

THE 16TH ANNUAL

PRESENTED BY THE LOUISVILLE FILM SOCIETY

FLYOVER FILM FESTIVAL

JULY 22 - AUGUST 1, 2026
LOUISVILLE, KY



SA AQUILAS MELLER 2026

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FLYOVER FILM FESTIVAL

JULY 22 - AUGUST 1, 2026

Cue the lights, turn up the volume, and grab the popcorn because the 16th annual Flyover Film Festival begins July 22! Presented by the Louisville Film Society in partnership with the Speed Cinema, the Brown Theatre, and the Kentucky Science Center, our lineup will feature a vibrant mix of indie gems, insightful documentaries, and captivating short films.

Plus, you'll get to hear from some of the filmmakers themselves during the post-screening Q&As and celebrate our incredible film family with parties at different venues around town!

THE FLYOVER FILM FESTIVAL TEAM

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

POSTER ARTIST
Douglas Miller

Alexandra Reinholdt

PROGRAM DESIGN
Harris McCabe

FLYOVER JURY MEMBERS

Narrative – Rachel Annette Helson,
Kerry Bellessa, Abi Van Andel

Documentary – Ravi Bhatia,
Erica L. Taylor, Harris McCabe

Short Films – John Fitch,
Chris Morocco, Geoff Storts

KENTUCKY SCIENCE CENTER

Erin Day (Theater Coordinator), Corey
Thomas (Sr. Manager of Visitor Services),
Jared Sage (Dir. of Visitor Strategy)

FESTIVAL COORDINATOR
Andrea Metzler

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Stu Pollard (Chair),
Nancy Tafel (Secretary / Treasurer),
Alexandra Reinholdt, Derek Sepe,
Max Neace, Rachel Annette Helson

THE SPEED CINEMA TEAM

Dean Otto (Curator of Film),
Nathan Viner (Assistant Curator of Film),
Brian Denny (Cinema Projectionist /
House Manager)

**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE
KENTUCKY PERFORMING
ARTS TEAM**

**THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS AND
VOLUNTEERS, THE STARS BEHIND THE SCENES!**

OPENING FILM



CORNBREAD MAFIA

Directed by Evan Mascagni & Drew Morris

Thursday, July 23, 6pm & 8:30pm Screening + Q&A

Location: Speed Cinema



The largest marijuana syndicate in American history was not run out of Miami or New York, it came from a bunch of farmers in Marion County, KY. This documentary tells their unbelievable true story, starting in the 1970s when young men came home from Vietnam to find their farming communities collapsing. Sons of tobacco farmers – and before that moonshiners and bootleggers, they turned to marijuana as a way to keep their families and small town alive.

What followed was outrageous: lion cubs on the farm, wild trips to Vegas, backroads police chases, a code of silence that baffled prosecutors, and an operation so big it became known as the Cornbread Mafia. Equal parts true crime and tall tale, this is a story about friendship, survival, betrayal, and a whole lot of weed, told with the humor and honesty of the people who lived it.

The film world premiered at SXSW. 2026, U.S., DCP, 87 minutes. Recommended for 16+.

Includes post-screening Q&A with Director Evan Mascagni, Producer Merry-Kay Poe, Co-Producer Matt Wyatt, as well as some of the main participants.



UNION COUNTY

Written & Directed by Adam Meeks

Friday, July 24, 7pm Screening

Location: Speed Cinema



Will Poulter and Noah Centineo deliver pitch-perfect performances as brothers Cody and Jack Parsons, each navigating a court-mandated drug rehabilitation program in a pocket of rural Ohio hit hard by the opioid epidemic. Provided with hope for the first time since their struggles began and with the support of a tireless counselor (Annette Deao), the brothers work toward a brighter, sober future.

Poulter and Centineo blend seamlessly with a supporting cast composed predominantly of non-professional actors as they share their actual experiences, pain, and optimism as they, themselves, navigate the program. Ohio-born filmmaker Adam Meeks creates a film imbued with realism for an honest, compassionate portrait of a battle being fought across America and the solidarity that flowers on its front lines.

The film world premiered at Sundance Film Festival. 2026, U.S., DCP, 97 minutes. Recommended for 16+.



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WHO MOVES AMERICA

Directed by Yael Bridge

Saturday, July 25, 12:30pm Screening + Q&A

Location: Speed Cinema



As the deadline for a historic strike nears, UPS Teamsters across the United States navigate the challenges of building solidarity with their 340,000 co-workers.

In Louisville, we meet Angel, a warehouse worker juggling multiple jobs to get through college. In San Diego, Justin is a budding UPS driver working to unify his politically divided coworkers. In Queens, Tony is an “old-timer” in one of the most militant locals in the country, fighting to give rookies the opportunities he had.

