

These screenings take place off-site Aug. 21-23 with our festival friends

» **AUG. 21 | 6 p.m.**

GHOSTLY KING OPERA HOUSE The King Opera House: A Paranormal Documentary

Paranormal Adventures With The Crew-King Opera House Audiences love the claims that Van Buren's historic King Opera House is haunted. The CW sponsors this screening of its own feature and a short documentary.

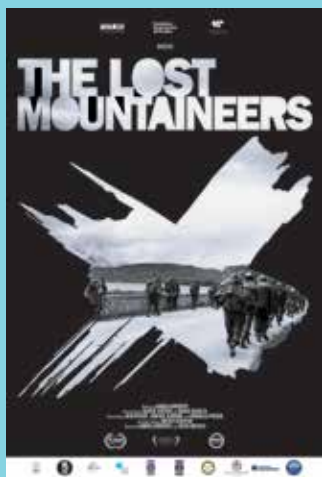


» **Aug. 21 | 7 p.m.**

THE LOST MOUNTAINEERS

Andrea Andreotti, Diego Busacca **Italy**

A documentary dedicated to 25 US soldiers who lost their lives when their amphibious vehicle (DUKW) sank at Lake Garda on April 30, 1945. These men of the 10th Mountain Division were declared MIA. Almost 60 years later, a group of passionate history researchers set out in search of the vehicle and its crew. Screened at the Fort Smith Museum of History as part of Fort Smith's welcome to our new Italian Twin City, Nago-Torbole. The 10th Mountain Division were led by Gen. William O. Darby, native of Fort Smith, who was killed in action the same day, nearby. Victory in Europe would come May 8, 1945.



» **Aug. 22 | 6 p.m.**

TOY CART

One of the most popular programs organized by the volunteers at Oklahoma Children's Hospital OU Health is a toy cart that travels to every patient's room when they are newly admitted. Every child gets a toy. Artist Gabriel Friedman reimagines the toy cart as a friendly and colorful rolling piece of art, delivering delight all around the hospital. Screened with Fort Kids children's museum at the Bakery District.



» **Aug. 22 | 6:30 p.m.**

GOD'S PLAN

The inspiring story of the creation of a medical clinic in Higueralon Panama which provides not only health care but Bibles and spiritual health to the surrounding communities! The 20 year journey from concept to opening involved many, Jason Moore, Larry Brady, Mission Clinics International, Royal Oak Church of Christ, and Ruben Leon. Screening sponsored by the City of Greenwood.



» **Aug. 23 | 7:30 p.m.**

MUSIC VIDEOS

Enjoy the full slate of Music Videos in festival competition with a cool beverage, at the downtown bar Prohibition. The festival's after-party begins at 9 p.m. here.



THURSDAY

The Bricks

» **Noon**

Porter + Craig Spotlight:
JIMMY & CAROLYN

TV icon Gregory Harrison and Broadway star Mary Beth Peil anchor this family comedy-drama about a dying patriarch and his devoted wife, who are the loving but conservative parents of a Gen X gay man and his younger Latino husband, as they come together for the last time.

» **2 p.m.**

British Spotlight LGBTQ:
**KIM CARNIE OUT LOUD
Maureen Macleod**

Scottish singer Kim Carnie was in a secret same-sex relationship from the ages of 16-22. Now she reflects on the impact of those years of secrecy.

**Doc Feature
United Kingdom**

» **4 p.m.**

Oklahoma Spotlight: Alum Indigenous
THE ELECTRIC INDIAN

Leya Hale

Hockey legend Henry Boucha journeys from early stardom to crushing defeat to healing.

US

» **6 p.m.**

EPISODIC

**Her Voice - Charlayne Hunter-Gault
People of Color Shorts**

Carletta S. Hurt, Sunnye C. Durham

A journalism student struggles to choose a historical figure for a homework assignment. When her grandmother helps, she becomes aware of civil rights activist and renowned journalist Charlayne Hunter-Gault, the first Black female student to desegregate the University of Georgia in 1961.

US

World Twistories: The Pilot

Brian Wallace, James Longley

World Twistories is a "docu-comedy" series that explores eccentric people and their offbeat ideas. Each topic explored is verifiably true, exhaustively researched, and presented by the TikTok sensation Paul Longley. In this episode, a coffee shop opened in London in 1703, "with a twist"- patrons were required to speak Latin.

US

The Killing Ground

Kyle Kauwika Harris

The discovery of a gruesome murder in a small town sends a young detective on the trail of a cunning serial killer.

US

ESO NO RIMA (THAT DOESN'T RHYME)

Roberto Villafane

What happens to a couple when one is a poet and the other is not? Benito, a poet, spends his time in a constant creative process of writing, inspired by everything he hears and sees, creating a daily conflict with his pragmatic wife Analía.

Panama

Temple Live Main Theater

» **1 p.m.**

Missouri Spotlight:

THE BUTTERFLY PEOPLE Documentary Feature

Gregory Robert Fish

"The Butterfly People" is an investigation into the phenomenon that took place in the Joplin Tornado of 2011, where many children reported sightings of what they described as butterflies, which

US

helped them in some way. Features Country Music Recording Artist, Tracy Lawrence, and his song, "Butterfly", inspired by these events.

» **2:15 p.m.**

Sponsored by R&R's Curry Express

India Spotlight:

Pravas Vipul Sharma

Pravas (a journey) depicts the story of a little child named Tino, who comes from an underprivileged family and lives in a small, remote village in Gujarat, India. The family is happy in their small world. One day, a city visitor tells Tino about how beautiful Ahmedabad is. Then school organizes a tour of Ahmedabad. Tino is ecstatic but unfortunate events lead him to decide against going. Tino is unshakeable, giving all his reasons for not attending. The agony of not going becomes his inner journey (Pravas).

