

SEPT 26-28 2024

WELCOME TO THE FESTIVAL

The El Paso Film Festival is celebrating its 7th anniversary and is among the largest showcases of independently produced short and feature films in west Texas. Our foundational elements serve to inspire, and create economic opportunity for the El Paso community.

VISION

To lead the new faces of filmmaking to their highest potential by becoming an Oscar-qualifying film festival.

MISSION

To support and empower the growing community of filmmakers in our bi-national, tri-state region by building a professional foundation of storytellers and artists from which to learn, network and collaborate.

GOAL

To make El Paso, Texas a destination for independent filmmakers

EPFF is among the few festivals in the nation that brings the film's directors to the audience they entertain. In our short history, we have attracted a diverse audience of film aficionados, passionate story tellers and filmmaking executives. We love film. So, we support them with resources that go beyond viewing space and applause.

With the philanthropic support of the Paso Del Norte Community Foundation, EPFF and its sponsors award up to \$5,000 in cash prizes to independent filmmakers. We're proud to be one of the few independent film festivals in the country to award the best films with cash prizes.

EPFF elevates the creative voice and vision of all filmmakers as they make their path towards the film and television industry by connecting them with seasoned professionals for mentorship and collaborative opportunities. Our efforts are creating a destination event for the region that can stimulate the economy as well as the arts.

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- 50 Texas Shorts
- 53 Student Shorts
- 58 Directors

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EPFF SPECIAL GUESTS

EPFF SPECIAL GUESTS



ABE BUENO-JALLAD
Actor

Abe is a mixed race American actor born in El Paso, Texas, and raised through out Mexico and much of the American southwest. Raised speaking Spanish, English and some Arabic. Before receiving his MFA in acting from the USC School of Dramatic Arts in Los Angeles, he was in the mental health field, working on a psychiatric research grant in New Mexico.



ALEJANDRO J. FLORES
Producer, Director & Editor

Alejandro J Flores is a Texican filmmaker living between Mexico City and Eagle Pass. He is interested in exploring the intersections of queer and Fronterizo identity, its evolution, and how it can empower others.



CRAIG CHARTIERDirector of Photography | Cooke Optics

Craig began his career at Gear Rental (Austin, Texas) where he spent 18 years, managing day-to-day operations and leaving as Vice President of Production Services. He also held the role of general operations manager at ARRI Worldwide Rental and worked with Bold Distribution as business development and marketing coordinator.



ROBIE FLORES
Producer, Director & Editor

Robie Flores is an independent filmmaker and video editor based in New Orleans and Eagle Pass, Texas, drawn to telling stories that explore the nuances of her fronterizo and Mexican American communities.



ELLAR COLTRANEEllar Coltrane

Ellar Coltrane is an Actor who has starred in films such as "The Circle", "The Last Movie Star", "Blood Money", and "The Man Who Killed Hitler Then the Bigfoot". Coltrane has proven themselves to be a prolific performer acting alongside actors such as Ethan Hawke, Patricia Arquette, Emma Watson, John Cusack, and Sam Elliot, among many others.



KEVIN FORDDocumentary Filmmaker

Kevin Ford is a filmmaker whose directorial work includes THE BOMB which premiered at the 2016 Tribeca Film Festival, and was also featured at the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize Ceremonies. Ford also co-produced, shot and edited the documentary AMERICAN CHAOS distributed theatrically by Sony Pictures Classics.



MICHAEL DE LA O
Cinematographer & Producer

Michael De La O is a cinematographer and chief lighting technician (gaffer). He has worked on various productions of all fashions and scales in various roles under camera departments and support. He is also the co-host of the of the TowerCast Podcast and WatchTower Film Podcast, respectively.



KATIE GARIBALDI Music Supervisor

Katie Garibaldi is a seasoned music supervisor with a strong track record in shaping the musical direction of films. She worked with Universal Music and Sony Music on Paramount's Depravity, and for her most recent independent feature, she handled over 24 music licenses in a single film, including deals with Warner Chappell, Kobalt, Universal, and Sony Music among other publishers.



CARLOS M. DE LA TORRE Writer & Director

Carlos M. De La Torre is a Writer, Director, and Executive Producer. He is also the Co-Founder, and Chairman of Tower Productions, formed in 2016. He graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso in 2018 with a Double Bachelor's Degree in Digital Media Production and History.



MATTHEW GAY Camera Operator

Matthew Gay is a camera operator who is best known for his work on the hit show "The Curse" and feature films "Squealer" and "Hangman".

EPFF SPECIAL GUESTS

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ROBERT HOLGUIN Filmmaker & Journalist

Robert Holguin started his career as as a reporter for the Associated Press in Seattle, where he covered everything from pro sports to technology. He wrote dozens of articles about the burgeoning music scene in the 1990s that appeared in newspapers across the globe.



SARAH NEELY Actor/Vocalist/Educator

Sarah Neely is an instructor of voice and director of the Lyric Theatre at New Mexico State University. A native of El Paso, Neely received her Bachelor of Music from West Texas A & M in Canyon, TX, and her Master of Music in Voice Performance and Pedagogy from The University of Texas at San Antonio in 2018, where she studied applied voice with Diana Allan and pedagogy with John Nix.



ROBERT IZQUIERDO Commercial Director

Robert Izquierdo's interest in movies started at the age of ten, making home movies with friends and family. This interest grew over the years, leading him to attend the University of Sacred Heart in Puerto Rico, where he earned a B.A. degree in film, TV production, and photography. Robert directed and produced a few student films and had the opportunity to be a production intern in the film "Under Suspicion."



JULIAN NUNEZ Producer

Julian Nunez is an Albuquerque, NM-based writer, producer, and marketing specialist, celebrated for his work exploring Latino culture and experiences. His notable projects include the award-winning film De la Luz and the acclaimed series La Vida Buena, which centers on pandemic-affected restaurants. Julian recently received the Best Film award for Entre Fronteras at the 2023 Mexican American Film & TV Awards in Los Angeles.