Lastly, we have exclusive access to Teamsters president Sean O’Brien as he crisscrosses the country rallying workers at critical points in the campaign.

The film world premiered at True/False Film Festival. 2026, U.S., DCP, 87 minutes. Recommended for 13+.

Includes post-screening Q&A with academy award-nominated producer Yoni Golijov and some of the main participants from the film.



The Kentucky Film Foundation (KFF) is dedicated to strengthening Kentucky’s rapidly growing film and creative media industry to ensure the Commonwealth becomes a premier destination for major productions and emerging entertainment platforms.

FLYOVER x SPEED SHORTS BLOCK

Various Directors



Saturday, July 25, 3pm Screening + Q&A

Location: Speed Cinema

Program length: 75 minutes. Recommended for 16+.



NORTH STAR

Directed by Bryn Silverman

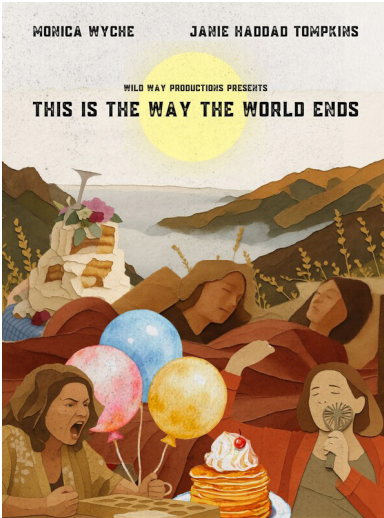
North Star follows a team of researchers as they uncover the true story of their hometown's greatest export — legendary sharpshooter Annie Oakley. Through these women's efforts to know Annie, we learn about the nature of legacy, community, and place. 18 minutes.



WILLIE AND HIS PIGS

Directed & Produced by Emily Cooper

Every 9 months, rural Kentucky-based regenerative farmer Willie Houston brings home a small group of piglets. He raises them, names them, cares for them, and has to say goodbye. This subtle portrait challenges assumptions of masculinity in farming and explores who bears the emotional weight of ethically raising animals. 14 minutes.



THIS IS THE WAY THE WORLD ENDS

Written & Directed by Jeremiah Murphy

How would you spend your last 8 hours? Two middle-aged lovers find joy, comfort, and unexpected meaning in the quiet, tender moments – revealing that true human connection can transcend anything. Even the apocalypse. 13 minutes.



MATCH DANCE

Directed by John Akre

It's getting so hot these days that matches are spontaneously combusting, and so is everything else. 4 minutes.



THE BLIND REGGAETONERA

Directed & Produced by River Zhihui Zhang

This documentary chronicles the journey of Precious Perez, a young woman redefining what it means to live with a disability while giving back to her community. Through her story, we explore the intersection of music, vision, romance, disability rights, and the fight for equal access to education. 27 minutes.



FORK IN THE ROAD

Directed by Jonathan Nastasi & Vivian Sorenson

Saturday, July 25, 6pm Screening + Q&A

Location: Speed Cinema



Fork in the Road is an intimate documentary that explores the profound connections between people, the land, and the future of our food system. Through a tapestry of compelling stories from independent small-scale farmers across the United States – from Alaskan kelp harvesters to dairy farmers in Kentucky – the film reveals the authentic, lived realities and unprecedented challenges of those working against the tide of escalating industrialization in agriculture.

Featuring insights from visionary chefs and experts, *Fork in the Road* expands the conversation beyond the farm, demonstrating how food sustainability is a shared responsibility that extends into our kitchens and communities. More than a call to environmental action, the film illuminates the vital ways that sustainable food practices can nourish our bodies, strengthen our communities, and heal the earth.

The film world premiered at the Sonoma Film Festival. 2026, U.S., DCP, 88 minutes. Recommended for 13+

Includes post-screening Q&A with Producer/Executive Producer Lisa Holmes, Co-Director/Executive Producer Vivan Sorenson, and Berry Center Executive Director Mary Berry.

BOURBONS
BISTRO
EST. 05

AFTER PARTY & JURY AWARDS CEREMONY

Saturday, July 25, 8:30pm

Location: Bourbons Bistro

2255 Frankfort Ave, Louisville, 40206



PINBALL

Directed by Naveen Chaubal

Sunday, July 26, 12:30pm Screening + Q&A

Location: Speed Cinema



In a contemplative coming of age portrait, *Pinball* follows Yosef, a spirited athlete, in Louisville, Kentucky as he dives into the memories of his journey from Iraq to America and what it means to chase his dreams in the shadow of a war that displaced his family from their Iraqi homeland.

