

TRUE/FALSE FILM FEST 2026 FEATURE AND SHORT FILMS

AANIKOBIJIGAN [ANCESTOR / GREAT-GRANDPARENT / GREAT-GRANDCHILD] Dirs. Adam Khalil & Zachary Khalil // 2026 // USA, Denmark // 85 min

As one Michigan tribal organization works to repatriate ancestral remains, the filmmakers probe the role of cultural institutions and archival collections, while holding space for collective mourning.

ALWAYS Dir. Deming Chen // 2025 // USA, China, France, Taiwan // 87 min

Amidst the mountains of China's Hunan region, a young boy finds magic in poetry and then watches it disappear with time.

AMERICAN DOCTOR Dir. Poh Si Teng // 2026 // United States // State of Palestine // Malaysia // Qatar 90 min

Vérité follows three physician friends—Palestinian, Jewish, and Zoroastrian—from a besieged Gaza hospital to the halls of Congress, fighting to save lives.

ANCESTRAL KNOWLEDGE Dir. Ruby Chasi // 2025 // Ecuador // 18 min

We accompany Napuruna midwives in the Ecuadorian Amazon as they assist a birth.

AUTO QUEENS (U.S. Premiere) Dir. Sraiyanti Haricharan // 2025 // India // 31 min

In Chennai, India we follow a tender and intimate friendship between two drivers from their state's first women-led rickshaw union.

BARBARA FOREVER Dir. Brydie O'Connor // 2026 // US // 102 min

A dreamlike portrait of lesbian experimental pioneer Barbara Hammer, making use of Hammer's own films and personal archive to explore her work, loves and legacy.

BEND IN THE RIVER, THE Dir. Robb Moss // 2025 // USA // 82 min

Robb Moss completes his Riverdogs trilogy, returning to five friends in their 70s as lifelong friendship meets the sharp edges of memory, loss, and mortality.

BORN SECRET Dir. Riley Fitchpatrick // 2025 // USA // 19 min

Having grown up in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, a filmmaker digs into the legacy of a town founded on the prospect of nuclear war.

THE BOYS AND THE BEES Dir. Arielle Knight // 2025 // USA // 19 min

A farm in Georgia paints a picture of pastoral idyll as little boys learn lessons in life and love from their beekeeping parents.

BROKEN ENGLISH Dirs. Iain Forsyth & Jane Pollard // 2026 // United Kingdom // 96 min

Genre defying portrait of Marianne Faithfull, made with her full involvement and led by Tilda Swinton; celebrates six decades of fearless reinvention and enduring artistry.

BUCKS HARBOR (North American Premiere) Dir. Pete Muller // 2026 // USA // 98 min

The fishermen of Bucks Harbor in Downeast Maine share vulnerable reflections on their harsh upbringing in this ode to lives lived on the margins.

BUCKSKIN (World Premiere) Dir. Mars Verrone // 2025 // USA // 17 min

A filmmaker looks to their grandfather, a forester inside academia and the U.S. Forest Service, asking how one life resists, survives, and protects community within institutions that reject you.

CUIDADORAS (CARE) (North American Premiere) Dirs. Martina Matzkin & Gabriela Uassouf // 2025 // Argentina // 80 min

Set in Argentina, Cuidadoras (Care) follows three transgender women caring for the elderly senior residence. Deep bonds grow and a model of empathy and connection emerges.

CLOSURE Dir. Michał Marczak // 2026 // Poland // 108 min

After his teenage son vanishes, Daniel searches Poland's Vistula River, suspended between fear of a fatal leap and stubborn hope his son survives.

DIARIES (True Vision Award Repertory) Dir. Ed Pincus // 1976 // USA // 210 min

Filmed between 1971 and 1976, Ed Pincus's *Diaries* (1971–1976) is a landmark of personal nonfiction, tracing five years of marriage with Jane Pincus, co-author of *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, as they test the promises and pressures of an open relationship, and let the camera hold what love, freedom, and consequence leave behind.