CHRIS MESSINEO
Director

As the owner and director of NJ Film School, Chris Messineo has taught the craft of independent filmmaking to hundreds of kids, teens, and adults. Chris Messineo is an award-winning writer and director. As the owner and director of NJ Film School, he has taught the craft of independent filmmaking to hundreds of kids, teens, and adults.



ZACH PASSERODirector, Editor, & Animator

Zach Passero is an editor, director, and animator best known for his work on Lucky McKee's films, like the notorious 2011 Sundance hit *The Woman* and the soon to be released *Old Man*; as well as Sam Elliot cult hit *The Man Who Killed Hitler And Then The Bigfoot*.



JOSEPH METCALFE
Actor & Composer

Joseph Metcalfe was born and raised in Southern England and, having taught himself the piano from the age of 4, began composing music in his early childhood. While in his teens he wrote several award-winning musicals for the stage, composed the music and lyrics for the full length musical of George Orwell's, "Animal Farm," wrote several commercial jingles and composed & recorded his first TV theme tune (for ITV Telethon) at Abbey Road Studios, London.



WALTER PEREZ Actor

Walter Perez, a Mexican-American actor with over 23 years of experience in the industry, originally from Los Angeles, now calls El Paso his home. Over the years, he's been fortunate to take on a variety of roles, including his recent work as Richard Martinez/Leaper X in NBC's Quantum Leap and as lawyer Jorge Perez in the Paramount+ series Fatal Attraction. In addition to acting, Walter has also helped produce and package a handful of films in which he starred.



JOHNNY MURILLO Producer/Writer/Founder

Johnny Murillo is a producer, educator, and founder of Chicano Hollywood. Chicano Hollywood.tv is an advocacy organization and streaming service based out of Los Angeles California, that brings their own narratives of the barrio and Chicano culture through their Chicano Hollywood App, ROKU, Amazonfire TV, AmazonTV, and through their website, Chicanohollywood.com.



ENRIQUE PONCEFilm & Video Game Composer

Enrique is an award-winning composer whose music has been featured in numerous film and video game projects both in the United States and abroad. Enrique holds a Master of Music Degree in Scoring for Film, Television, and Video Games from the Berklee College of Music in Valencia, Spain.

EPFF SPECIAL GUESTS

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JENI ROBINS Comedian & Actress

Jeni Robins is an actress, comedian, and filmmaker. Native to El Paso, she is currently living in Los Angeles, CA. As a filmmaker, Jeni adorns many hats including director, writer, and producer. As an actress, she is a member of Screen Actors Guild and has appeared on TruTV, HBO, Hulu, Netflix, and others. Jeni studies with the Upright Citizens Brigade, Lesly Kahn, and is a scholarship recipient at The Groundlings.



SAM SOKOLOW

Executive Producer/Educator

Sam Sokolow is a two-time Emmy Award-nominated television and film producer and Director of Certification at Stage 32. Sam produced GENIUS, a scripted series for National Geographic Network and Disney+ which was developed from book to series. The first season of GENIUS depicted the life of Albert Einstein with Geoffrey Rush starring as Einstein and Ron Howard directing the pilot.



RYAN ROX Writer & Director

Ryan Rox is a Non-Binary Trans Femme, Latine Filmmaker and Actor, based in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Rox has written and directed several short films including their latest HIDDEN FLORA. Rox's work has been supported by the Femme Frontera Filmmaker program with mentorship from Aitch Alberto. and Film Fatales with mentorship from Olivia Peace.



THE ACTION BOYZ
Comedians

The Action Boyz (Jon Gabrus, Ben Rodgers, and Ryan Stanger) breakdown/discuss/ruin all of your favorite action movies. What happens when you grow up on a steady diet of Stallone, Schwarzenegger, Van Damme, Seagal, and Creatine? Find out on The Action Boyz!



TYLER RUSSELL Writer, Director, Producer

Tyler is a Fort Worth based filmmaker who got his start in the camera department on feature films and reality tv. Tyler made his directorial debut with "Here Comes Rusty" that he cowrote. He then went on to direct several award winning shorts including "Shilo" and "Texas Cotton".



MOLLY VENDETTUOLI
Producer

Molly Vendettuoli is a Pacific Northwest based filmmaker who got her start working as a professional hair and makeup artist. The Way We Speak is her feature length debut in the producer role. Her first film role was as makeup department head on the feature film In You We Trust in 2019.



RICHARD DANE SCOTT Writer Producer & Actor

Richard Dane Scott is an Asian-American screenwriter known for the family films Sparkle: A Unicorn Tale (2023) and A Tooth Fairy Tale (2024). He was a staff writer on the TV series 5th Ward that aired for two seasons and has been a 3-time Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Nicholl's Fellowship Finalist.



ALANA WRIGHT

Producer

Originally from Louisiana, Alana graduated with a BFA in Film Production from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. She got her start as a Production Assistant on feature films before moving to Los Angeles where she worked at CAA in the Motion Picture Literary department.



CARRIE SILVA

Writer

Carrie Silva is an El Paso native who earned her Bachelors at the University of Texas at Austin in 2022. After graduation she wrote the screenplay, The Best Dive in the 9-1-5, which won first place at the Plaza Classic Film Festival in 2023. Carrie Silva is an El Paso native who earned her Bachelors at the University of Texas at Austin in 2022.