India

» **5:30 p.m.**

Arkansas Spotlight:

WE HAVE JUST BEGUN People of Color Feature

Michael Warren Wilson

In 1919, black workers' decades-long efforts to challenge exploitation in the Arkansas Delta culminated in the nation's deadliest racial massacre and labor battle at the town of Elaine. A seven-year investigation into the incident, the film explores the legacy of exploitation, domination, and resistance in the Delta and its ongoing cover up. This documentary tracks the tradition of Black resistance in the Delta up to today, a continuing site of struggle for labor and social autonomy. Co-written and narrated by acclaimed poet Tongo Eisen-Martin (San Francisco Poet Laureate), and Michelle Duster, who speaks the words of her great-grandmother, Ida B. Wells.

US

» **7:30 p.m.**

Porter & Craig Spotlight:

THE COUNTERFEIT KID

A hilarious and action-packed Western about a lovable, handsome (but none too bright) young farmhand who makes the mistake of impersonating a vengeful outlaw. When the real 'Bloody Ben' finds out, our hero has to evade trouble with his own band of misfits and losers (and his equally gorgeous, but smart and savvy gal pal), before he ends up on the wrong end of a Colt 45!

FRIDAY

The Bricks

» **10 a.m.**

Georgia Spotlight Feature:

**REMEMBER ME: DEMENTIA IN THE
AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY**

C. Nathaniel Brown

More than 55 million people worldwide have dementia and African Americans are disproportionately diagnosed compared to their white counterparts. The film examines the disparities through personal stories from dementia patients, caregivers and experts who discuss everything from the alarming statistics to African Americans' mistrust of the medical community to resources to reverse the current trends.

US

WWW.FORTSMITHFILM.COM

» Noon

THE HIT

Chris Halsne

Award-winning investigative journalists and forensic engineers analyze never-before-seen evidence that indicates NASCAR legend Tony Stewart deliberately killed a competitor in what was originally ruled a tragic accident

» 2 p.m.

Los Angeles Spotlight

APOCALYPSE LOVE STORY

Justin Wilder Neese

US

After losing her father during an apocalyptic event, Samantha survives alone, on an abandoned military base. While foraging for food, she encounters an 8 year old boy. When their supply of fresh water begins to run dry, they are faced with the reality that they will have to leave.

» 3:45 p.m.

Oklahoma Spotlight

GREENWOOD AVE PROJECT

BLACK WALL STREET

Doc Feature

Karen Reese

US

This documentary sheds light on the Tulsa community after the 1921 Massacre. Filmmaker Terry Baccus and executive producer Karen Reese have shown the aftermath of the massacre in such a realistic way that will bring emotional compassion.

» 6:15 p.m.

ANIMATED EPISODIC

RABBIT STORIES - ᎠᎯᏍᏔ ᎠᏐᏍᏔᏍᏔ

Joseph ᎠᎯᏍᏔ Erb

US

This Cherokee series captures the essence of Cherokee culture, entirely in the Cherokee Language. A talented tribal cast includes Academy Award winner Wes Studi. The episode, "Granny Is an Outlaw," introduces an old woman who has lived her whole life on the reservation. Granny, a rule follower, finds herself on the wrong side of the law. To escape the authorities, she embarks on a thrilling adventure. The story takes us on a journey through the Cherokee culture, highlighting themes of tradition, the supernatural, and resilience. It is a celebration of a proud culture that deserves to be shared with the world.

GO GO GIWAS:

SOWING DREAM SEEDS

Yi-Feng Kao, Suet-Er Hee

Indigenous

Shorts

Taiwan

In this animated series, the main character, Giwas, keeps learning new knowledge and cultural wisdom in her tribal village to be the first female mrhu (Atayal leader). One day, playing with a spinning top, Giwas and her companions accidentally came to a space station through a legendary time machine. Accompanied a resident astronaut, they experience daily life on the space station. Viewing the fantastic beauty and partial ruins of the Earth from space, she strengthens her idea to protect the Earth.

WWW.FORTSMITHFILM.COM

» 9 p.m.

Canadian Spotlight:

PURGATORY JACK

Brett Butler, Jason Butler

Canada

A neo-noir mystery thriller set in the afterlife, a dangerous landscape that's run by a bloodthirsty, limb-collecting gang and populated with outlaws and outcasts. Musician turned grizzled private detective, Jack, is helping new arrival Viv Vacious, a punk pop star who overdosed, stay safe as she races against time to find her mother who committed suicide twenty years earlier. These two musicians from clashing eras unlock a murderous conspiracy and discover why blood is more than a drug in Purgatory.

Temple Live Main Theater

» 10:30 a.m.

Western & DRAMA

ROSEMARY

College Student Short

Justin Ryan Green

US

Cody Dalton, a true cowboy in the dying West, gave up his life as a gunslinger once he met his wife, Rosemary. After she is wronged by a notorious criminal, he must return to his old ways.

THE SATCHEL

College Student Short

Joseph Stevens

US

Riding aboard a steam locomotive in the heart of the Wild West, a mysterious traveler enlists the help of a seasoned outlaw to retrieve his stolen satchel, which contains a deadly secret. Witness the power and grandeur of a real Class 30 2-8-2 "Mikado" steam locomotive, the thundering hooves of real-life horses, and the raw authentic Western outback of Rusk, Texas - all achieved on an ultra-low budget.

WHERE IS IT

Brady C. Ness

US

Paul is confronted by his brother, Herm - forcing him to answer the guilt-ridden question, "Where is it?"

TWO BULLETS FOR THE DEVIL

Manuel Olaya

Spain

The death of little Margaret in Willow Creek, Wyoming, destroys the family hegemony thus far, a mother gone mad and a tormented father.

Drama

BOUCHAIB

Ali Boudra

Morocco

During colonization in Morocco, some students from foreign schools experienced the split between the traditional Quranic school (el-Msid) and modern European school. Bouchaib, a Moroccan child who joined the French school, will live the experience of identity alienation which will not even spare his name.

