



FAMILY PROGRAM



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Sponsor Spotlight



Family Born. Employee Owned.



VENUES



**John Michael
Kohler Arts Center**

STEFANIE H.
WEILL
C E N T E R

FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

JAKE'S A LAKELAND
COMMUNITY

**WordHaven
BookHouse**

TSC
the sheboygan collective

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

4:00 PM
The Sheboygan
Collective

Miniature Building Workshop

Get creative with an array of craft materials and build your own mini-set. Recommended for ages 6+.

Tickets \$15
Included with Family Program pass



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

9:00 AM
Mini Mocha Cafe

PLAY TIME!

Enjoy some play time before the screening begins!
Included with Family Program pass

10:00 AM
Mini Mocha Cafe

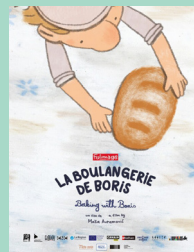
Family Block 1: Tiny Tots

These remarkable animated shorts will delight pre-school and younger viewers as well as impress adults with their craftsmanship. Featuring animation from across Europe, this block offers young viewers stories that simultaneously are familiar and offer a glimpse into other cultures. Best for ages 1-4.

Tickets \$10 / Included with Family Program pass



A Strange Toad (Italy)
Dir. Claudia Giorgini
In an ordinary pond lives a rather solitary toad, whose unusual behaviors baffle the other inhabitants.



Baking With Boris (France)
Dir. Maša Avramović
Every morning, Boris makes fresh bread and pastries for all his neighbours until... Achoo! He can't stop sneezing. He has become allergic to flour. How will he manage to keep baking for everyone?



Once Upon a Time in Dragonville (France/Switzerland)
Dir. Marika Herz
Samson doesn't feel accepted in his native Dragonville. Bullied and mocked by his peers, he decides to leave for Humanville.



Piccolo Piccolo (France/Switzerland)
Dir. Marta Gennari
A tiny mouse, wanting to forget her little worries, decides one day to climb a very high mountain.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

9:30 AM

Jake's,

A Lakeland Community

Professor O's One Day Film Workshop!

Whether you are new to filmmaking or are an experienced filmmaker looking for a new approach, this workshop will give you insight into the One Day Film method that Producer John Otterbacher has successfully developed. Screening example, presentation and discussion as well as a great opportunity to meet with other filmmakers and possible collaborators. Workshop participants are encouraged to share any One Day Films with Professor O for future screenings and workshop opportunities.

Recommended for ages 15+.

Tickets \$10

Included with Family Program pass

11:00 AM

Mini Mocha Cafe

PLAY TIME!

Enjoy some play time before the screening begins!

Included with Family Program pass

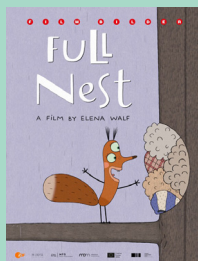
11:30 AM

Mini Mocha Cafe

Family Block 2: Elena Walf

Featuring the work of German animator Elena Walf, these animated shorts welcome young audiences into a shared universe of characters that charm and excite them. Aimed at preschool-aged viewers, this block offers a blend of classic stories, terrific music, and whimsical explorations of the natural world.

Tickets \$10 / Included with Family Program pass



Full Nest (Germany/Croatia)
Dir. Elena Walf

The squirrel's nest is well-padded for the cold winter with all kinds of stolen goods. A sudden flood forces all the forest animals to flee to Lena's farm. There's space for everyone in a full heart!



Jam and Wood (Germany/Croatia)
Dir. Elena Walf

The cold winter is hard on Lena and her animals. Firewood is expensive - and Lena only has turnip jam left to sell. But help sometimes comes from where you least expect it...



A Pain in the Butt
(Germany/Croatia)
Dir. Elena Walf

Just as the hedgehog is about to begin hibernating, he notices that one of his quills is missing! And worse still, it's stuck in Lena's dog's bottom.



Dancing Friend (Germany/Croatia)
Dir. Elena Walf

The caterpillar would love to dance with the bugs. But they make fun of the clumsy animal. Only the smallest bug is attracted to the caterpillar.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

11:30 AM

Jake's,
A Lakeland Community



Prepping Your Project for Post

Join the founders of Journeywork Entertainment, a full service visual post house based in Chicago, as they take a deep dive into post production planning. Editor Ana Christain and Colorist Ryan Stemple will walk you through the process of getting your project ready for post. They'll walk you through budgeting, things to consider in pre-production, and the post production workflow.