At first glance, Yosef is a typical American teenager. However, he was born in Baghdad and fled with his family to Egypt after the U.S. invaded Iraq in 2004. He was four years old. Of all places, they received asylum in Louisville. Now, as his younger sister Azraa travels to Egypt, Yosef finds himself unsettled. Her journey reopens questions he has long kept at bay: Where does he belong? What does it mean to build a future in a place shaped by the same forces that displaced his family? Is the life he is living truly his own – or simply the safest one available?

The film world premiered at True/False Film Festival. 2026, U.S., DCP, 83 minutes. Recommended for 13+.

Includes a post-screening Q&A with Director Naveen Chaubal, Producer Bryn Silverman, and participants Yosef Al Windawi and Azraa Al Windawi.

Community Partners: Asia Institute Crane House, Louisville Visual Art, World Affairs Counsel of Kentucky and So. Indiana, and Hyphen Film Center



**asia
institute**
CRANE HOUSE

ASIAN-AMERICAN ART & CINEMA CELEBRATION

Sunday, July 26, 3pm

Location: Asia Institute Crane House
1244 S. Third Street, Louisville, 40203



THE REVISIONIST

Directed, Produced & Written by Alex Vlack

Sunday, July 26, 3:30pm Screening + Q&A

Location: Speed Cinema



Searching for inspiration for her next novel, Elise subtly manipulates the people closest to her like characters in a book. The sudden return of an old friend challenges just how far she's willing to go in pursuit of her art.

Elise Keller (Alison Brie) is a successful writer working on what will hopefully be her next best-selling novel. Only one problem: She's stuck with a bad case of writer's block. When her long-time friend John (André Holland) returns to their hometown, Elise thinks she has a perfect solution: John can look after her husband Jacob's (Tom Sturridge) aging father David (Dustin Hoffman) and record their conversations for potential inspiration.

But as individual relationships deepen and the line between fiction and reality blurs, secrets are unearthed, boundaries are crossed, and the foursome finds themselves forever changed.

The film world premiered at Tribeca Festival. 2026, U.S., DCP, 90 minutes.
Recommended for 16+.

Includes post-screening Q&A with Director / Producer / Writer Alex Vlack.



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BRYAN STARR

CREATIVE MORNINGS LOUISVILLE FEATURING BRYAN STARR

Friday, July 31, 8:30am
Location: The Filson Historical Society

Bryan Starr is a filmmaker and full-time content creator in the Movie & TV space on TikTok and Instagram.

Bryan moved his career from capturing Kentucky wedding stories and creating branding videos for local Louisville businesses all the way to collaborating with brands such as Netflix, Disney, A24, and Universal through his

coverage at major conventions, film festivals, and events.

By pursuing his life-long love of film, Bryan has found himself on red-carpets for movie premieres, and in the press room interviewing major Hollywood stars - all while continuing to call Kentucky his home.



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THE MAN WITH THE BIG HAT

Directed by Austin Lee Sayer

Friday, July 31, 7pm Screening + Q&A

Location: Brown Theatre



**BROWN
THEATRE**

An excavation of long-buried archives resurrects obscure, yet profoundly influential, Texas singer-songwriter Steven Fromholz, revealing a soul-stirring journey of self-discovery and the true meaning of success.

An unsung pioneer of 1970s Texas Progressive Country, Steven Fromholz had a knack for snatching defeat from the jaws of victory. Revered by legends like Willie Nelson, Lyle Lovett & John Denver, he remained commercially unknown. He sought redemption on the Rio Grande as a river guide until a debilitating stroke erased his musical memory, stripping Fromholz of his artistic identity. Through newly discovered archives that include never-before-heard recordings, this intimate excavation of sorts is driven by an obsessive persistence that brings Fromholz back to life, and reshapes the notion of success and artistic fortitude.

The film world premiered at SXSW. 2026, U.S., 90 minutes. Recommended for 13+. Includes post-screening Q&A with Director Austin Sayre, Executive Producer Brian Easley, and Producer Stephanie Moore.

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THE RED MASK

Directed by Ritesh Gupta

Friday, July 31, 10pm Screening + Q&A

Location: Brown Theatre



**BROWN
THEATRE**

When outspoken queer screenwriter Allina Green (Helena Howard) is chosen to pen the final installment of the legendary slasher franchise **THE RED MASK**, anger, outrage, and online death threats from die-hard fans causes a rift in her relationship with reticent fiancé Deetz (Inanna Sarkis).

Desperate for a creative breakthrough, the pair escape to a secluded Airbnb, where Allina concocts a dangerous game for the two to play to unlock her writer's block. But when two uninvited house guests (Kelli Garner and Jake Abel) crash the scene, the weekend turns dark and a twisted game devolves into a duel to the death.