PISCHO

Aun Ui Haider

Pakistan

Journey of a seven-year-old girl, Ruqayya, on a mission to find her lost kitten. Suspecting her mother and neighbors, she embarks on a whimsical search. During her quest, Ruqayya stumbles upon a protest against a recent terrorist attack. Inspired by the demonstrators' placards, she creates

her own sign seeking help to find her missing kitten.

EMPTY

Yousuf Al Housni

UAE

The film explores the inner emptiness that prevails among many in a dramatic and cinematic way.

THE STEAK

Kiarash Dadgar

Islamic Republic of Iran

A birthday party preparation is thrown into chaos by an awful event.

BLACK SEED

Amirhoman Khosravani

Iran

On the night of her death, a grandmother gives a valuable diamond to Sam, her eight-year old grandson with Down syndrome.

» 12:45 p.m.

Indigenous Short Docs

YEEHAW BOY

Doc Short

Dan Lior, Noam Azouz

US

Jess Oldham is a young man living a life reminiscent of a past era. He considers himself a "Yeekaw Boy." For Jess, "Yeekaw" is more than just a saying—it's a philosophy. It means embracing an "all work, no bullshit" approach to everything that life throws at you.

LADY RED WARRIORS

Mark Williams

US

The rise of the Oklahoma Choctaw Nation women's stickball team, Tvshka Homma Ohoya also known as the Lady Red Warriors, and two Nations coming together (Choctaw and Chickasaw Nation) to become a force in the stickball community.

ᏍᏓ WAYA, SAVING OUR

RED GRANDFATHER

Jennifer Loren

US

The Red Wolf is the most endangered wolf species in the world and it holds significant cultural value to the Cherokee people. Learn about the tribal connection to this species and how conservationists are working to save the Red Wolf from extinction.

VOICES OF OUR ELDERS

CHAPTER I

John E Rodgers, Barry Linduff

US

Voices of Our Elders is a brief examination of Quapaw history - told through the lens of elder Quapaw citizens. The Quapaw culture and history have always been told through oral tradition, passed down throughout the generations. This film is the Quapaw Nation's first attempt to capture that rich, sometimes tragic, history.

People of Color Short Doc

(I'M NOT) YOUR NEGRONI

Antonio Tarrell

US

Award-winning bartender Joseph "Joe" Stinchcomb stirs up the small town of Oxford, Mississippi when he launches a craft cocktail menu honoring Black History Month.

SITES OF RESISTANCE AND HEALING

Michael Fagans

US

As U.S. history becomes controversial

to teach in some states, residents of this community come to terms with our past and present in Sumner, Miss.and Montgomery, Ala.

Animation

» 4 p.m.

AMEKA AND HER MAGICAL CROWN

Animation Short

Dr. Tamecca Rogers

US

After discovering her voluminous hair is her magical crown, a spirited girl must harness its whimsical powers to protect her community, confront social issues, and learn the true meaning of empowerment and compassion while her hair has a mind of its own.

BIRD DRONE

Radheya Jang Jegatheva

Australia

A heartfelt story of unrequited love explored through a lonely seagull struggling to accept that his newfound object of affection is a human-operated drone with a limited battery life.

CANDY

Xun Ling

China

Lulu is one of an excellent staff of at devil factory. Their job is to collect humans' souls after death and process them into the devil's "candy".

IN THIS TOGETHER

Jiamu Tao

US

A scientist looks into her microscope and finds that there's a mini dimension on the other side that looks just like our own. After all, we're all in this great universe together.

ONE WRONG STEP

Elden Theaker

United Kingdom

A mine detection dog encounters an arrogant yogi, obsessed with peace and quiet, meditating at a beach littered with landmines. The good dog must warn him. Obliviousness and arrogance get the yogi into trouble.

OPERATION: TEMPLE INFILTRATION

Kan Sasaki

US

Shadow Wolf; a gamer and secret agent, travels to the Amazon to stop the evil Dr. Grunderbear's plans and save the world from becoming an environmental disaster.

THE TROLL OF LONDON BRIDGE

Gus Kearns

United Kingdom

A whimsical Troll's misadventures while trying to cook himself a hearty meal in his abode of London Bridge.

TIMID

Logan W. Douglas

US

A frightened little kitty allows his owner's guest to pet him. A short, sweet, and simple vignette about overcoming shyness.

VESTIGE

Yu-Hsuan Teng

Taiwan

A 5-minute 2D animated short film is a graphic novel combined with limited animation. Through intricate and atmospheric illustrations, the story portrays the journey of an artist in search of her long-lost childhood friend.

WANDER OF LIGHT

Agata Zych

Poland

'Wander of Light' pays tribute to authentic childhood vision, reminding us of the simplicity often lost in adulthood. It shows the beauty of our differences, highlighting how unique each of us is.

WRATH OF THE LESHEN

David Andrew Schedler

US

A medieval village is plagued by attacks from the dreaded Leshen - then a champion arrives.

» 6 p.m.

MAYOR'S SCREENING

Fort Smith Mayor George McGill introduces a short film *Pride of Fort Smith*

» 7:30 p.m.

KEYNOTE: MATTHEW LUHN

Q&A / SPRITE FLIGHT

» 9 p.m.

AMERICAN POT STORY: OAKSTERDAM

Ravit Markus, Dan Katzir

US

Winner of the audience award at Slamdance 2023, this is a documentary about how change transpires in America. It happened at Oaksterdam University in Oakland, California - where cannabis history was made, falling right in place with Oakland's rich history of civil resistance. Today when we see celebrities and corporations get into the cannabis business it's easy to forget how many millions of people unjustly suffered and still suffer because of American drug policy. It is not just an important historical chronicle of a campaign that brought into the mainstream a taboo topic, it's also an inspiring reminder of how democracy can work when people come together in an effort to fulfill our pledge to liberty and justice for all.

Lodge Room

» 11 a.m.

River Valley Film Society Spotlight:

OUT AND ABOUT

Narrative Feature

Peter Callahan

US

Inside the mind of a middle-aged man as he tries to come to terms with his life over the course of an afternoon walk through his hometown.