FRANCIS YZAGUIRRE Producer | 1st Asst. Director

Francis Yzaguirre was born and grew up in El Paso, Texas. From a young age she has been involved in the arts including dancing with Rosa Guerrero's Ballet Folklorico and Viva! El Paso. This helped her gain a deep understanding and appreciation of her Mexican-American and Indigenous culture, but most importantly a love and pride for the borderland.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26



	Philanthropy Theatre 10:30-12:30
10:30 AM	
11:30 AM	The Good, The Bad, & The Indie
12:30 PM	1:00-2:30
1:30 PM	Student Shorts
2:30 PM	(7.70.4.70
3:30 PM	3:30-4:30 On the Edge of Freedom
4:30 PM	5:00-7:00
5:30 PM	VIP & Filmmaker Party @ Sky Garden
6:30 PM	
7:30 PM	7:30-9:00
8:30 PM	The Way We Speak
9:30 PM	



	FREE El Paso Museum of Art
10 AM	
11 AM	11:00-12:30
12 PM	Personal Courage
1PM	1:00-2:30
	The In Between
2 PM	3:00-4:30
3 PM	TransMexico
4 PM	
	Philanthropy Theatre
	10:00-11:45
10 AM	
11 AM	Texas Shorts
12 PM	12:30-2:30
1PM	
	Narrative Shorts
2 PM	3:00-5:00
3 PM	
4 PM	Narrative Shorts
5 PM	5:15-7:00
6 PM	Scrap
7 PM	7:30-9:00
8 PM	Breakup Season
9 PM	
	9:45-11:30
10 PM	The Strange Dark
11 PM	
12 PM	
	FREE The Plaza Theatre
10 AM	
12 PM	11:00-12:00 Creating Ways Chicano Hollywood TV
IZ FII	12:30-1:30 Creating Ways The Actor's Journey
2 PM	1:30–2:30 Creating Ways Short Films as a Caling Card 3:00–4:00 Creating Ways Using Stage 32 to Master your Craft
4 PM	4:00-5:00 Creating Ways Creating with Light & Lens

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

	FREE El Paso Museum of Art
10 AM	10:30-12:00
11 AM	The Strike
12 PM	12:30-2:15
1PM	Borderland: The Line Within
2 PM	
	3:00-4:30
3 PM	All We Carry
4 PM	
	Philanthropy Theatre
10 AM	10:30-12:00
11 AM	Animated Shorts
12 PM	12:30-2:00
	Guadalupe
1 PM	
2 PM	7700 7770
3 PM	3:00-3:30 So, Who Was It This Time?
4 PM	Everything is Stolen
5 PM	5:30-7:00
6 PM	Guadalupe
7 PM	7:30-9:15
	Things Will Be Different
8 PM	
9 PM	9:45-11:45
10 PM	Late Night Shorts
11 PM	
	FREE Plaza Theater Backstage
10 AM	10:00-11:00 Creating Ways Producing Television Locally
11 AM	11:00-12:00 Creating Ways Music in Film
12 PM	
1 PM	12:30-1:30 Creating Ways Features That Sell
2 PM	1:30-2:30 Creating Ways Producing and Directing a Low-Budget Short Film
3 PM	3:00-4:00 Creating Ways Writing Outside Hollywood
4 PM	4:00-5:00 Creating Ways Case Study - Texas Cotton
5 PM	

VIP & FILMMAKER PARTY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

FILMMAKER & VIP PARTY*

- Sky Garden
 Philanthropy Theatre
 125 Pioneer Plaza El Paso, TX 79901

Come join us for our opening night VIP and Filmmaker evening reception where you'll get to meet the filmmakers of El Paso Film Festival at the beautiful Alcantar Sky Garden. Enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres on us.

THE ACTIONS BOYZ

- (§ 9:30 pm 11 pm
- The Reagan
 313 E Mills Ave, El Paso, TX 79901

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

FILMMAKER & VIP PARTY*

- (\$5:00 PM 7:00 PM
- El Paso Museum of Art One Arts Festival Plaza El Paso, TX 79901

Come join us for our 2nd VIP and Filmmaker evening reception where you'll get to meet the filmmakers of El Paso Film Festival at the El Paso Museum of Art. Enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres on us.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

FILMMAKER & VIP PARTY*

- (\$5:00 PM 7:00 PM
- OEI Paso Museum of Art

Come join us for our closing night VIP and Filmmaker evening reception where you'll get to meet the filmmakers of El Paso Film Festival at the El Paso Museum of Art. Enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres on us.

^{*}VIP or Filmmaker passes are required for entry to the parties







Don't miss our specials on Passes and Badges next year, keep in touch and sign up for our newsletter and follow us on social media!

SCAN BARCODE FOR OUR NEWSLETTER AND SOCIALS.











FEATURE FILMS

DOCUMENTARY & NARRATIVE



ALL WE CARRY

Saturday, September 28 | 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art

83 min | Documentary Feature

Director: Cady Voge

Synopsis

Mirna and Magdiel are an ordinary family living under extraordinary circumstances. After fleeing violence in Honduras, joining the infamous migrant caravan, and enduring months in a US detention center, they are sponsored by a synagogue in Seattle, who lend them an empty beachfront mansion while they wait for their asylum verdict.



BORDERLAND: THE LINE WITHIN

Saturday, September 28 | 12:30 PM - 2:15 PM

El Paso Museum of Art

110 min | Documentary Feature

Director: Pamela Yates

Synopsis

The United States border is not just a geographic location. The border is everywhere. It lies within all undocumented immigrants with the threat that at any moment they can be captured, incarcerated, deported; their lives destroyed.



BREAKUP SEASON

Friday, September 27 | 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre

102 min | Narrative Feature

Director: H. Nelson Tracey

Synopsis

A young man brings his girlfriend to his rural Oregon hometown to introduce her to his family, only for things to go terribly wrong upon arrival.

GUADALUPE

Thursday, Sept. 26 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM El Paso Museum of Art Saturday, Sept. 28 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM Philanthropy Theatre Saturday, Sept. 28 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Philanthropy Theatre

90 min | Documentary Feature Director: Jesús Manuel Munoz

Synopsis

A fascinating journey through Mexican culture and spirituality in search of the origins of the Virgin of Guadalupe, an icon that emerged after the shocking clash between Europe and the Mesoamerican peoples. With all its lights and shadows, this 'brown skinned' virgin is the first and most important sign of Mexican identity.





