SCHAEZTLE
LMGI Board Member
KATIE SCHUCK
Dallas Film Commissioner
Friday, April 24
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

AFS GRANTS PANEL



ELIZABETH LODGE STEPP
Senior Director, Texas Lights, Austin Film Society
Friday, April 24
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

DIRECT EXHIBITOR DISTRIBUTION FROM THE INSIDE



JACK GRIMES
Sr. Director, Alternative Business Development, Regal Cinemas
JEFF ANNONSON
Co-Founder & President, Legion M
FRANK RASH
President, Theatre Booking Services
Executive Director, Independent Cinema Alliance
BRANDON JONES
President, FilmFrog
Saturday, April 25
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

THE POWER OF UNSCRIPTED STORIES



SARAH HARRIS
Director of Awards, Non-Fiction Programming for HBO Max
KATIE CAMOSY
Documentarian
Saturday, April 25
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

FIRESIDE CHAT



GREG KWEDAR
Director and Co-Writer, *Sing Sing*
Executive Producer and Co-Writer, *Train Dreams*
Saturday, April 25
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

MANAGEMENT & AGENCY



LINDA MCALISTER
Owner, Linda McAlister Talent
GIOVANNIE CRUZ
Actress, Producer
DOUG MANKOFF
CEO, Echo Lake Entertainment
Saturday, April 25
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

BUILDING AN IRON LUNG: A POST DISCUSSION



WES MEYERS
VFX Supervisor, *Iron Lung*
Founder, Burning Tractor
Saturday, April 25
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

FINDING THE MONEY



LINDSEY BARNES
Founder and Executive Producer, 941 Productions
JONATHAN BROWNLEE
Partner, Torfoot Entertainment
BRANDON DAVIS
COO, Project 10 Productions
Saturday, April 25
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

SCREEN DALLAS DOC FEATURES HIGHLIGHT



DAVID ALVARADO
Director, Producer, Cinematographer
Sunday, April 26
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS

WRITERS ROOM



AMY TALKINGTON
Little Fires Everywhere, Valley Girl
TY FREER
Sunny Nights
JUSTICE HARDY
True Lies
Sunday, April 26
at Virgin Hotel Dallas
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2026
DIFF + DALLAS



DIFF DALLAS HONORS LUNCHEON

Save the date for the **2027 DIFF Dallas Honors Luncheon** on **Friday, April 23, 2027**.

The luncheon continues the organization's longstanding tradition of celebrating filmmakers and industry leaders. Most recently, actor, director, and writer, **Lou Diamond Phillips**, accepted the 2026 DIFF Dallas Star Award at a luncheon co-chaired by community leaders **Tanya Foster** and **Lynn McBee**.

Former recipients of the Star Award include: Lauren Bacall, Alan and Marilyn Bergman, Brad Bird, L.M. Kit Carson (posthumous), Blythe Danner, Frank Darabont, Marvin Hamlisch, John Lee Hancock, Helen Hunt, Glen Keane, Ed Lachman, John Landis, Laura Linney, David Lynch, Bill Paxton (posthumous), Gregory Peck (posthumous), Wally Pfister, Eric Pleskow, Sidney Pollack, Bernie Pollack, Sarah Polley, Mickey Rooney, Gabourey Sidibe, Charlize Theron, Jack Valenti, and Todd Wagner.

2027 honorees to be announced.





DIFF SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL

In 2024, DIFF launched the annual **DIFF SHORTS Film Festival**, a celebration of the art of short-form storytelling.

DIFF SHORTS is an invitation to join us as we go beyond screenings to foster a dynamic connection between filmmakers, audiences, and the vibrant Dallas arts community.

We believe that film should be placed on the same pedestal as all of the other arts, and that applies equally to short films. Our intention with the DIFF SHORTS Film Festival is to elevate the short film and to celebrate shorts filmmakers.

Filmmakers attending DIFF SHORTS participate in audience Q&As and panel discussions, and attend networking events with their peers. We also actively collaborate with Dallas-area high schools and universities, connecting filmmakers with the next generation of storytellers.

The **third annual DIFF SHORTS Film Festival** is set for **October 16 - 18, 2026**.

We'd love to discuss ways for you to engage with this dynamic and exciting new festival.



INSIDE FILM SCREENING AND TALK SERIES

DIFF Dallas INSIDE FILM Is an educational screening and talk series established in January 2023 by DIFF Dallas | Dallas International Film Festival.

Inspired by programs of AFI Conservatory, the series includes screenings of the guest filmmakers' works, followed by Q&As in which students have the opportunity for face-to-face interaction with diverse film industry insiders.

Admission is complimentary and is open to students, parents, instructors, and members of the film industry and the general public.

Attendees represent students from numerous North Texas school districts and university campuses, as well as adults from a wide range of film industry disciplines. The guest speakers have included film directors, writers, producers, actors, and film industry executives from Dallas, across Texas, and beyond.

Beginning in late 2025, DIFF Dallas began a partnership with **AT&T** and **Tribeca** to screen the winning films of their collaborative program, **AT&T Untold Stories**, and present Q&As with the winning filmmakers.



MONTHLY MIXERS

Launched in November 2023, the **DIFF Dallas Monthly Mixers** continue to build our film community through social gatherings held at the Commons Club at Virgin Hotels Dallas and other locations around Dallas.

As we like to say, “No program, no agenda -- just a time to mingle with fellow film enthusiasts and the DIFF Dallas community for conversation, camaraderie, and connections.”

Mixers are held on the **second Wednesday of each month** from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Want to have exposure with our 100+ attendees each month? Let's chat!