» 1 p.m.

Hollywood Spotlight: People of Color

A STAR WITHOUT A STAR:

THE UNTOLD JUANITA MOORE STORY

Kirk E. Kelleykahn

US

Talented black actress Juanita Moore, grandmother of the director, was Oscar-nominated for her role in the 1959 drama *Imitation of Life*, but struggled with being offered lesser roles throughout her career. She persevered, creating the Original Cambridge Players as a theatre troupe who mounted a James Baldwin play to Broadway. Kellykahn, also an actor, chronicles his campaign to win Moore her own, much-deserved star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

» 3:15 p.m.

Arkansas Spotlight

LBGTQ

I DO THIS FOR A LIVING

Noah Arthur Woods

US

Jeff, a mechanic and southern family man, navigating the life of his recovering addict son who starts a relationship with a trans girl.

» 5:30 p.m.

Oklahoma Spotlight

THANK YOU, AMELIA EARHART

Al Mertens

US

Health issues are finally forcing elderly Myrtle out of her house. She's foul-mouthed and bigoted to everyone, including Season, her latest fresh-out-of-school caregiver. The truths the two women learn from each other leave both forever changed.

» 9 p.m.

British Spotlight

BONNIE & CLIVE

Narrative Feature

Kevin Short

United Kingdom

Three young adventurers take a road trip of a lifetime. Venturing from London to Lands' End, they travel along one of the longest historical routes in Britain. They arrive on the cliffs of the West Country to sing their song for peace, love, and freedom.

Sphinx Club

» 11 a.m.

Comedy Shorts

SCREAMER

Debra Fuller

US

Amid suspicions of spousal abuse, a shocking discovery is revealed.

ROOM MATE

Ezequiel Casamade Arnella

Spain

A man wants to kill a beetle that is running through his house. He doesn't get it and in the end he ends up reconciling with it.

OFF SIDES

Kaitlyn Brown

US

A camera crew follows an elementary aged soccer team to discover the true reasons as to why they play soccer.

CLOWNFISH

Clayton Henderson

US

Frank and Elle decide to meet in real life after connecting on a dating app... That's when things get weird!

POACHER POACHER

Keil Orion Troisi

US

An innovative startup provides the hunt of a lifetime in this dark wildlife-conservation comedy.

BFFR Short

Erika Apelgren

Angelica and Patricia navigate a night of wine, food, and conversation. Patricia's detached and cold approach to the interaction becomes evident, but Angelica, desperate for connection, overlooks her flaws.

WWW.FORTSMITHFILM.COM



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Matthew Luhn

Keynote speaker, Matthew Luhn, former 20-year Pixar story artist and animator, brings his experience creating and developing 10 blockbuster films at Pixar while building and sustaining the creative culture at Pixar from startup to the most successful filmmaking group in the history of Hollywood.

The emergence of Artificial Intelligence is producing similar reactions to the development of computer animation in the 90's. Mr. Luhn will talk about how to embrace new technology and innovation using his experience as an accomplished writer and story artist on the *Toy Story* films, *Monsters Inc.*, *Finding Nemo*, *Cars*, *UP*, and *Ratatouille*, working with Pixar and as an advisor to other Fortune 500 companies. Regardless of technology, at the end of the day storytelling and content creation is still king.

Luhn will screen the film *SPRITE FRIGHT* and hold a Q&A session.

DIE LAUGHING

Kelly Griffin

US

A stand up comic, on the road, gets some news that changes everything.

OCTOBER DAISIES

Adam Ragsdale

US

Two apathetic young adults find themselves reluctantly entangled in a unique therapeutic experiment. At the urging of their shared therapist, they embark on a journey to break through their emotional barriers by completing a list of activities designed to ignite feelings they never knew they were capable of.

THE MEET-UP

Charlie Luckett

US

Two inexperienced drug dealers try to deliver a bag of drugs in hopes of getting a good amount of money.

ASHES TO DUST

Clark Lealand Childers

US

Estranged siblings reunite in their childhood home after the death of their eccentric mother. Without a will or any instructions, old wounds are quickly reopened and disagreements abound. A Ouija board may be the only way for "Mom" to provide the guidance they both desperately seek.

» 1:30 p.m.

Sci Fi

HERE AND NOWHERE

College Student

Brendan Burks

US

A young girl is trapped inside her home by her father and seeks freedom once a new neighbor moves in. (PG-13)

TRADE YOUR TIME

Michael Murray

US

A modern entrepreneur steeped in crypto-hustle culture is on the run from a polite employee of a metaphysical company dealing in death for using a clock that allows him to see into the future.

FUTURE TENSE

Samuel Carrillo

US

Miles Oblander, a quantum physicist stationed at the South Pole, discovers a coded warning emanating from the ice and must decide if he is brave enough to follow the clues in face of unknown peril.

DARK DREAMER

Max Ponischowski

Germany

A man awakens from a dream, sickened. When he returns to his bed he finds a sleeping body - himself - and a mysterious visitor who tells him he will live only as long as his sleeping self dreams.

HEART-WARE**Jii Zhang****Japan**

In 20XX, where Artificial Intelligence replaces many human jobs, Keisuke Sanada, a once-renowned game director, works as the only human employee remaining in a company. Teaming up with AI, he is developing an innovative “new perspective game.” However, he struggles to find a creative breakthrough. When an unexpected visitor arrives, Sanada discovers the inspiration he had been seeking.

» 4 p.m.

Local Shorts

IN A WORLD FULL OF LONELINESS**Jules Taylor****US**

A story about the universal power of connection to lift up even the most desolate soul. When Mrs. Kenit, relegated to a life of routine and isolation, witnesses an act of violence, it causes her to react and her life changes in just one night.