EVERYTHING IS STOLEN

Saturday, September 28 | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre

75 min | Documentary Feature

Director: Kevin Ford

Synopsis

"Concealed and confined, obscure and over-defined. Violently gentle, anything but simple, and yet there is something insatiably primal to it." Taking Ellar Coltrane's poetry as a starting point, filmmaker Kevin Ford fashioned the experimental documentary EVERYTHING IS STOLEN—a personal essay, collage, and exploration of a young person discarding the past to become someone new.

ON THE EDGE OF FREEDOM

Thursday, September 26 | 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Philanthropy Theatre

90 min | Narrative Feature

Director: Chris Hanna

Synopsis

After being arrested on a night of partying, Kai Green is presented with an opportunity to forgo jail time in favor of rehabilitation at a facility in Texas - he begrudgingly takes the deal.



PERSONAL COURAGE

Friday, September 27 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art

80 min | Documentary Feature

Director: Lucian Read

Synopsis

PERSONAL COURAGE tells the intimate story of Army veteran Jeffrey Derma and his wife, Rebecca Cristina, as their marriage reaches a crossroads. Beginning in the final days of Jeff's military service and continuing through the next two and a half years, the film captures their relationship as they reacclimate to one another and work to reestablish what it means to live life together as a family.

THE IN-BETWEEN

Friday, September 27 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

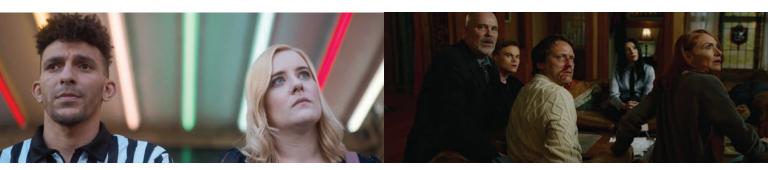
El Paso Museum of Art

82 minutes | Documentary Feature

Director: Robie Flores

Synopsis

Following the death of her brother, filmmaker Robie Flores returns to her hometown Eagle Pass on the Texas/Mexico border, wanting to turn back time. She collides with unruly experiences of adolescence – quinceañeras, Rio Grande river excursions, teen makeovers and beyond – that invite her to soak up the details of the home her brother adored and she ignored.



SCRAP

Friday, September 27 | 5:15 PM - 7:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre

105 minutes | Narrative Feature

Director: Vivian Kerr

Synopsis

After getting laid off, a young single-mom (Vivian Kerr) finds herself living in her car and struggles to hide her homelessness from her estranged brother Ben (Anthony Rapp) and his wife (Lana Parrilla).

THE STRANGE DARK

Friday, September 27 | 9:45 PM - 11:30 PM

Philanthropy Theatre

84 minutes | Narrative Feature

Director: Chris Messineo

Synopsis

Edgar believes he can see the future, but his wife thinks he's mad, his daughter thinks he's strange, and the agents from double star accounting will stop at nothing to get their data back.



THE STRIKE

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

El Paso Museum of Art

85 min | Documentary Feature

Director: JoeBill Muñoz, Lucas Guilkey

Synopsis

The Strike is a feature documentary that tells the story of a generation of California men who endured decades of solitary confinement and, against all odds, launched the largest hunger strike in U.S. history.

THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT

Saturday, September 28 | 7:30 PM - 9:15 PM

Philanthropy Theatre

101 minutes | Narrative Feature

Director: Michael Felker

Synopsis

In order to evade the law after a robbery, two estranged siblings lay low in a metaphysical farmhouse that hides them away in a different period of time, where they reckon with a mysterious force that pushes their familial bonds to unnatural breaking points.



THE WAY WE SPEAK

Thursday, September 26 | 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre

87 minutes | Narrative Feature

Director: Ian Ebright

Synopsis

An up-and-coming writer refuses to leave the spotlight when his best friend and debate opponent suffers cardiac arrest, leading to an obsession over his new opponent and a growing rift with his ailing wife.

TRANSMEXICO

Friday, September 27 | 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art

84 minutes | Documentary Feature

Director: Claudia Ymi Sanchez

Synopsis

Transwomen face more difficulties in Latin America than in any other part of the world. In most of these countries, unchecked transphobia severely limits trans people's access to education, employment, housing, and medical services.

THE GOOD, THE BAD, & THE INDIE



ABOVE THE DESERT WITH NO NAME

Thursday, September 26 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 16 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Sonia Sebastián

Synopsis

Above the Desert with No Name follows twelve-year-old Silvia, who flees domestic violence in her country with her brother and mother. After illegally crossing the border, they seek refuge at a cousin's apartment. Silvia finds solace on the balcony, where she secretly observes a neighbor performing spiritual yoga.



ALEJANDRO!

Thursday, September 26 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 6 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Christopher A. Brown

Synopsis

A piñata embarks on a journey to discover its purpose.



DETECTIVE HOUSEPLANT

Thursday, September 26 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 6 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Emmanuel Acevedo

Synopsis

An inanimate house plant with a dark past is tasked with finding a jewel thief, but when the most likely suspects are people from the past, the detective has to face their past or get weighed down from dark history.



INTERTWINED

Thursday, September 26 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 12 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Michelle Adriana Martinez

Synopsis

Sometimes the ones who need saving, are the ones who save us in return. Miguel, an artist grappling with anxiety and suicidal thoughts finds solace in Mari, a spirited girl with her own hidden struggles. Intertwined delves into the topic of mental health offering hope and enduring strength.



ON TODAY'S EPISODE

Thursday, September 26 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 10 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Michael Huante

Synopsis

Scott Night, a once not-so-popular television actor, must deal with the reality that no one remembers him until he meets his number one fan, Kyle.



OPEN BOOKS

Thursday, September 26 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 9 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Angela Muniz

Synopsis

A young woman journeys back to a cherished bookstore, only to discover the landscape of her nostalgia has drastically transformed. This poignant exploration delves into the heart of loss, resilience, and the bittersweet nature of returning to a place that no longer feels like home.