Recommended for ages 15+.

Tickets \$10
Included with Family Program pass

12:00 PM

Mini Mocha Cafe

PLAY TIME!

Enjoy some play time before the screening begins!

Included with Family Program pass

12:30 PM

Mini Mocha Cafe

Family Block 3: Ages 1-6

Once again showcasing whimsical and delightful stories from around the globe, these terrific animated shorts will delight kindergarten and younger viewers. Featuring uplifting stories about making unexpected friends and engaging with the natural world.

Tickets \$10 / Included with Family Program pass



J'ai pêché un requin (France)
Dir. Emma Gueirouard

On her small boat, Lily is fishing. Suddenly, she is pulled into the depths of the ocean.



Bats & Bugs (Switzerland)
Dir. Lena von Döhren

When a lantern lights up on a road in the jungle, a group of insects goes crazy. This comes in handy for the hungry bats in a cave close by.



Into the Forest (Switzerland)
Dir. Antonin Niclass

In a quiet stop-motion studio, a small monkey opens its eyes. Everything around it feels frozen.



Evening Escapades (Canada)
Drs. Chantal Rousseau,
Darcy Tara McDiarmid

An adventurous rabbit undertakes an enchanted evening escapade through a mysterious forest trail.



Maus Im Haus (USA)
Dir. Rebecca Rose Van Houten

Curious mice use found objects to assemble an orchestra.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

1:00 PM –

2:00 PM

Mini Mocha Cafe

PLAY TIME!

Enjoy a play break during the festival!

Included with Family Program pass

2:00 PM

Above & Beyond

Children's Museum

Family Block 4: Elementary

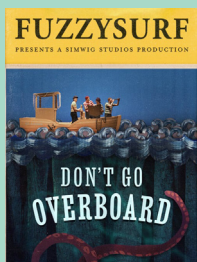
Perfect for your elementary-aged movie goer! This block of children's films from around the world offers a view into multiple kinds of filmmaking and animation—including a new short from animator John Fountain (Invader Zim and The Fairly Odd Parents).

Tickets \$10 / Included with Family Program pass



Magic Markers (Ireland)
Dir. Jason Branagan

When a boy comes across magical markers that bring his drawings to life, he creates a big brother to protect him from bullies. But when the magic begins to fade, he must find the strength within to stand on his own.



Fuzzysurf's 'Don't Go Overboard' (USA)
Dir. Tommy Simms

Set sail with Fuzzysurf on a musical voyage filled with theatrics, thrills, and aquatic adventure.



We're Kinda Different (Canada)
Dir. Ben Meinhardt

Join this peculiar hero as he sings his way through a mundane office building, achieving profound results along the way.



Nude Apocalypse (USA)
Dir. John 'F' Fountain

Join 'Floccinocci & Tip' on their adventure as they go on a quest across the wastelands of their world searching for knowledge, treasure and maybe even themselves!



Seasons (France)
Drs. Lucie Rouquette, Angele Napoli, Matteo Diverres

After hurting Winter's feelings, Spring, Summer, and Autumn set off on a perilous journey to find the Edelweiss flower, a symbol of hope and reconciliation.



The Day I Licked a Pebble (France)

Drs. Flavie Eliézer, Chloé Bernuchon, Goli Atefi, Maud Kolasa, Nathan Jauze, Marie Pijollet

One summer afternoon in the countryside, three siblings, tired of being bored at their grandmother's house, set off for the bakery to buy some snacks.

*Workshop to follow screening
(included with screening ticket)*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

2:00 PM

John Michael Kohler
Arts Center

Family Block 5: Teens & Tweens

Famously, adolescence is an easy time for everyone. Remember, parents, how easy it was to enter your teens? This tween and teen-driven block of short films gears itself toward the joys and frustrations, along with the humor and the connections that help us become who we're going to be.

Tickets \$10
Included with Family Program pass



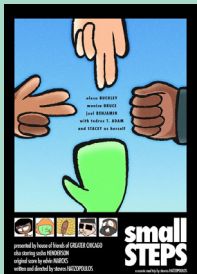
We're Kinda Different (Canada)
Dir. Ben Meinhardt

Join this peculiar hero as he sings his way through a mundane office building, achieving profound results along the way.



Voyous (France)
Drs. Camille Ledentu, Lucie Bagot, Marion Barth, Elisa Broustal, Luna Dupas, Ninon Reboux, Inès Tran, Xavier L'èveque de Vilmorin

Two young boys on scooters try to impress a group of skateboarders while babysitting a little girl.