THE ARKANSAS MATERNAL HEALTH COMMUNITY HACKATHON**Documentary****Ringo Jones****US**

The Arkansas Maternal Health Community Hackathon was a free, one-day event open to the public that aims to start conversations, build connections and develop community-led solutions to address the maternal health crisis in Arkansas.

IT'S NOT YOU, IT'S ME**Rudy Aldor****US**

When love comes before first sight for lonely man Dan, things quickly spiral out of control. First he's texting all night, then he's proposing marriage, and finally he's rescuing his beloved from the Russian mob.

THAT ONE LITTLE THING**Emmanuel Joel Rodriguez****US**

Greg, an emotionally broken man, struggles to battle inner anguish and depression that manifests as an ever-present demon.

BUTTERFLY**Tanner McChristian****US**

A survivor of a brutal home invasion is forced to undergo a psychological evaluation.

CHARLIE MIKE**Kyle Kauwika Harris****US**

Haunted by the death of a hostage after a failed special forces rescue attempt, an ex-military Captain turned Contractor is tasked with finding a missing girl.

SATURDAY*The Bricks***» 10 a.m.**

Mississippi Spotlight Alum Documentary:

OUR MOVEMENT STARTS HERE**John Rash, Melanie Ho****US**

Documentary of a rural community that inspired an international environmental justice movement by fighting the state of North Carolina's toxic landfill.

WWW.FORTSMITHFILM.COM**» Noon**

Porter + Craig Spotlight:

FAILURE to PROTECT**Jeremy Pion-Berlin****US**

A devastating, lacerating documentary on foster and homeless children caught in the injustices of “The System” -- and the parents accused of abuse or neglect -- coming from a courageous young filmmaker who's own mother was a social worker and who has himself volunteered with Parents Anonymous since he was a teenager. Made over the course of three years from pre-production to locked cut, Jeremy Pion-Berlin established meaningful connections with families and experts in the field, as well as deepened his personal, long-term commitment to this social justice cause. Failure to Protect is the first film of its kind, providing a comprehensive yet intimate view on the complexity of our child welfare system.

» 2 p.m.

Oklahoma Spotlight: Indigenous

BARROOM HEROES**Logan Guy Walcher****US**

A Chickasaw filmmaker from Oklahoma joins the world of pro wrestling and lucha libre over the course of six years. The film goes inside Elote, a Tulsa restaurant within its hilariously small 10-foot ring. Embraced by a ragtag group of pro wrestlers, he offers an intimate behind-the-scenes look at the chaotic and unpredictable world of pro wrestling and the enthusiastic wrestlers who bring it to life.

» 4 p.m.

Arkansas Cinema Society Spotlight:

SCREAM THERAPY**Cassie Keet****US**

Five best friends, all struggling in their personal lives, head to the desert for a girls weekend of drinking, drugs, and restorative scream therapy. Their vacation takes a sharp turn when they cross paths with a cult of incels who are on a very pressing human sacrifice deadline.

» 5:45 p.m.

Hollywood Spotlight

SCRAP**Narrative Feature -****Vivian Kerr****US**

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).

» 8 p.m.

Porter + Craig Spotlight:

Silent Thunder**Isaac Medeiros****US**

This wild and action-packed, Tarantino-style mashup of turn-of-the-century Western and sci-fi/horror stars TV icon Ted McGinley (Revenge of the Nerds,

Married with Children, Apple TV's new hit Shrinking), veteran character actor Jack Lucarelli, and supermodel Laura James leading a hot young cast, as an old-time sheriff sets out to rescue five gorgeous ladies of the evening who've been abducted by desert-dwelling mutants (while also transporting two ornery male prisoners to their date with the hangman.) Had jam-packed screenings at the prestigious Newport Beach and Beverly Hills film festivals and (will have had) a limited Theatrical in July 2024, and boasts top production values and an A-grade soundtrack.

*Temple Live Main Theater***» 10 a.m.**

Drama

XIAOHUL AND HIS COWS**Xinying Lao****Short****China**

Except for mountain landscapes, magical rocks, and a few other kids, the village where Xiaohui lives with his grandfather and two cows has nothing to offer. The nine-year-old sorely misses his parents who work in the city. When grandpa has to sell a calf, the clever grandson tries everything to prevent the separation of mother and child.

LOMA**College Student Short****Della Ayu Kartika****Indonesia**

At a school camp-out and competition where leaders of Boys and Girls Scouts will be chosen, Loma works hard to win. Her opponent chooses to take Loma down by tarring her with a corruption case against Loma's parents. Through each challenge, Loma competes to prove that she is different from her parents and has the right to be a leader.

BLOOD AND WATER**College Short****Jane Simonetti****US**

When a mysterious accident involving her best friend occurs, 16-year-old Hailey Greene bends the truth in order to protect her upper-middle-class family's reputation. She soon finds herself at the Intersection of truth and loyalty and must decide before fate chooses for her.

THE SPECTER OF INNOCENCE**Short****Mathis Tayssier****France**

Suddenly brought down in a fight he's supposed to throw for money, a corrupt boxer becomes conscious in the labyrinth of his memories. If he wants to wake up before being K.O'd, he will have to trace back the thread of his life to find the “source.”

THE PREMIERE**Toma Waszarow****Short****Bulgaria**

On the evening of the premiere of his new film “Deep in the Soul”, director Philip Kralev is curious to see what the audience and critics think, when an unexpected guest appears.

DREAM OF SOUND**Shingyu Kang****Short****Republic of Korea**

A woman who works as a film sound

recordist goes to the city to record. After wandering around the noisy city for a while, the woman arrives at a waterfront, where she closes her eyes and begins recording spatial sounds.

» Noon

Indigenous Shorts

CHEATING AIN'T EASY**Matt Kappel****US**

A college student rushes to study hall prior to the big test. With nobody available to help, she uncovers an ominous study guide that might hold the answers she's been looking for.

OUR WELLBEING, OUR WAY**Luisa Mitchell,****Radheya Jegatheva****Australia**

Indigenous Australian's holistic and interconnected ways of experiencing wellbeing is brutally disrupted by British colonization, leading to intergenerational trauma and systemic disadvantage.