STALKS AT NIGHT

Thursday, September 26 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 8 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Ramsey Perez

Synopsis

Max, a college student working on homework late after class, encounters a dark and eerie figure in his deserted classroom building. After a series of unsettling notes and a creepy encounter, Max races to escape the ominous presence, before it catches up to him



THAT ONE LITTLE THING

Thursday, September 26 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 19 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Emmanuel Joel Rodriguez

Synopsis

Greg, an emotionally broken man struggles to battle his inner demons some decide to take a more physical approach and make it challenging for Greg to overcome it.



TIME TO GO

Thursday, September 26 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Philanthropy Theatre | 11 min | Narrative Short Film Director: Sergio E. Munoz Esquer

Synopsis

A professional dancer must confront her husband after he prevents her from leaving their house and attending a show that could change her career.

Please note: This film contains sexual themes and may not be suitable for all audiences. Viewer discretion is advised.

NARRATIVE SHORTS



CANTA SANTIAGO

Friday, September 27 | 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Philanthropy Theatre | 11 min | Narrative Short Film Director: James Valdez

Synopsis

A young mariachi faces his first performance alone but discovers his brother has always been by his side.



ESTELA, IS IT YOU?

Friday, September 27 | 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 22 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Fabian Martin, Victor Martin

Synopsis

A grieving woman communicates with her dead husband through her car radio.



THE BATHTUB

Friday, September 27 | 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 19 min | Narrative Short Film
Director: Sergi Marti Maltas

Synopsis

Ramon Riera is taking a well-deserved bath when his cell phone suddenly rings. On the other side of the line is Clara, a girl who insistently tries to sell him a life insurance.



KNEAD

Friday, September 27 | 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 11 min | Narrative Short Film

Director: Timothy Michael Cooper

Synopsis

When an alien landing mysteriously drives people around the world to achieve their deepest dreams, an aspiring baker in an unhappy marriage wonders why she hasn't been affected at all—forcing her to take matters into her own hands.



YOU'RE INVITED TO TUSCAN'S 5TH BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Friday, September 27 | 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 14 min | Narrative Short Film

Director: Lee Eddy

Synopsis

When her only son's birthday party is ruined by a runaway pony, a stressed mother deals with the comically chaotic aftermath.



TRAPPED

Friday, September 27 | 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 15 min | Narrative Short Film

Director: Sam Cutler-Kreutz. David Cutler-Kreutz

Synopsis

A high school janitor runs into a set of unexpected obstacles.



GOOD WRITERS ARE RARE

Friday, September 27 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 15 min | Good Writers Are Rare

Director: Jose Manuel Torres

Synopsis

When aspiring screenwriter Julia receives an invitation from the esteemed Eléonore Dubois to discuss her exceptional script, she eagerly accepts. However, as Julia delves into the world of Eléonore, she uncovers dark secrets and realizes that the true cost of success in Hollywood may be more than she barqained for.



AS EASY AS CLOSING YOUR EYES

Friday, September 27 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 22 min | Narrative Short Film

Director: Parker Croft

Synopsis

The story of a grieving mother who battles her addiction to a black-market drug that gives her life-like dreams about the son she lost.



GARY

Friday, September 27 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 17 min | Narrative Short Film

Director: Irina Arnaut

Synopsis

Helen and John are artists. They're also contract killers. And they hate the name Gary.



ONE NOTE

Friday, September 27 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 13 min | Narrative Short Film

Director: Jamie Ting

Synopsis

A dark comedy about a neurotic but driven 17-year-old Chinese-American violinist on a mission to get admitted to Harvard at any cost. After spotting a mistake in her application at the last minute, she embarks on a midnight rampage through her magnet high school, blackmailing a socially-awkward teenage hacker.



BORDER LORD

Friday, September 27 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 17 min | Narrative Short Film

Director: Andrew Pollack

Synopsis

Set in the remote desert, the Cullen family faces a moral dilemma when a Guatemalan refugee pleads for help for his critically injured son.



DO NOT DISTURB

Friday, September 27 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 12 min | Narrative Short Film

Director: Hugo Ortiz Clemens

Synopsis

Two C-List actors from different backgrounds attempt to film a sex tape to launch their careers in Hollywood.



SO, WHO WAS IT THIS TIME?

Saturday, September 28 | 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 20 min | Narrative Short Film

Director: Carlos M De La Torre

Synopsis

Jack and Mandy are in bed when an unexpected discovery creates tension between them. Mandy questions Jack about his thoughts and past relationships, leading to a revealing conversation. As secrets come to light, including Mandy's own past actions, Jack is left alone with his thoughts and makes a decision about how to move forward.

SUPPORTING SPONSORS









DOCUMENTARY SHORTS



ACROSS

Thursday, September 26 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
El Paso Museum of Art | 18 minutes | Documentary Short
Director: Carlos Evaristo Flores, Nicolas J. Lewis

Synopsis

Across offers a sentimental look at Nuevo Laredo's once-thriving nightclub scene. It also delves into the impact of Mexico's war on drugs and its effects on the Laredo community.



BARBARETTE + FOUNTAIN

Thursday, September 26 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
El Paso Museum of Art | 15 minutes | Documentary Short
Director: John-Carlos Estrada, Zak Zeh

Synopsis

A century apart, two drag icons unite through art, resilience, and a shared legacy of self-expression and freedom. Leading the cast is Cynthia Lee Fontaine of RuPaul's Drag Race.



BEYOND BORDERS

Thursday, September 26 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
El Paso Museum of Art | 16 minutes | Documentary Short
Director: Jesus Munoz. Julio Abad

Synopsis

A group of US doctors in El Paso Texas, periodically cross the border into Ciudad Juarez to help Mexican children who most need it.