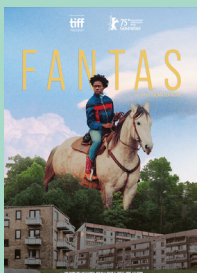
Small Steps (Wisconsin)
Dir. Stavros Hatzopoulos

A mute alien named Stacey happily joins their roommates on a trip from the Riverwest neighborhood in Milwaukee to Chicago and must evade the CIA along the way.



Hell's Diapers (France)
Drs. Nour El Hajj Sleiman Haidar, Cyril Aimon, Alex L'Helgoual'ch, Lucille Olenine, Luce Boulet, Isabella Gilbert, Beatriz Goncalves Pinheiro, Cedric Letho, Nadi Saade, Djanany Soundaramourty, Benjamin Martineau

The quiet life of Maria, a reclusive nun in a remote Mexican church, is disrupted when a baby is mysteriously left at her door.



Fantas (Canada)
Dir. Halima Elkhatabi

Worlds and genres collide one summer afternoon as a young woman and her horse make a surprising and eventful odyssey.



Final Roll (USA)
Dir. Irina Golina Sagatelian

The final roll leads us through a transformation of animation styles.

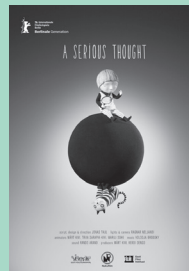


Nude Apocalypse (USA)
Dir. John 'F' Fountain
Join 'Floccinocci & Tip' on their adventure as they go on a quest across the wastelands of their world searching for knowledge, treasure and maybe even themselves!



Seasons (France)
Drs. Lucie Rouquette, Angele Napoli, Matteo Diverres

After hurting Winter's feelings, Spring, Summer, and Autumn set off on a perilous journey to find the Edelweiss flower, a symbol of hope and reconciliation.



A Serious Thought (Estonia)
Dir. Jonas Taul

When a boy has trouble falling asleep at night, he begins to ponder his place in the world. If the Earth is just a small marble flying through space, and he is only one child among many, what is the meaning of his existence?

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

4:00 PM

Mead Public Library
Rocca Room

Shorts Block 7: Young Filmmakers

Some folks catch the filmmaking bug early, and this selection of animated and live-action films highlights the work of young filmmakers from Wisconsin, the U.S., and around the world. One of the great joys of filmmaking is sharing one's work with an appreciative audience, and we're excited to celebrate the work of these up-and-coming artists.

Tickets \$10

Included with Film Lover, Festival Experience and Family Program passes



Why Native Plants? (Michigan)
Dir. Cecelia Gould

Native plants improve outcomes for the environment, but are increasingly eliminated in favor of more typical garden plants.



Paani (USA)
Dir. Akshita Vashisht

In rural India, families whose lives revolve around securing water find hope when engineers drill to reach drinkable groundwater.



Lords of Dust (Croatia)
Dir. Lira Bartolić

In the kingdom of dust and flies, in the expanse under the bed, the Lords of dust rule.



The Span of a Breath (France)
Dir. Loéan Lemarié
The Dreamer, Tristan, and their solitude meet on the Seine in Paris, over four nights.



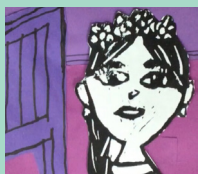
Facade (Wisconsin)
Dir. Sam Slowik

A man discovers ways to cover up his real face and emotions, wondering why he would want to look like himself when he can look like everyone else.



Homeless at Sea (China)
Dir. Shoujun Zhou

Along the southern coast of China, a community that has lived off the sea and called the boat their home for generations is on the verge of disappearing...



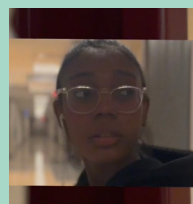
Arachne (Wisconsin)
Drs. Crestwood 4th & 5th Graders

A delightfully askew interpretation of a well-known Greek myth about a girl with a talent so great it threatens the gods, told with just the right amount of Gen Alpha twistedness.



Tree of Life (Croatia)
Dir. Jana Bedić

A poetic experimental short film that explores the relationship between memory, existence, and time.



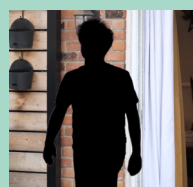
Fate (USA)
Dir. Kai Delise Murdock

To be connected with someone you don't know - same dreams, same feelings, same thoughts. Could it be fate?