DIVISION (World Premiere) Dir. Paul Dallas // 2025 // USA // 14 min

Spring, 2025. Brooklyn, New York. One chapter closes and another begins.

ENDLINGS (World Premiere) Dir. María Luisa Santos // 2025 // USA // 16 min

A filmmaker wanders churches, DNA labs, and ghostly archives, asking what endures when what we love is vanishing.

EYES OF GHANA Dir. Ben Proudfoot // 2025 // USA, Ghana, United Kingdom // 90 min

90-year-old filmmaker, Chris Hesse, recounts his career and, through it, recovers and resurrects the history of Ghanaian cinema.

ESCALATION (World Premiere) Dir. AJ Schnack // 2026 // USA // 36 min

Over a dozen U.S. journalists recount being targeted by police while covering protests, revealing escalating state efforts to suppress a free press.

FIRST THEY CAME FOR MY COLLEGE (World Premiere) Dir. Patrick Xavier Bresnan // 2026 // USA // 105 min

As conservatives take over the leadership of New College of Florida, a group of students join hands with their professor to resist and reclaim their alma mater.

FRED'S BASEMENT BIJOU (World Premiere) Dir. Michael T. Vollmann // 2025 // USA // 13 min

In Racine, Wisconsin, a former insurance agent builds a surreal and alternate reality in his home's basement—a fully functioning 1920s movie palace.

GATORVILLE Dir. Freddie Gluck // 2025 // USA // 19 min

As young siblings grow older, they contemplate a future that lies beyond the limits of their home—a tilapia farm turned into an alligator sanctuary.

THE GREAT EXPERIMENT (World Premiere) Dirs. Stephen Maing & Eric Daniel Metzgar // 2026 // USA // 100 min

A collage of stunning black and white vignettes chronicle everyday political life from 2017 to 2020 in the United States.

HAIR, PAPER, WATER... Dirs. Trương Minh Quý & Nicolas Graux // 2025 // Belgium, France, Vietnam // 71 min

In a quiet and poetic film, a grandmother imparts wisdom to her many grandchildren. Ultimately, arming them with language to understand life itself.

HIGH RISE PIGS (U.S. Premiere) Dir. Ang Siew Ching // 2025 // Finland // 15 min

In a massive pig farm in China, a dystopia unfolds; not in blood and gore but in a quiet and disarming way.

HOTLINE, THE Dir. Ricki Stern and Jesse Sweet // 2026 // USA // 36 min

Portrait of an anonymous overdose hotline where people call before using, and volunteers stay on the line, racing against time, forging collective hope amid addiction.

HOW TO CLEAN A HOUSE IN TEN EASY STEPS (World Premiere) Dir. Carolina Gonzalez // 2026 // USA, Colombia, México // 80 min

A mother and daughter create a shared fantasy to explore their intertwined experiences of immigration, labor, and womanhood.

IMPOSSIBLE ADDRESS, AN Dir. Suneil Sanzgiri // 2025 // USA, India, Angola // 38 min

An essay on Afro-Asian solidarity highlights the importance of interconnectedness in a rapidly changing world, through digital animation, 3D scanning and archival material.

IN EXCHANGE FOR FLESH Dirs. Corey Devon Arthur and Sandro Ramani // 2025 // USA // 15 min

Through recorded calls, smuggled footage, and state archival, this unflinching record exposes a violent state-sanctioned prison practice known as “strip frisk”.

JARIPEO Dirs. Efraín Mojica & Rebecca Zwieig // 2026 // México, USA, France // 67 min

Neon-lit nights and rodeos pulsing with norteño rhythms frame a complex portrait of masculinity as the filmmaker traces an intimate journey with their own identity in Michoacán.

JISM (BODY) (U.S. Premiere) Dir. Husain Qaizar & Saad Zuberi // 2025 // Pakistan // 13 min

When aspiring male models get photographed in Pakistan, they end up pushing the limits of socially-decreed gender roles and taboos.