3 DAYS, 3 YEARS**Florencia Gómez Sántiz****Mexico**

Elena, a Tsotsil woman from San Andrés Larrainzar, Chiapas, is challenged by the customs of her people when an almost entirely male community assembly appoints her as a municipal trustee. As an authority, she introduces us to the complexity of the system of sociopolitical organization in San Andrés. During her term of office, the traditional practice of masculinity begins to be questioned.

LUMBEELAND**Montana Cypress****US**

To gain his independence, a quick-tempered drug dealer must escape the shadow of his kingpin grandfather in a devout Native community.

THE LEFTOVERS**James Whitecloud****US**

Two Brothers and Their uncle deal with the aftermath of losing the family patriarch in Indian Country.

» 2:10 p.m.

People of Color Shorts

FREEDOM'S HOUSE**Corrigan Revels****US**

Amari is living the “American Dream” as a great husband, father and having a successful career. Internally, he is losing a mental battle and is at risk of losing everything.

HAPPY LOVE**College Student Short****Bailey Elizabeth Vo****US**

PHÚC YÊU is a coming-of-age drama/comedy follows a Vietnamese American girl, Linh, and her struggle between not feeling American enough and also not Vietnamese enough while living in a predominantly white community with her immigrant father. As Lunar New Year comes around and she starts to grow into her own person, Linh finally begins to understand her father and the importance of embracing and celebrating her culture.

INFRACTION **Short US**
Timothy Blackwood
When a prison guard is murdered on the job, his replacement and an inmate form an unlikely relationship with life-altering ramifications. Based on the real life story of Philadelphia native Terrance Lewis who served 21 years in prison for a murder he did not commit.

NYANGA **Animation Short Mexico**
Medhin Tewelde Serrano
During the colonial era, Nyanga was kidnapped off the coast of Africa, brought to Mexico and enslaved. Though forced to work on the master's plantation, he never stopped dreaming of freedom. Based on historical facts, and using shadow theater and handmade cinema, 'Nyanga' is an homage to resistance against colonial chains.

» 4 p.m.
Short Docs
UPROOTED **US**
Melea Burke
Bitterroot Valley resident Roger Castillo makes apple wine from a century-old orchard in his back yard as he reflects on his evacuation from Vietnam in 1975. Operation Babylift was organized by the U.S. and other Western countries to evacuate nearly 3,000 children — mostly mixed-race orphans likely fathered by U.S. soldiers during the Vietnam War — before the fall of Saigon. Castillo was one of these children.

THE ARKANSAS ACCENT PROJECT **US**
Ben Corbett
What sounds and sayings define the various people of the state of Arkansas and what these people may have in common? This creative scholarship draws upon interviews collected from the five major Arkansan regions: the Ozarks, the Arkansas River Valley, the Ouachitas, the Coastal Plain, and the Delta. It expands our understanding of who our people are and how their speech makes the Arkansas accent unique among Southern accents.

REMINGTON **Mexico**
Magali Caballero
Javier and Mario are two friends who share a passion for writing, despite the considerable age difference between them. Through an exchange of letters and texts written in recent years, we learn about the place literature has in their lives and, in particular, their relationship.

CHILDREN OF THE LAKE **Islamic Republic of Iran**
Mohammad Alimoradi
A documentary portraying the dire consequences of Lake Urmia's gradual drying on Zinatli village's people. A once-vibrant region now battles cancer and denial from officials while preserving dreams on the salt flats.

DITTY BOPS: THE ART OF LISTENING **US**
Zachary Burns
Centered on the captivating story of Dr. Neil Chapman, a renowned photographer in Edmond, Oklahoma, this multicultural,

multi-arts project unveils the sacrifice and struggle behind his prestigious career. From his days as a Morse Code interceptor ("ditty bopper") during the Vietnam War, to his battle with the devastating effects of Parkinson's Disease caused by Agent Orange, his journey represents a growing population of hundreds of thousands of veterans whose stories, and struggles, are unheard. Ditty Bops sets the stage for advocacy through a creative tour de force of Morse Code-infused music, choreography, theater, spoken word and visual art, set against the backdrop of Chapman's powerful Mannequins photographs.

» 6:15 p.m.
Arkansas Spotlight:
CRIES FROM THE COTTON FIELD,
The True Tale of an Italian American
Moses and His Flock **US**
Larry Foley, Ed Eaves
The saga of Italians who were unscrupulously recruited to work cotton fields in the American South, after the Civil War, and their resilient journey of hope, hardship and faith. It is told in the words of their parish priest, Father Pietro Bandini, who had previously been kicked out of the Jesuits. The Italian enclave Bandini founded still thrives in the community of Tontitown in the Ozark hills of Northwest Arkansas. Q&A to follow.

» 8:30 p.m.
Thriller
DOWN THE DRAIN **US**
Lauren Keller
A woman performs a simple, everyday task of emptying a dehumidifier only to discover something lurking in the depths of a drain in her basement.

NO SUCH THING **Ireland**
Peter Young
An obsessed alcoholic and his reluctant grandson search the Mourne Mountains for the fabled Banshee.

THE TICKLE MONSTER **US**
Brett Helms
The film follows Max, a troubled kid who steals a book from a mystical shop. Upon reading it at home, he unwittingly unleashes The Tickle Monster, a creature bent on causing chaos, by tickling people... to death!

URBEX
When urban explorers investigate an abandoned orphanage, they interrupt a ritual by three young witches trying to resurrect the former head mistress, accused of witchcraft and the gruesome murders of children.

ZOMBIE DATE NIGHT IN TLOKWENG **Botswana**
Moreetsi Gabang
A young couple's romantic evening takes an unexpected turn when their roommate returns home possessed by a demonic spirit after attending a religious sermon.