The film world premiered at FrightFest in the U.K. 2025, U.S., 90 Minutes.
Recommended for 17+. Includes post-screening Q&A with Director Ritesh Gupta and Producer Max Neace.





DRAWN TO JUSTICE

Directed by Richard Van Kleeck

Saturday, August 1, 11am Screening + Q&A

Location: Kentucky Science Center



Four artists use their unique skills to provoke thought about poverty, gun violence, social justice, and the environment, featuring sculptor Craig Caviar, painter Bob Lockhart, environmental creative Albertus Gorman and Pulitzer Prize winning political cartoonist Nick Anderson.

World Premiere. 2026, US, DCP, 54 minutes. Recommended for ages 17+.

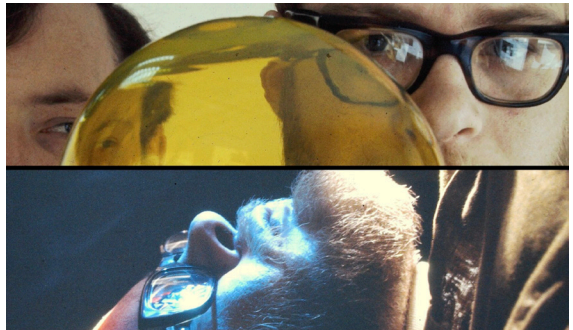
Includes post-screening discussion with Director Richard Van Kleeck and artists featured in the documentary.

Preceded by

THE LAST WINDOW

**Directed by Evan Sennett
& Ryan Brumfield**

After two leg amputations, an 82-year old stained glass artist turns to his family to help him complete his final work: one last window at the church where his parents met.



This documentary short follows the prolific designer, Bob Markert, during the last year and a half of his life.

World Premiere. 2026, US, DCP, 27 minutes. Recommended for ages 17+.

Includes post-screening discussion with Co-directors Evan Sennett and Ryan Brumfield.

“FLYOVER: IDEAS IN ACTION” EXHIBITION

Saturday, August 1, 12pm – 5pm
Location: Kentucky Science Center
Riverview Room



This special program is designed to spark conversation and engagement around important issues, connecting audiences with opportunities to learn more and get involved.

Along with screenings of four impactful documentaries that have Kentucky ties, we will host community organizations in the Kentucky Science Center’s Riverview Room, where attendees can explore resources, connect with local groups, and discover ways to take action if they feel inspired by the films.



499 DAYS

Directed by Jamie Buckner

Saturday, August 1, 2pm Screening + Q&A
Location: Kentucky Science Center



499 Days chronicles the poignant journey of Kyler, a spirited young boy from Louisville, KY, diagnosed with DIPG – an aggressive and rare pediatric brainstem cancer with no known survivors. The film captures the essence of Kyler’s resilience, vitality, and spirit in the 499 days from his initial diagnosis until just days shy of his 10th birthday, when he tragically passed away.

Includes post-screening discussion with Director Jamie Buckner and some of the main participants from the documentary.

World Premiere. 2026, US, DCP, 83 minutes. Recommended for 13+.



HALCYON DAZE: THE FINAL VOYAGES OF DISNEY'S STAR WARS GALACTIC STARCRIUSER

Directed by Carrie Coaplen

Saturday, August 1, 5pm Screening + Q&A

Location: Kentucky Science Center



Follow director Carrie Coaplen's journey from casual interest to full-on obsession with Disney's one-of-a-kind, award-winning, yet short-lived interactive theater experience. Get immersed in a universe of live-action adventure and colorful fantasy characters, as they experience profound feelings shared by dedicated cast members and fixated fans.

Kentucky Premiere. 2026, US, DCP, 87 minutes. Recommended for 13+.

Includes post-screening discussion with Director Carrie Coaplen, Co-Producer Jonathan Hawpe, Creative Executive Producer Ben Daughtrey, and Director of Photography Kenzie Greer.



CLOSING CELEBRATION

Saturday, August 1

Location: Kentucky Science Center
Riverview Room

As the final credits roll, we gather one last time to celebrate the people who made Flyover Film Festival possible! Filmmakers, volunteers, sponsors, community partners, and audiences can come together to reflect on an incredible couple weeks of storytelling, conversation, and connection. Share highlights from the festival and toast the films and artists who inspired us. Light bites and cash bar will be provided.

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A heartfelt thank you to our volunteers, sponsors, filmmakers, and audiences. Your support, generosity, and enthusiasm make this festival possible.

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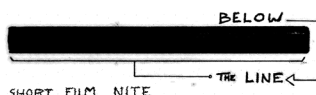
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THE BEST SHOT OF THE DAY ISN'T ON THE CALL SHEET.



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of the 2026 Flyover Film Festival!**

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