INDIGENOUS FILM SERIES

The **Indigenous Film Series** was established in partnership with the **Inter-Tribal Council of AT&T Employees (ICAE)**, a 501(c)3 nonprofit Native American employee group created and operated by Native and Indigenous AT&T employees.

The series continues today in collaboration with organizations such as MMIW TX Rematriate and IndigiTech, highlighting Indigenous voices and experiences as told through the richness of films made by, for, and about Native and Indigenous peoples. Screenings are followed by discussions to advance meaningful dialogue, learning, and inclusive relationship-building with all members of our community. Programs are offered to the public free of charge.

Previous programs have included:

KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON Community Screening

Screening of **PREY** with special guest, producer **Jhane Myers**

“Movies on the Lawn” Screening of **TE ATA** at AT&T Discovery District

Screening of the **Sundance Institute Indigenous Film Tour** in the AT&T Theater at AT&T Discovery District



OSCARS® NIGHT WATCH PARTY

A new annual event, the **OSCARS® NIGHT Watch Party** was launched in 2025.

The annual **OSCARS® NIGHT Watch Party** features:

- A Live Broadcast of The Academy Awards®
- A Keepsake OSCARS® NIGHT Watch Party Badge
- An Official OSCARS® Play Along Awards Ballot
- Drawings for Passes to the Dallas International Film Festival, the DIFF Shorts Film Festival, and other unique DIFF events
- Film Trivia with Prizes during commercial breaks
- Red Carpet Photo Opportunities

The tradition continues in 2027! The 99th Academy Awards will take place on **Sunday, March 14, 2027.**

Join us for an award-winning evening!



YEAR-ROUND SCREENING SERIES

“MOVIES WITH THE MEADOWS”

Each fall, the Meadows Museum and DIFF Dallas collaborate to present outstanding works by Spain’s most celebrated and prolific film directors. This year, we celebrate Fernando Fernan Gomez (1921-2007), considered one of the greatest figures of Spanish cinema, with screenings in September, October, and December of three of the best-known films he directed.

“SPANISH CINEMA NOW + IN DALLAS”

Each summer, Spanish Cinema Now + in Dallas offers a curated selection of contemporary Spanish films, celebrating the diversity of voices and cinematic styles shaping Spain’s film industry today. The program features works by both acclaimed directors and rising talents from the international festival circuit. Following its spring debut in Washington, D.C., the series travels to Texas, hosted by the Meadows Museum through a collaborative partnership with the Embassy of Spain and DIFF Dallas. The series is held at the Meadows Museum with screenings in May, June, and July.

ADVANCE STUDIO SCREENINGS

DIFF Dallas supports Dallas area movie theaters through year-round collaborations with film studios and distribution companies on advance screenings of soon-to-be-released feature films. Advance screenings are offered to members of the DIFF Dallas community and the general public free of charge.

This program received acclaim from the *Dallas Observer* in the article, “How DIFF’s Screening Series Could Be Saving Indie Cinema”, which stated: “DIFF plays an important role in enriching North Texas’ larger film culture, one of the most robust in the South.”

DIFF DALLAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DIFF Dallas is led by a committed Board of Directors with members who provide financial support and pro bono services vital to the organization's fiscal and operational success, including legal counsel, accounting and tax services, marketing, office space, professional consulting, and so much more. We are grateful to our Board members for their dedication to our nonprofit mission and to the art of film.



**MICHAEL
MAYBERRY
BOARD CHAIR**



**J. DAMANY
DANIEL
BOARD VICE CHAIR**



**ADAM
HILKEMANN
SECRETARY**



**MARY BELL
HATCHER
TREASURER**



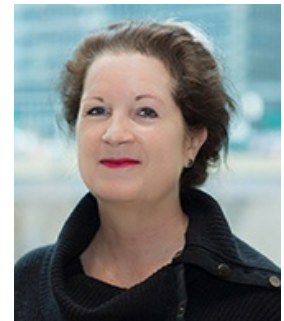
TOM CAWTHRA



**MARK DENESUK
PAST
BOARD CHAIR**



**SCOTT EUSTACE
IMMEDIATE PAST
BOARD CHAIR**



LISA GALLERANO



BRANDON JONES



LYNN LEWIS



RACHEL SALINAS



BETH WILBINS

DIFF DALLAS LEADERSHIP



BETH WILBINS
CEO

Named in September 2022 as CEO of Dallas Film Society, Inc. | DIFF Dallas International Film Festival, Wilbins has been affiliated with the organization since its founding as a nonprofit in 2006.

Under her leadership, the organization's signature event, the Dallas International Film Festival, achieved a long-standing goal when the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences named DIFF in October 2024 as an Oscar® Qualifying Festival – one of only 59 film festivals in the U.S. and only 181 film festivals worldwide to earn the designation.

Wilbins has a multifaceted portfolio that includes business and nonprofit management, executive consulting, marketing communications, production, and public relations.

She is also former editor-in-chief of *D Magazine* and former publisher and editor-in-chief of *Philanthropy World* magazine.



JAMES FAUST
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Faust began his career with Dallas Film Society, Inc. | DIFF Dallas International Film Festival as Senior Programmer at the inception of the festival in 2006, when it was launched as AFI Dallas International Film Festival.

He served in programming positions prior to joining Dallas Film Society with the Asian Film Festival of Dallas, The Austin Film Festival, and Texas Black Film Festival.

In addition to his leadership role as Artistic Director, Faust serves on juries and panels for film festivals and film organizations across the world speaking about film festival management, programming, and marketing.

Faust received Telecommunication and Theatre degrees at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, and earned a degree in Cinema Studies at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

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CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS CONTACT

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