WWW.FORTSMITHFILM.COM

THE EMERALD WASP **Australia**
Peter Renzullo
The retelling of the tale of the emerald wasp is the foundation stone to the relationship between Khan and Isabella. How does this story impact on the lives of the teller and of the many who undoubtedly hear this often told tale of the sheer power of nature?

HELLISH **US**
Christian Wallace
A woman arrives at a wheelchair-bound man's home to work as his live-in caretaker. Neither is who they claim to be.

ULTRAVIOLET **US**
Justin Jayne
A young woman is about to go on a date with a vampire. Will she notice in time to save herself?

OPPOSITE REFLECTION **Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**
Jhonnatan Piña
Hannah, a young actress, tries to recover from the trauma of her kidnapping while dealing with the manipulation of her twin sister Emily. When she discovers a dark secret, Hannah is forced to choose between family or her own path.

Lodge Room
» 10:30 a.m.
Local Spotlight
A HALF-MARATHON JOURNEY **US**
Dalton Hays
An immersive cinematic experience that chronicles the highs and lows of a transformative running adventure. A skillful reimagining of a 16-episode running vlog series, this 90-minute film delves into the heart of a personal journey.

» 12:30 p.m.
Oklahoma Spotlight
FULL COURT PRESS: THE KEN ZACHER STORY **US**
Chuck Price
Documenting the short life of Ken Zacher, a High School basketball coach fighting against racial discrimination while suffering from mental illness. The fight made his family targets, too.

» 2:45 p.m.
Kazakhstan Spotlight
STEPPE **Kazakhstan**
Maxim Akbarov
The story of hunting inspectors who engage in a battle with poachers and save a woman and her daughter at the cost of their lives.

» 4:30 p.m.
Oklahoma Spotlight: LBGQT Sci Fi
HAILEY'S GAME **US**
Katie Hightower
When Carter lost her best friend in an accident, she never expected that five years later she'd still be haunted by visions of Hailey. Desperate, she recruits a zany bookstore clerk and Hailey's old boyfriend, Tanner, to conduct a seance to say

goodbye. Carter and Tanner will have to face the demons they've been running from since high school.

» 6:45 p.m.
Mexico Indigenous Spotlight
VAYCHILETIK **Documentary Feature Mexico**
Juan Javier Pérez
Through his dreams, José received a gift given by the gods but it carries consequences. José would like to rest, but he is not allowed. Vaychiletik explores this fierce yet beautiful reality, forged from the dreams of the Mayan people of Mexico.

» 8:45 p.m.
Dominican Republic Spotlight
Sponsored by Arkansas Heart Center
THE BALLAD OF THE CROWS **Dominican Republic**
Tony Bacigaluppe Perez
Pablo is a young priest who for his revolutionary and rebellious ideals is sent from Mexico to a rural area between the border of the Dominican Republic and Haiti. There Pablo discovers a network of trafficking in women and corruption that will cast doubt on his principles.

Sphinx Club
» 10:30 a.m.
Regional Shorts
GOOD-BY, BABY **US**
Kristine Artymowski
A woman in her seventies who is getting dementia thinks her dead husband has come back as a tortoise.

CARVING **US**
Laura Shatkus, Russell Leigh Sharman
Shot in a single unbroken take, a simple lesson on how to cut the Thanksgiving turkey turns darker by degrees as a young woman reveals to her father the real reason she so desperately wants to learn how to carve.

DEATH IN LAVENDER **US**
Tyler W. Moore
Secrets begin to unravel after the untimely passing of the patriarch of the Pennington family. It has the look of 1940's Noir film, shot on 16mm black and white film using a 46 year old Bolex EBM camera.

CHASING THUNDER **US**
Lance McDaniel
A behind the scenes look at the world premiere of Distant Thunder, the first Native American written and produced musical as it comes to life at the First American Museum thanks to a collaboration with Lyric Theater, the official theater of Oklahoma.

TAKE CARE, TAR CREEK **US**
Aaron W Gibson
In far northeast Oklahoma, Tar Creek is one of the most toxic places in the US, heavily mined for lead in both WWI and WWII. High concentrations of metals including lead, cadmium, and zinc, are found in the land and water. This film asks us to consider the impact our decisions have on the future.

NIECE DAY
Jordan Wilson **US**
Justin, a film professor, brings his niece Sammy to “take your kid to work day.” He anticipates a day full of fun for them both, but begins to worry as the day wears on.

SMOOTHIE
Chris M Churchill **US**
A middle-aged stay at home dad is confronted by his daughter’s best friend about a recent infidelity.

STRAWBERRY
Nathaly M Moreno **US**
While working two jobs to help support her family, Martha struggles, as a first generation immigrant from Honduras, to find balance between her roots and American culture on the day of her cousin’s quinceañera.

» 12:35 p.m.
LGBTQ Shorts
THE TWO OF US
Conor Struan Forrest **Canada**
11-year-old Jerry is a regular kid with an “evil” big sister and pretty ordinary parents. He gets a crush on a girl and in the process becomes confused by the relationships around him.

MANTING
Shuyao Chen **China**
Manting, a Chinese woman in her early 60s, reconnects with the lesbian lover from her adolescence after a classmates’ reunion.

THE SPACE BETWEEN
Luke Baker **US**
Two college students, who on the outside couldn’t be more different from each other, meet at a party and form a deep connection where they find self-discovery, forgiveness and hope for the future.

POWER **College Student Short**
Josh Taylor **US**
After coming out to his friends during a game of truth or dare, a trans high school athlete from rural Arkansas deals with backlash.

THE FAINT GOODBYE
Aaron Garcia **US**
A film experience about past lovers meeting at a cafe after years apart.

CIRCLE
Ferhat Ertan **Turkey**
The chador brought to the tailor’s shop will confront Arif with his own reality once more.

» 2:30 p.m.
Regional College
JOE (Just Ordinary Everyday)
POC, College Student Short
Bailey Elizabeth Vo **US**
Hopeful coming-of-age story shares the message that it’s okay to reach out for help if you are struggling mentally. Joe is popular, tall, handsome, and a football star. However, he keeps finding himself talking to his therapist.