Journey Through the Desert (Croatia)

Drs. Niko Karaula, Juraj Škovrlj
A truck driver makes his way through the desert, leaving chaos in his wake.



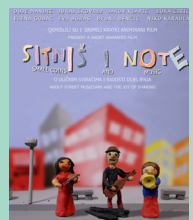
Running (Michigan)
Dir. Alyssa Marx

Luke Rogers tries to outrun his shadow in the music video for 'Running'.



Wool (Croatia)

Drs. Tonka Krnić, Simona Sermazi, Eva Boras, Lena Burušić, Gabriela Đurinski, Niko Karaula, Tibor Avdagić, Juraj Škovrlj, Mihael Šoštarić, Duje Mandić, Juraj Car
Creatures made of yarn are created, entangled, and come apart.



Small Coins and Music (Croatia)

Drs. Tonka Krnić, Mia Jureković, Duje Mandić, Vito Mačak, Jakov Klarić, Elena Gobac, Juraj Škovrlj, Eva Boras, Dora Klarić, Luka Ćirić, Bruna Benčić, Niko Karaula

Street musicians entertain passersby with their music.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

6:00 PM –
7:30 PM

Above & Beyond
Children's Museum

Workshop: Car Building

Drop in and build your very own cardboard car
for the outdoor movie screening!

Hosted by Mead Public Library along with Above &
Beyond Children's Museum.

FREE

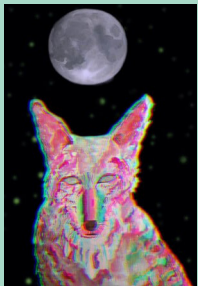
7:30 PM

Above & Beyond
Children's Museum:
Octopus Playground

Family Block 6: Outdoor Family Films

Outdoor screening! Bring the cars you made or join us in
lawn chairs and blankets with popcorn! This delightful
selection invites young viewers and their families to
experience the world and diverse perspectives that will
resonate here at home. Includes both animated and live
action shorts.

FREE



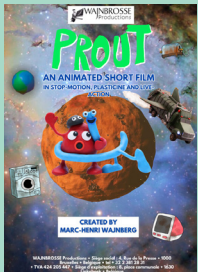
Starlight Sojourn (Canada)
Dirs. Chantal Rousseau,
Darcy Tara McDiarmid

Created from watercolours, fluid
acrylic paintings, and digital
imagery – features local fish,
birds, and animals traversing a
dreamlike night-time landscape in
the Yukon.



First Winter (USA)
Dir. Schantelle Alonzo

Ángel is a newly arrived immigrant
who is experiencing his first winter
in Chicago. The film follows his
realisation of what it may mean to
be away from home for a very long
time.



Prout (Belgium)
Dir. Marc-Henri Wainberg

Obsolete household appliances
and waste of all kinds are sent
to the planet Prout, Earth's
dumping ground. Bean and
Spaghet, two little emergency
workers from this strange
planet, go on an emergency
mission to save one of their
friends who has been crushed by
debris falling from the sky.



Shanley (USA)
Dir. Beau McCombs

A mischievous little egg relishes
on bringing chaotic play into the
dining room while his parents try to
get him under control, driving them
to their wits end.

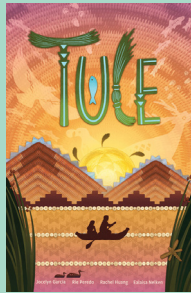
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3



Family Block 6: Outdoor Family Films (continued)



Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Moe!
(Slovakia)
Dir. Andrea Szelesová
Yios, a lonely mythical boy whose head shines like the sun, struggles to make friends in the clouds. After an unfortunate prank sends him down to Earth, an unexpected encounter challenges the way he sees himself.



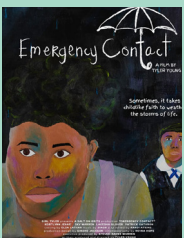
Tule (USA)
Dir. Jocelyn Estrella Garcia
Tule is a poetic 2D animated mixed media short film championing awareness and hope. A young Pomo girl serves as the narrator of our project. Her poetic contemplations ring true with convictions shared by her Pomo community at Clear Lake, California.



One More Cup (USA)
Dir. Max Wagenblass
As toddler Leona is about to host her very first tea party with her stuffed animals, it unexplainably turns into a worldwide spectacle – but all she really wants is to share tea with her friends.



