



# WIFF

WINDSOR INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL





# VISION, MISSION & VALUES

## VISION

A nationally recognized, industry-leading cultural destination.

## MISSION

WIFF is a cultural, charitable organization that celebrates the art of cinema by showcasing Canadian and international film and filmmakers. Delivering exceptional experiences through film, WIFF strengthens and enriches community while promoting the creative economy.

## VALUES

**DIVERSITY OF PROGRAMMING** Increasing the exposure of Canadian and international film to all audiences and offering programming which appeals to and is representative of people in our community

**INTEGRITY** Developing and nurturing respectful relationships with each other, our volunteers, audience, partners and the film industry

**EDUCATION** Being a vehicle to increase knowledge of film and the film industry

**QUALITY OF LIFE** Contributing to the quality of life for Windsor-Essex residents that comes from having a vibrant arts community

**SUSTAINABILITY** Operating under the highest standards that will ensure the continuance of the festival for years to come

**URBAN ARTS COMMUNITY** Being part of a cultural hub and vibrant arts community in the downtown core

# WIFF

# WHO WE ARE

WIFF

WINDSOR INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MARTY BENETEAU (CHAIR)  
PAT PAPADEAS (VICE-CHAIR)  
RENÉE TROMBLEY (TREASURER)  
KATHAREN BORTOLIN (SECRETARY)  
MATT CIARMA  
DIANA KAO  
DYLAN KRISTY  
LIZ PETTAPEACE-PHILLIPS  
MARY-ANN RENNIE

## STAFF

HAYDEN FREKER (MANAGING DIRECTOR)  
ERIKA SANBORN (DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS)  
AUSTIN DI PIETRO (DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS)  
ASIL MOUSSA (ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR)

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR + CHIEF PROGRAMMER

VINCENT GEORGIE



**VINCENT GEORGIE** brings films to the masses and makes art accessible for all with an irrepressible penchant for big, bold ideas and a relentless positivity that inspires and empowers.

Georgie holds a PhD in the marketing of film.

Georgie wed his marketing savvy with his lifelong love of cinema to grow the award-winning Windsor International Film Festival into the **largest volunteer-run festival in Canada**. The can't-miss event draws crowds from across the country and every corner of Windsor-Essex to watch films from around the globe that have won Academy

Awards, Golden Globes or the prestigious Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival, among other awards.

Year after year, he continues to expand WIFF's offerings and reach, showcasing films "Under the Stars" on the city's spectacular riverfront and inspiring the next generation of filmmakers with the Mark Boscariol 48-Hour FlickFest and WIFF Local. He builds partnerships to promote films and filmmakers, including partnerships with **Netflix, Amazon Studios and others**. He has also championed the installation of WIFF Alley, a vibrant film-themed mural in the city's core that keeps WIFF top of mind even when the projectors aren't running.

Georgie was named a **Top 10 Community Leader Who Makes Windsor Better by Windsor Star**, made the **Top 40 Under 40 list by Leadership Windsor-Essex** and received the **Made a Difference Award from the University of Windsor**, where he earned his MBA and where he continues to be Marketing faculty while serving as the Acting Associate Vice President External.

Georgie has been an active member of the **Board of Directors for Ontario Creates** since 2021. With support from Ontario Creates, Ontario's Film and Television industry contributed a record-breaking \$3.15 billion to Ontario's economy in 2022, creating 45,891 high-value full-time equivalent direct and spin-off jobs for Ontarians.



ONTARIO  
CREATES | ONTARIO  
CRÉATIF

# PRAISE FOR WIFF

POINT OF VIEW MAGAZINE

# POV

CANADA'S DOCUMENTARY MAGAZINE



EMPIRE OF LIGHT OPENED THE 2022 WINDSOR INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL | SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

## Windsor Film Fest Returns as a Cinephile's Haven

Festival returns strong after two-year pause



BY PAT MULLEN · NOVEMBER 2, 2022 · FESTIVALS · 15 MINS READ

"Our festival is generally a go-big-or-go-home type of festival," observes Vincent Georgie. The executive director of the [Windsor International Film Festival](#), speaking with POV in downtown Windsor during the 2022 edition of the event, has reason to be proud. WIFF is back in full swing with 11 days of in-person screenings, offering 177 films following a two-year COVID-induced pause. The festival is a cinephile's paradise and a reminder that nothing replaces the in-person experience. With screenings taking place at venues that are all less than a five-minute walk from each other in downtown Windsor, WIFF lets movie buffs run the gamut of the best the world has to offer. One can easily see seven films per day without the headaches associated with navigating other festivals. This easy-to-navigate fest is all about the movies.