ECHOES OF THE RIO

Thursday, September 26 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art | 8 minutes | Documentary Short

Director: Jackie Barragan

Synopsis

A woman living on the U.S./Mexico border invokes the voice of the Rio Grande. Guiding her through the history of migration and the symbiotic relationship with the indigenous people of the land. As the river speaks, echoes follow, ultimately exposing the socio-ecological destruction caused when the river became a border and a political weapon.



FLOODPLAIN

Thursday, September 26 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art | 16 minutes | Documentary Short

Director: Samuel Diaz Fernandez

Synopsis

Austin residents relive their memories of a 2013 catastrophic flood in Onion Creek, which was a once-thriving community, but now scarred by disaster. Ten years later, they are determined to prevent history from repeating itself.



LOVE IN TIME OF MIGRATION

Thursday, September 26 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art | 21 minutes | Documentary Short

Director: Erin Semine Kökdil, Chelsea Abbas

Synopsis

Two C-List actors from different backgrounds attempt to film a sex tape to launch their careers in Hollywood.



DETERMINED

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art | 6 minutes | Documentary Short

Director: Jose Sanchez

Synopsis

Deep in the South Texas Borderlands, one high school football player's battle through adversity inspires his teammates, school, and community.



SARAH HUNTER: BIRTH PHOTOG

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art | 6 minutes | Documentary Short

Director: Nicole Edisa Diirah Sabot

Synopsis

This documentary revolves around exploring the unique profession of birth photography. It delves into its distinct nature, the preparation it requires, and how a photographer handles its unpredictability from the point of view of "Tampa Bay's Birth Photographer" Sara Hunter.



SAVIOR

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art | 4 minutes | Documentary Short

Director: Ray Santisteban

Synopsis

Featuring acclaimed Albuquerque, New Mexico poet Marcial Delgado, "Savior" is call to action, a cry for help, and ultimately a harsh indictment of U.S. Immigration policy. Part op-ed, part confrontational oratory, Delgado speaks his truth to a society that routinely vilifies immigrants.



UNTIL HE'S BACK

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art | 39 minutes | Documentary Short

Director: Jacqueline Baylon

Synopsis

After learning that his son has died at sea trying to get to Spain, Ahmed Tchiche must find a way to get his son's remains back home to Morocco so he and his family can have a proper goodbye. Faisal Bouhafs, a Moroccan immigrant living in Spain, volunteers to help him.



WHEN THE GIFTS ARRIVE

Thursday, September 26 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art | 16 minutes | Documentary Short

Director: Sergio Eduardo Munoz Esquer

Synopsis

A night in the life of Felipe, a man who travels Mexico's state of Chihuahua dressed as Santa Claus, delivering gifts to public hospitals. The story explores every aspect of the gift-giving process, from the physical to the emotional.



WHO SPEAKS FOR CHARLIE?

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

El Paso Museum of Art | 16 minutes | Documentary Short

Director: Matthew Corolis

Synopsis

After receiving death threats from members of the autistic community, Eileen Lamb reflects on her own autism diagnosis, and doubles down on her commitment to fight for greater services for Charlie, her non-verbal autistic son.

LATE NIGHT SHORTS

These films contain sexual themes, nudity, and violence.
 Viewer discretion is advised.



KRUSH THE WRESTLER

Saturday, September 28 | 9:45 PM - 11:45 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 14 minutes | Late Night Short

Director: Alex Megaro

Synopsis

Exploring the innate intimacy of submission wrestling, a lifelong wrestler turns his talents into an on-demand fetish video service.



MAKE ME A PIZZA

Saturday, September 28 | 9:45 PM - 11:45 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 12 minutes | Late Night Short
Director: Talia Shea Levin

Synopsis

A very hungry woman tells a pizza delivery guy she can't pay for the pizza she ordered. But can the sex she offers instead of currency possibly equate to the true value of a pizza?



TIGHT

Saturday, September 28 | 9:45 PM - 11:45 PM Philanthropy Theatre | 13 minutes | Late Night Short

Director: Jessica Barr

Synopsis

A woman grappling with difficulty finding sexual pleasure after childbirth falls back on an old coping habit.



DREAM CREEP

Saturday, September 28 | 9:45 PM - 11:45 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 13 minutes | Late Night Short
Director: Carlos A.F. Lopez

Synopsis

A couple awakens in the night to sounds emanating from an unlikely orifice.



SERAPHIM

Saturday, September 28 | 9:45 PM - 11:45 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 13 minutes | Late Night Short
Director: Oscar Ramos

Synopsis

After her sister is chosen as a modern day prophet, Jude grapples with the ramifications of what it really means to be an agent of God.



APOTEMNOFILIA

Saturday, September 28 | 9:45 PM - 11:45 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 10 minutes | Late Night Short
Director: Jano Pita

Synopsis

It is opening night, the theater is crowded and Clara, the leading actress, refuses to leave her dressing room. Something inside her is keeping her from leaving, something she will have to face.



I'M DEAD, YOU'RE WELCOME

Saturday, September 28 | 9:45 PM - 11:45 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 15 minutes | Late Night Short

Director: Roderick Fenske

Synopsis

Four friends reminisce about their legacy after the wake of their friend's passing. Revelatory private affairs force them to deal with life choices that tangle them closer together in a way they never expected.



VOYAGER

Saturday, September 28 | 9:45 PM - 11:45 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 20 minutes | Late Night Short

Director: Pablo Pagán

Synopsis

When a shy, socially anxious night janitor, cleaning up after Barcelona's affluent party crowd, discovers a mysterious drug that lets her shed the boundaries of her physical self, she breaks out of her isolation and opens herself up to the people she desires... but her newly gained freedom comes at a heavy price.



LA COMUNIDAD

Saturday, September 28 9:45 PM - 11:45 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 7 minutes | Late Night Short

Director: Jonathan Fernández

Synopsis

Martina, a young woman battling cancer, feels lost and alone after the death of her father. During a conversation with her friend Ana at a café, Ana suggests joining "the community," a group that, according to her, has brought her freedom and happiness. Although Martina is skeptical, her curiosity leads her to accept the invitation.