The Way (France)
Dirs. Loris Duchoud, Bastien Legrand, Hugo Leroy, Sidonie Marquant, Colombe Portelette, Paul Vigier
In the attic of a dilapidated alley roof, a little tinker owl, not yet able to fly, wants to follow in her mother's footsteps and prove her worth.



Emergency Contact (USA)
Dir. Tyler Young
A mentally exhausted auntie and her 4th grader niece, nervous about the family's fate, use their imagination to pass the time during a major storm.



L'écho des étoiles (France)
Dirs. Mangeonjean Julien, Crucy Alice, Morice Maëlys, Chen Viru, Guy Ashwini, Vu Cong Amélie, Frey Ani
A young girl navigates her dreams to conquer her fears and return a fallen star to its place in the sky.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

10:30 AM

Jakes's,
A Lakeland Community

Workshop: Starting Short to Make it Big

This master class led by Lakeland Professor, Jodie Mortag, will introduce participants to screenwriters that got their start by way of the short, what classifies as a short film, the techniques used, and how to get started. Recommended for ages 14+.

\$10 Tickets / Included with Family Program pass

1:30 PM

Jakes's,
A Lakeland Community

Unsung Heroes of Film

You've heard of the director... the screenwriter... the cinematographer... But what about the other creative department heads? Come meet the roles that don't get nearly enough attention but are integral in bringing a film's vision to life. Recommended for ages 13+.

\$10 Tickets / Included with Family Program pass

1:30 PM

John Michael Kohler
Arts Center

Family Block 7: Family-Friendly

Being a kid is tough. If you're not being dragged off to some boring thing for grown-ups, you're missing out on quality time with those very grown-ups who are boring you. Quite the dilemma! This block of short films deals with the emotional ups and downs of being a kid and learning how to express yourself in a world that seems much bigger than you.

Tickets \$10 / Included with Family Program pass



Pow! (USA)
Dir. Joey Clift

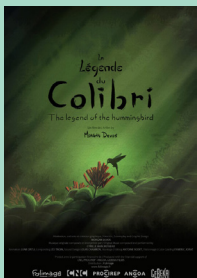
A Native American kid scrambles to charge his dying video game console at a bustling intertribal powwow.



Blossom (France)

Dirs. Bourdel Youenn, Bouley Youen, Jodet Guillaume, Martin Zaccharie, Lusseau Loïs, Laubu Lenny, Lalloué Tiffenn, Lelogeais Juliette, Poncet Daladoire Elouen, Dehard Charli, Bozec Matthis, Dayon Luc, Drugeon Emile

As Winter descends upon the forest, freezing plants and creatures alike, then an old beetle awakens a young, energetic fairy.



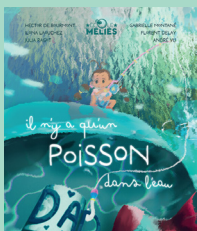
The Legend of the Hummingbird (France)
Dir. Morgan Devos

A fire breaks out in the Amazon rainforest, and frightened animals leave their habitat to take refuge on the other bank. Only a little hummingbird persists in fighting the fire.



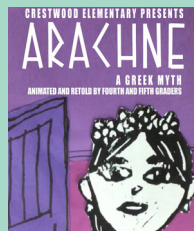
Christopher & the Bug (Canada)
Dirs. Vanessa Esteves, Kevin Micallef

A grouchy old owl learns a big lesson about friendship when a small bug moves into his house.



Catch that Fish! (France)
Dirs. Julia Ragot, Gabrielle Montané, Hector de Ghaisne de Bourmont, Ilona Laouchez, Florent Delay, André Yu

Little Naya goes on a quest to catch the legendary fish: her father.



Arachne (USA)

Dirs. Crestwood 4th & 5th Graders

A delightfully askew interpretation of a well-known Greek myth about tale of a girl with a talent so great it threatens the gods.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Family Block 7: Family-Friendly (cont'd)



A Dog's Life (Netherlands)
Dirs. Sophie Olga de Jong,
Sytske Kok

Luna helps her grandmother bury her dog. A colorful short film exploring the tension between childish innocence and death.



Frederick (Wisconsin)
Dir. Timon Tupper

An animated short made by John Michael Kohler Arts Center Preschool drawings and puppets, telling the story 'Frederick' by Leo Lionni.