L'MINA Dir. Randa Maroufi // 2025 // France, Morocco, Qatar // 26 min

In Jerada, Morocco, retired miners pose for a portrait, then reenact the dangerous underground work that still continues—clandestinely—because no other livelihood exists.

LAND OF COLD (World Premiere) Dir. Hervé Demers // 2025 // Canada // 17 min

Immigrants from Sub-Saharan Africa have chosen to start their lives over north of the 49th parallel. Here, in the vast expanses of Northern Canada, they reflect on the challenges and splendors of a season they've never yet experienced: winter.

LANDSCAPES OF MEMORY (World Premiere) Dir. Leah Galant // 2026 // Germany, USA // 77 min

As a Jewish American filmmaker studies her past in Berlin, she grapples with the reality of her trauma being weaponized to inflict violence on Palestinians.

MARY OLIVER: SAVED BY THE BEAUTY OF THE WORLD (World Premiere) Dir. Sasha Waters // 2026 // USA // 91 min

Portrait of Mary Oliver, Pulitzer-winning poet and private queer icon, whose plainspoken wonder for woods, dogs, and living reaches readers across every divide.

NO MEAN CITY Dir. Ross McClean // 2025 // United Kingdom // 15 min

The switch from sodium-vapor street lights to LED street lights reveals an Irish community holding onto tradition while technology changes daily life.

NUISANCE BEAR Dirs. Gabriela Osio Vanden & Jack Weisman // 2026 // USA, Canada, United Kingdom // 90 min

In Manitoba, we see the world through the perspective of a polar bear and question who deserves to be in the icy port town—the bears or the tourists?

OLDEST PERSON IN THE WORLD, THE Dir. Sam Green // 2026 // USA // 87 min

A ten-year quest to meet the world's oldest living people by record becomes a meditation on time and life itself.

ONE LAST ORDER (World Premiere) Dirs. Lauren DeFilippo and Sam Soko // 2025 // USA // 21 min

On her final shift at a Gainesville drive-thru, a beloved cashier is surprised with the day's earnings, as a town lines up to say goodbye.

PÁA'TENEHU (WAIT FOR ME) (World Premiere) Dir. Thiago Zanato // 2025 // México // 11 min

As a storm batters Southeast México, a family shelters in their butcher shop, listening to their grandmother tell stories, and clinging to hope for their missing father.

PASS TIME (World Premiere) Dir. Jj Measer // 2025 // US // 16 min

Set against one of the most contentious U.S. elections, PASS TIME reflects on how news and political rhetoric seep quietly into everyday life.

PHENOMENA (World Premiere) Dir. Josef Gatti // 2025 // Australia // 86 min

Partnering with his physics teacher father, the filmmaker embarks on a fantastical journey where the universe opens up in all its glory and magic.

PINBALL (World Premiere) Dir. Naveen Chabal // 2026 // USA // 86 min

In this contemplative coming of age portrait, Yosef, a spirited athlete, is becoming more aware of his family history, after being displaced from their Iraqi homeland.

PLACE OF ABSENCE, A Dir. Marialuisa Ernst // 2025 // USA, Bolivia // 86 min

Amidst organized movements across the Americas, a filmmaker examines grief shaped by unresolved loss, while unpacking her uncle's disappearance during Argentina's Videla dictatorship.

POWWOW PEOPLE Dir. Sky Hopinka // 2025 // USA // 88 min

An immersive vérité portrait of contemporary Native powwow culture and a vibrant celebration of community and culture captured from inside the circle.

QUEEN AND THE SMOKEHOUSE, THE (North American Premiere) Dir. Iga Lis // 2025 // Poland // 65 min

In Łeba, Poland, Miecia, lovingly referred to as the "Queen," serves legendary fish, revealing the quiet power of locally owned institutions.

REMAKE (True Vision Award) (North American Premiere) Dir. Ross McElwee // 2025 // USA // 116 min

Ross McElwee assembles decades of footage of his son Adrian, confronting time, grief, and authorship; while a stalled Sherman's March remake haunts the margins.