STATION 20
College Student Short
Drew Chamberlain,
Gage Morgan **US**
Captain Jason Morgan leads a platoon of firefighters through daily life in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

WORLD’S LAMEST TEACHER
Casey Lee Floyd **US**
A high school teacher edges ever closer to complete burnout. Desperate to educate and inspire his students, he must navigate the normal hurdles of the profession, as well as those his students throw at him.

THE CLEANUP ROUTINE
Kaden Wittig **US**
A janitor uses a memory-altering computer program in an attempt to reimagine himself in a better life.

TWO OF A KIND
Skylar Nelsen **US**
Clark and George, a grandfather-granddaughter duo, bond over poker, being their family’s black sheep, and scamming George’s poker buddies: a rowdy group of Vietnam War vets.

DANDY, THE FLOWER
Jonathan Michael Peterson **US**
A young man finds himself having a wholesome conversation with a dandelion flower, only to wake up and realize it was a dream.

REFLECTION
Maximus Hahn Fortin **US**
When an antique mirror is brought into their home a couple experiences the true horror of what it means to be perfect.

SHOW PUB QUEEN
Ren Tsukamoto **US**
An underground Japanese performer who works at a Gentleman’s Club aspires to be recognized for her talent.

AFTER SCHOOL
Lexie Mosby **US**
When a 3rd-grade girl has a heartbreak at school, her radical, chain-smoking grandmother cheers her up with some offbeat life lessons.

» 4:45 p.m.
Alum Shorts
THE NIGHT BEGINS
Roman Sinityn **Russian Federation**
A young man’s careless pursuit of fun on a summer night out takes him on a thrilling journey, leading to grave consequences.

TYEE - MESSENGER OF THE VOID
Erik Sanchez **US**
After his father’s death, Shawnee returns to his Indian Reservation to protect a sacred rattle from the mythical trickster, Raven.

TAKE IT SLOW
Jason Pitts **US**
Rebecca’s grandmother’s final wish sends her on an adventure of self discovery.

BRUSH STROKES
Obed Lamy **US**
Using art to recover from a traumatic stroke experience, an elderly man rediscovers a long-lost dream of becoming an painter.

GAME OF SYMBOLS
Olga Artushevska **Ukraine**
Ryta buys a pair of shorts from a thrift store and doesn’t notice a little spot on it. She doesn’t know how this spot will change her life.

SKINTONE
Alberto Marchiori **Italy**
Orlanda wants to give her niece a pair of ballet slippers for her dance recital. But finding them in the right colour is not easy.

DOMESTIC HELP
Raveesh Jaiswal **India**
Thomas, a failed clown, works as domestic help for a woman with an endless to-do list. His job performance begins to suffer once he ‘notices’ the abandoned children in her backyard.

THE THIRTEENTH YEAR
Samad Alizadeh **Islamic Republic of Iran**
Helia has become 13 and this led her family to restrict her from cycling.

THE SOCK
Samuel Robert Gassaway **US**
Following a high profile robbery, Detective Whalen finally finds the culprit he’s been chasing... or so he thinks.

» 6:45 p.m.
Action
THE BOOK CLUB
Johnnie Brannon **US**
When a woman is invited to a book club, it soon becomes clear that the women in this club are more than they appear to be.

BANG!
Wesley Rolfe **US**
A police offer confronts his criminal brother about his recent crimes. He must decide to let him go, arrest him, or kill him before his brother strikes.

NICO’S WAY
Boris Mariy **Italy**
Nico has distanced himself from his mafia past. His girlfriend dreams of moving to London together. His loyalty to his family keeps him rooted in Rome, for his troubled brother and their mother.

THE LIGHTHOUSE LOST
Zac Counts **US**
Mary Crane, a dedicated undercover state officer, delves into the heart of an Arkansas town haunted by a century-old mystery. As residents disappear, Mary’s investigation uncovers the town’s deeply buried secrets and deceit.

SUBURBAN STORY
Chris Yen **US**
Devoted father Mike reluctantly turns to burglary to provide for his daughter. A story of unexpected consequences as a

desperate man’s pursuit of a better life carries profound implications.

VISITATION
Christian Skibinski **Germany**
The past catches up with Felix. Mob-leader Ivan wants his cocaine back, and Felix has to fight to escape his crime background.

LAND OF CONFUSION
Sönke Erik Nissen Hünding,
Christian Skibinski **Germany**
In 1986 two agents of very different characters meet in a filthy hotel room somewhere in the boonies.

» 9 p.m.
Music Videos
Heart Shaped Box
KK Hammond **UK**
Baritone in Little Rock
Steve McFadden, Adam Louderback **US**
The Girl Who Faded Away
Brent Heise **US**
This Is For You
Michelle Nartey, Evelyn Apahidean **US**
“Too Much”
Danielle Ellesse Smith **US**
Feeling Colder
Matt Crockett **US**
Takes The Cake - Hide
Cy Sheffield **US**
LUCA - Gonosz Bábok
Péter Engelmann **Hungary**
PROTOHIVE - Potions
Emil Nava **US**
Too Much
Bobby Ross **US**
Where You Want Me
Ringo Jones **US**
In Your Head 2023
Michael West **US**
Crabs in a Bucket
Dusty Peppers **US**
Car Colors - Old Death
Kyle Garrett **US**
Soulkeeper: Live, from Little Rock
Brayden Smith **US**
Atrium “Silent Lucidity”
Thomas Crane **US**
Tsitsutsa Tsigevs
Jeremy Charles **US**
Chaos Candy
Lauren Bumgarner, Lindsey Cox **US**
Nasupeti
Lauren Bumgarner **US**
Double Booked
Adrian Bartholomew **US**
Has AnyBody Seen Me?
Mack Neal Burke III **US**
Let Go (Official Music Video)
Raymond DimmittBrazil