CLOSING DAY

3:00 PM Doors Open / 3:30 PM Screening

Stefanie H. Weill Center

Tickets \$15

Included with the Family Program pass

Opening Shorts (Family-Friendly)

Sueños de una Monarca (Illinois)

Dir. Julián Trejo Bax

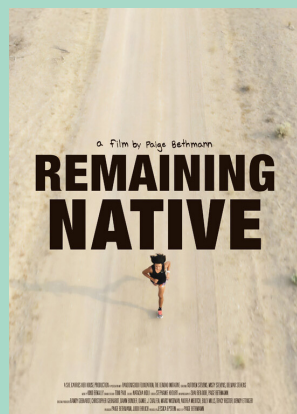


River Revelations (Canada)

Dirs. Chantal Rousseau, Darcy Tara



Closing Feature (Family-Friendly)



REMAINING NATIVE

Dir. Paige Bethmann

Ku Stevens, a 17-year-old Native American runner, struggles to navigate his dream of becoming a collegiate athlete as the memory of his great grandfather's escape from an Indian boarding school begins to connect past, present, and future.

CREDITS

SHEBOYGAN FILM FESTIVAL FOUNDING MEMBERS

EHREN FLESchNER

JON GOLLNER

RICK GRANT

ZACK KRUSE

AUBREY LAUX

COLE J SHELTON

BEAH TRAVIS

Festival Director.....BEAH TRAVIS
Programming Director.....ZACK KRUSE
Submissions Director.....JON GOLLNER
Festival Coordinator.....COLE J SHELTON
Events Coordinator.....AUBREY LAUX
Technical Coordinator.....EHREN FLESchNER
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Public Relations Director.....RICK GRANT
Social Media Manager.....AUBREY LAUX
Festival Trailer Editor.....JON GOLLNER
Volunteer Coordinator.....JANINE CHESEBRO
Theater Manager.....COLA ENGEL
Venue & Guest Experience Manager.....GRETCHEN KLEIN
Box Office Manager.....MATT MCNABB
SFF Logo Design.....MATT VANDEN BOOMEN
SFF 2026 Festival Art.....STAVROS HATZOPOULOS

SHEBOYGAN FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAMMING TEAM

EHREN FLESchNER

JON GOLLNER

ZACK KRUSE

AUBREY LAUX

COLE SHELTON

BEAH TRAVIS

FILM REVIEW COMMITTEE

LOGAN ARNDT

ROBERTO BOBONIS

DAN BURKEY

NELLA CITINO

KURT CLOSE

SARAYA CURRIER

MOLLY GOLTRY

MIKE HANLON

GABRIEL HARDMAN

DUSTIN KNIGHT HOFFMAN

LAUREN KELLY

ALEESA KRUSE

GREG LEE

LEAH MAREN

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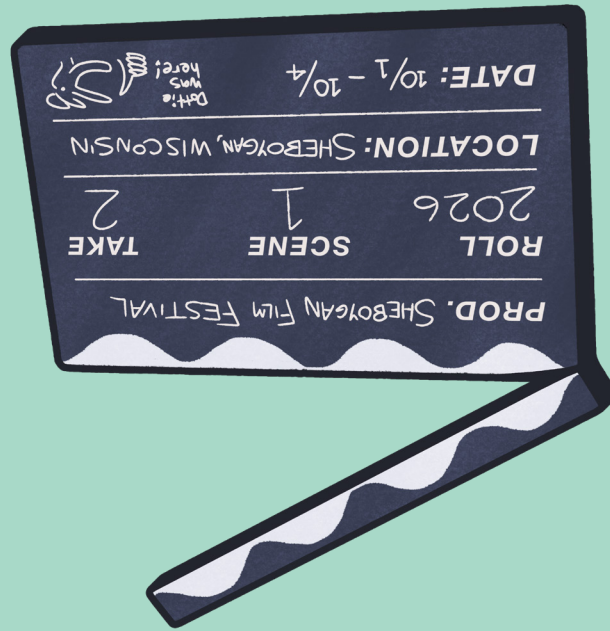
THE SIGN SHOP OF SHEBOYGAN

IRIS WINE & BOOKS

WATERSHED HOTEL

HARBOR CENTRE BID

**Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers
who donated their time and talents to the
2026 Sheboygan Film Festival!**



Belladonna
FILM PROJECT

The Sheboygan Film Festival is a project of the Belladonna Film Project, a 501(c)3 organization based in Sheboygan, WI. Our mission is to produce regional films and provide accessible arts experiences in the Midwest.

www.sheboyganfilmfest.com