SAME WATER (World Premiere) Dir. Martine Granby // 2025 // USA // 21 min

Archival footage and research come together to resurrect the memory of Florida's Paradise Park, a waterpark that was a site for Black middle class leisure in Jim Crow America.

SCHOOL FOR DEFECTORS (World Premiere) Dir. Jeremy Workman // 2026 // USA, SOUTH KOREA // 97 min

In a school in Busan, teenagers come of age bearing the weight of their parents' decision to risk their lives and escape North Korea.

SEIZED Dir. Sharon Liese // 2026 // USA // 92 min

A newspaper in Marion, Kansas, becomes the microcosm mirroring the nation-wide fight between democracy, the free press, and repression.

SHERMAN'S MARCH (True Vision Award Repertory) Dir. Ross McElwee, 1987 // USA // 157 min

Documentary filmmaker Ross McElwee sets out to make a movie about Union General Sherman's March to the Sea towards the end of the American Civil War, but keeps getting sidetracked by his own love life.

SOLE (월) (World Premiere) Dir. Haneol Lee // 2025 // USA // 2025 // 12 min

An observational portrait of a Korean American cobbler in Nashville, revealing how pride in craft becomes a way of being.

SONS OF DETROIT Dir. Jeremy Xido // 2025 // USA // 104 min

A filmmaker looks back at the Detroit he called home and questions the social forces that made him move far away.

SOUL PATROL Dir. J.M. Harper // 2026 // USA // 99 min

After fifty years, the Vietnam War's first and only Black special operations team reunites, revealing a hidden history and seeking peace through reckoning.

SUDAKAS Dir. Ricardo Betancourt // 2025 // USA // 13 min

Ricardo shares the realities of working a low-wage job in the U.S. through the lived experiences of his mother, a college-educated immigrant from Venezuela.

TCB - THE TONI CADE BAMBARA SCHOOL OF ORGANIZING Dirs. Monica Henriquez & Louis Massiah // 2025 // USA, Canada, France, Senegal, UK // 105 min

An archival-rich biography of writer-activist Toni Cade Bambara, whose novels, essays, and filmmaking galvanized movements, illuminated by testimonies from Toni Morrison, Nikky Finney, and Haile Gerima.

TIME AND WATER Dir. Sara Dosa // 2026 // Iceland, USA // 90 min

Illuminating a family's shared memories with Iceland's first melted glacier caused by climate change, *Time and Water* portrays a writer trying to preserve his connection to the natural world.

TO HOLD A MOUNTAIN Drs. Biljana Tutorov and Petar Glomazić // 2026 // Serbia, France, Montenegro, Slovenia, Croatia // 105 min

In Montenegro's remote highlands, shepherd Gara and her daughter Nada defend their ancestral mountain from a NATO training ground, driven by love for their land and way of life.

TROPICAL PARK Dir. Hansel Porras Garcia // 2025 // USA // 85 min

In one single take, a pair of siblings talk about racism, transphobia, past lives and, somehow, also fit in a driving lesson.

TRUE NORTH Dir. Michèle Stephenson // 2025 // USA, Canada // 96 min

A deep archival dig tells us about 1969's Black student protests at Montreal's Concordia University. In teaching us history, it teaches us about our presents.

WHAT COMES FROM SITTING IN SILENCE? (World Premiere) Dir. Sophie Schrago // 2026 // France, South Korea, Switzerland, USA // 76 min

Within the quiet confines of a small courtroom—the first Islamic-law court in Mumbai—Judge Khatoon and her team guide families and empower women to speak out against violence.

WHO MOVES AMERICA (World Premiere) Dir. Yael Bridge // 2026 // USA // 87 min

Across America, UPS workers come together to demand better working conditions as they go about criss-crossing the world, delivering packages and connecting lives.

YOU DO NOT EXIST Dir. Dwayne LeBlanc // 2026 // USA // 8 min

As planes fill and empty the sky above, a man lies in his garden letting his mind wander and collect memories.