ANIMATED SHORTS



A DATE WITH CHIMNEY ALFONSO

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 6 min | Animated Short Film
Director: Justin Amit Tomchuk

Synopsis

Allow Chimney Alfonzo to indulge in himself, his food, and you on a first date. You won't be able to erase it from memory, because it's animated in crayon.



APHANTASIA

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 5 min | Animated Short Film
Director: Gabriela Anais Hernandez

Synopsis

Timmothy and his sister Atlas are true artists at heart, however Timmothy comes to learn that he differs from his sister in a way that he feels he's unable to create art himself. With some sisterly advice and insight he's given some newfound confidence in his own artistic journey.



CARRY THE SPARK

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 7 min | Animated Short Film
Director: Eric Power

Synopsis

An epic story unfolds across eons of time.



GATSBY

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 15 min | Animated Short Film
Director: Alec Seymour

Synopsis

A Bactrian camel dreams of life outside of the well-walked paths of his herd, but the uncharted desert is a treacherous and empty place.



IN THE HEAT

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 17 min | Animated Short Film
Director: Sam Chou

Synopsis

When a bruised and battered man claiming to be Santa Clause is arrested for the murder of a child, the interrogating officers uncover a story more bizarre and horrific than expected. A violent Christmas rivalry between the forces of good and evil where the outcome hinges on a promise made decades ago.



REMEMBER US

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 14 min | Animated Short Film
Director: Pablo Leon

Synopsis

A journalist documents the experiences of three different people who lived through the tragic 12-year-long Salvadoran Civil War in the 1980s, exploring themes of childhood loss, violence against women and the indigenous population, and regaining a sense of hope for the future that spans over three generations.



SUPER HIGH: A PERIOD PIECE

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Philanthropy Theatre | 9 min | Animated Short Film

Synopsis

Director: Bianca Lambert

In the semi-autobiographical short film "Super High: A Period Piece," Amanda battles excruciating period pain caused by fibroids. Desperate for relief, she experiments with a celebrity cannabis brand's edibles. A dosage mishap catapults her into a surreal, anxiety-filled journey until she awakens.



FAMILY OF VURDULAK

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Philanthropy Theatre | 13 min | Animated Short Film

Director: Sam Chou

Synopsis

VRDLK (pronounced Vor-Du-Lac) centers around a traveling diplomat who is caught in a snowstorm and forced to take shelter with a poor Serbian family. When the family warns him of "beasts" that hunt in the night, he quickly dismisses their fears as superstition and fairy tales - a mistake he may not have a chance to make twice. Based on acclaimed writer Aleksey Tolstoy's 1839 gothic novella, "The Family of The Yourdulak".

INDEPENDENT SPONSORS













TEXAS SHORTS



SMOKE

Friday, September 27 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM
Philanthropy Theatre | 15 minutes | Texas Short
Director: Joshua Gallas

Synopsis

A firefighter returns home after the most difficult shift of his life.



SEARCH & DESTROY

Friday, September 27 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM Philanthropy Theatre | 15 minutes | Texas Short

Director: Alexander Rosales

Synopsis

A coming of age adventure-drama that follows RAFAEL and his neighborhood friends (The Squad) who are on the run after pranking the high school baseball team (The Enemies).



THE HEART OF TEXAS

Friday, September 27 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM
Philanthropy Theatre | 15 minutes | Texas Short
Director: Gregory JM Kasunich

Synopsis

Janie May, an aspiring country singer stuck in the paycheck-to-paycheck grind, gets big news that she's a radio contest finalist while finishing her overnight shift at a local diner in Waco. TX.



TEXAS MERMAID MOVIE

Friday, September 27 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM
Philanthropy Theatre | 19 minutes | Texas Short

Director: John David De Virgiliis

Synopsis

Eleven-year-old Katie and her dad reconnect after many years apart, with the help of a mermaid they meet in the San Marcos River.



LARRY MCMURTY'S ALL MY FRIENDS

Friday, September 27 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM Philanthropy Theatre | 13 minutes | Texas Short

Director: Stephen Purvis

Synopsis

Adapted from Larry McMurtry's autobiographical novel, and Quentin Tarantino's favorite book. In 1969 aspiring writer Danny Deck goes to Eeyore's birthday party at Professor Godwin's house in Austin, Texas. On the morning after the party Danny meets Godwin's beautiful girlfriend Sally. He falls in love with her at first sight and complications ensue because "a guest never robs his host."



LEGALIZED

Friday, September 27 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM Philanthropy Theatre | 23 minutes | Texas Short

Director: Sergio Donis

Synopsis

Living in the shadows of a small Texas border town in 1986. A young ambitious family man, hopes to one day live the American dream. There's only one problem, he's undocumented.

STUDENT SHORTS



ALY

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 14 minutes | Student Short

Director: Kevin L. Lee

Synopsis

Tonight might be the night Michael and Aly take their relationship to the next level. But Aly has a secret.



THE PERFECT TOMATO

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 18 minutes | Student Short
Director: Cristobal Abugaber

Synopsis

An aging farmer refuses to leave his longstanding way of life behind at the risk of losing what truly matters to him.



THE LILY & THE SCORPION

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 14 minutes | Student Short
Director: Charlie Netto

Synopsis

Infamous outlaws The Lily and The Scorpion are on the run after a bank job gone wrong, but as day turns into night, the partners' trust in each other begins to fray.



BLACK MAGIC

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 14 minutes | Student Short
Director: Cristin Stephens

Synopsis

Alicia, a Black screenwriter, navigates her new staff writer position on a network drama. When she realizes that she's nothing more than a fellowship diversity hire, Alicia tries to prove her worth to a room that must write in a "diverse" character to save their show.



RABBIT HOLE

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 16 minutes | Student Short
Director: Jack Gross

Synopsis

After his beloved rabbit is stolen by an obsessive female boxer, an aging magician is forced to perform a dangerous trick.



BLUE HOUR

Thursday, September 26 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Philanthropy Theatre | 16 minutes | Student Short
Director: J.D Shields

Synopsis

Two personal journeys intersect when a struggling young photographer is hired for a cheap last minute portrait gig. The unfolding photo session, while transient, leaves an indelible mark on both women.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE



CHARLES HORAK

Charles Horak is host of the weekly radio program On Film (KTEP, 88.5 FM, NPR) and is a voting member of the Broadcast Film Critics Association. In 2008 he co-founded the Plaza Classic Film Festival in EI Paso, Texas and was the festival's artistic director for its first six years. For over 17 years, he has been the director and host of The Film Salon, an ongoing monthly screening series dedicated to celebrating important and classic films and filmmakers.



FELIPA SOLIS

Felipa Solis is a voting member of the Broadcast Film Critics Association and a graduate of The University of Texas at El Paso with a bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts. She volunteers with organizations throughout the community including the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, the Plaza Classic Film Festival and the El Paso Humane Society.



DREW MAYER-OAKES

Drew Mayer-Oakes serves as film commissioner at the EI Paso, Texas Film & Creative Industries Commission, after eleven years as director at the San Antonio Film Commission. While his travel to film industry events in the U.S. and abroad has given him a global perspective on the changing landscape of film incentives, film production and film distribution, he still finds time to make a short film or two every year.



CRISTINA CORRAL

Cristina Corral is a collaborative leader with a versatile background in finance, client relations, marketing, and media. She earned her Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing from the University of Texas at El Paso in 2010 and was the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate in Marketing Award. She later attained her Master of Business Administration in Finance from the University of Texas at El Paso in 2014. Through her experiences, Cristina has developed into a resourceful professional with strong proficiency in bilinaual communication and analytics.



TERESITA GONZALEZ CORRAL

Teresita Gonzalez Corral has been among the most visible and influential proponents of the arts while nurturing the philanthropic side of numerous donors throughout the region. Teresita has achieved the great distinction as ambassador and advocate for the arts by receiving the "Papen Family Award" in 2016 from the Dona Ana Arts Council and by being on the cover of El Paso Magazine in 2007 (Polo With A Purpose) for recognition of her efforts and dedication to the advancement of the arts in our region.



MIRIAM M. ROSAS

Miriam M. Rosas is a Mexican-born, screen junkie and a gamer by heart. With more than 17 years of experience in identity, print, web, and mobile layout design, Miriam holds a Graphic Design Bachelor Degree from the University of Texas at El Paso. She graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso with a Bachelor's in Graphic Design and moved to Los Angeles to hone her User Experience and User Interface design skills while working with various tech startups.

MEDIA PARTNERS















EL PASO INC.







CARLOS CORRAL Artistic Director | Founder

Carlos F. Corral is a Texas filmmaker with true grit. With more than 17 years of experience working on a variety of high-profile television, documentary and feature film productions, he is among the most prolific personalities in the Texas film scene. Known mostly as a location sound

mixer, his credits include producer, director and editor - just to name a few.

Through his company, MindWarp Films, Carlos realizes his own story-telling passion by producing and participating in documentaries and narratives that tackle issues such as immigration, domestic abuse and politics.

In his latest venture, Carlos is the Artistic Director of the El Paso Film Festival. With the support of the El Paso Filmmakers organization, the Paso Del Norte Community Foundation and his company MindWarp Films, the festival will give movie lovers a chance to see original films by regional filmmakers on the rise.

Carlos' most recent body of work includes Wanted Man, directed by Dolph Lundgren, where he served as the Production Sound Mixer. He also served as sound mixers for the feature documentaries Omar and Cedric: If Things Get Weird, which premiered at the 2024 SXSW Film Festival, and ESPN's Dude Perfect: A Very Long Shot, which will premiere at the 2024 Dallas International Film Festival.

Other works include At The Ready, directed by Maisie Crow, which premiered at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival, Running with Beto, directed by David Modigliani, had its world premiere at the 2019 SXSW Film Festival, and Home + Away, directed by Matt Ogens, world premiering at the 2018 Tribeca Film Festival.

Nacído De Nuévo — for which Carlos produced and sound mixed — was recognized as among the best short-films at the Las Cruces International Film Festival for 2018. He coproduced the 2011 short film, Child of the Desert, starring Dale Dickey, winner of the Best Narrative Short at the USA Film Festival and was eligible for an Oscar Nomination in the Short Film Category.

Carlos is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin Film School, is a member of the Cinema Audio Society (CAS), and is a College Assistant Professor for producing, editing and sound mixing at New Mexico State University's Creative Media Institute.

ANDREA CALLEROS

Executive Director

Andrea Calleros is a marketing professional with years of experience as director and co-founder of Flor de Barro Gallery. She is now the Executive Director of the El Paso Film Festival.

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Barro Gallery. Her art gallery promotes the appreciation and preservation of Mexican folk and contemporary art. Andrea first joined El Paso Film Festival in its first running year in 2018 as assistant to the Director and volunteer coordinator. She is now the Executive Director of the El Paso Film Festival.

Andrea was born in Chihuahua, Mexico, but has called El Paso home since 2004. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Media Advertising and a minor in Business Marketing from the University of Texas at El Paso. She is currently working on her degree in Art History. At UTEP, she was involved with the Restore Sacred Heart project. Andrea's love for history and the local culture is well reflected in her professional experience; she served as Executive Director of the Los Portales Museum and Old County Jail in San Elizario, Texas, in 2021.

Her involvement and love for film came about in 2015 when she began working with the local production company DoubleScope Films. During her time with DoubleScope, she immersed herself in the world of film as she worked as a behind-the-scenes photographer, casting coordinator, assistant producer, and makeup artist.

As she steps into her role as Executive Director, Andrea hopes to keep working and expanding the cultural reach of the El Paso-Juarez borderland.







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