This festival is so unique in that it really does allow people to watch movies, and watch a lot of them if you want to. Everywhere I go, I see people with the brochures talking about what film they're going to see next. People like to have a good time, and it's also really easy to have a good time here cause everything is so close. There's a sense of community and everyone knows each other. It does feel like you're a guest in someones home and the host is very warm and kind.

***ANTHONY SHIM, DIRECTOR OF RICEBOY SLEEPS***





# WIFF AT A GLANCE

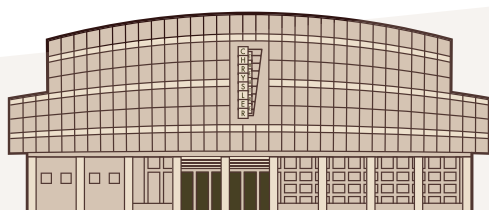
#1

IN 2019, WIFF WAS NAMED THE #1 VOLUNTEER-RUN FILM FESTIVAL IN CANADA BY THE TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL.

WIFF IS IN WINDSOR, ONTARIO, WHICH IS A BORDER CITY WITH DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

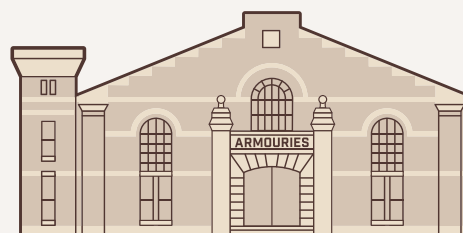
WIFF IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING CULTURAL EVENTS IN SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO

	2005		2022
FILMS SHOWN	16	»»»	177
SCREENINGS	21	»»»	311
TICKETS SOLD	2,705	»»»	45,000



**CHRYSLER THEATRE**

1,137 Seats



**ARMOURIES**

134 Seats



**CAPITOL THEATRE**

Pentastar Theatre: 626 Seats  
Kelly Theatre: 208

SOME OF THE NUMBERS FROM WIFF 2022:

32

DIFFERENT COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

39

PRE-RELEASE FILMS

24%

FRANCOPHONE FEATURE FILMS



# WIFF AT THE AWARDS



BLUE IS THE WARMEST COLOUR



WOMEN TALKING



THE IRISHMAN

210

OSCAR NOMINATIONS  
INCLUDING 12 BEST  
PICTURE

43

OSCAR  
WINS

131

GOLDEN  
GLOBE  
NOMINATIONS

22

GOLDEN  
GLOBE  
WINS

83

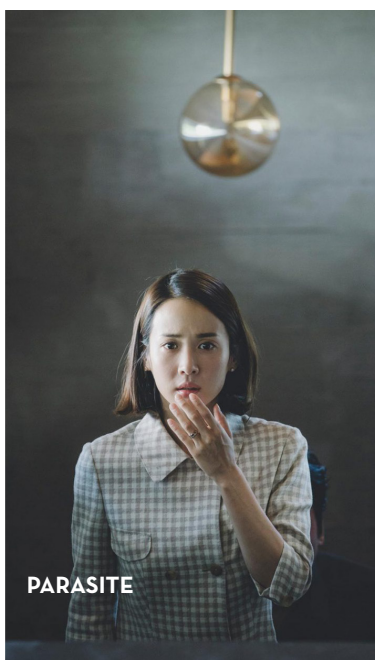
CANNES  
FESTIVAL  
PRIZES

13

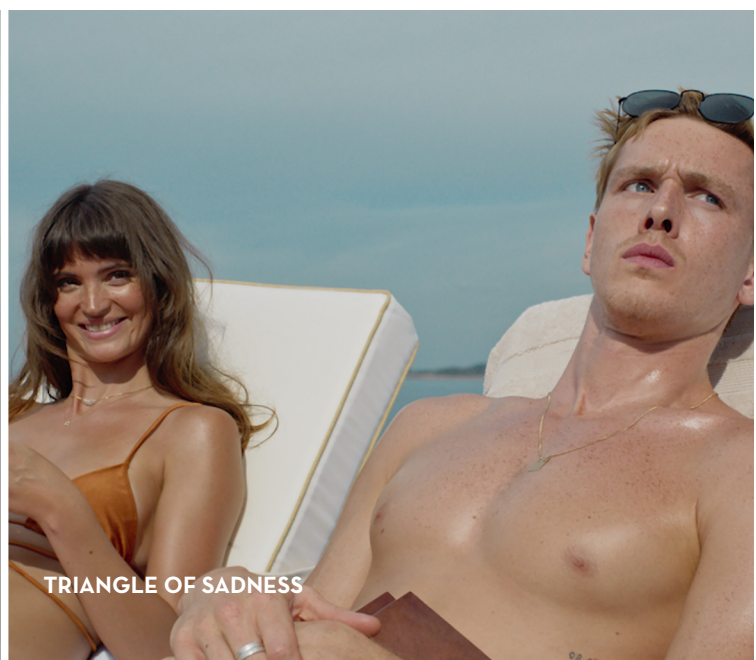
PALME  
D'OR  
RECIPIENTS



ALL QUIET ON THE  
WESTERN FRONT



PARASITE



TRIANGLE OF SADNESS



# AWARD WINNING PROGRAMMING



WIFF expands programming in new and unique ways. Here is just a taste of the award-winning programming that WIFF brings each year.

## WOMEN OF WIFF

Women of WIFF is generously supported by local individuals who have made contributions to help WIFF continue to ensure women's voices are heard and their stories shared. Each year, a film is selected and screened, followed by a panel discussion with representatives from the film and a discussion-filled post-film reception to conclude the evening. Past selections have included *Buffy Sainte-Marie: Carry It On*, *Untouchable*, *Say Her Name: The Life and Death of Sandra Bland* and *I Am Evidence*.

## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

WIFF has presented special achievement awards to notable members of the film community, including the Spotlight Award to Academy Award-nominated Shohreh Aghdashloo, and the Lifetime Achievement award to Tony Award-nominated Lois Smith and Academy Award-winner Norman Jewison.





# WIFF PRIZE IN CANADIAN FILM

WIFF is committed to celebrating excellence in Canadian film by honouring Canadian films and filmmakers with an annual cash prize of \$25,000. An independent jury comprised of film industry experts selects the winner. The Francophone-Indigenous film KUESSIPAN, directed by Myriam Verreault, was the recipient of the 2019 prize. In 2022, the prize was given to RICEBOY SLEEPS directed by Anthony Shim. Nominees are announced annually at WIFF AT TIFF, a celebration held each September on the rooftop of the TIFF Bell Lightbox in Toronto. The winner is announced during the opening weekend of WIFF's festival.





# WIFF AT TIFF

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Our annual celebration held during TIFF each September on the rooftop of the TIFF Bell Lightbox. This event includes the announcement of the nominees for the WIFF Prize in Canadian Film.



# SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

## FRANCOPHONE PROGRAMMING

In 2022, 43 Francophone feature films screened at WIFF - the largest number of Francophone feature films of any festival in Canada (including Québec). WIFF presents these films screenings in partnership with ICI Radio-Canada.

## LGBTQ2S+ PROGRAMMING

WIFF screens an expansive LGBTQ2S+ slate of films at the festival. In 2022, 14 films were presented as a part of this initiative. Films are selected from major LGBTQ2S+ festivals including Inside Out Toronto and the San Francisco International Film Festival.

## HOTDOCS SHOWCASE

WIFF teams up annually with the Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival to present the Hot Docs Showcase. WIFF is thrilled to present unique, clever, and provocative films specifically selected by Hot Docs president Chris McDonald and artistic director of programming Shane Smith.

## WIFF LOCAL

WIFF is committed to promoting and fostering local films and filmmakers and welcomes local short and feature film submissions for programming consideration to the core festival. Films are selected by an independent jury based on their quality and originality, and on their ability to contribute significantly to the overall success of WIFF.

## MARK BOSCARIOL 48-HOUR FLICKFEST

Named in honour of WIFF founder, Mark Boscariol, the 48-Hour FlickFest consists of a slate of short films shot and edited by local filmmakers and film lovers over one weekend. FlickFest is an intense, hyper-local movie making challenge. Supplied with a line of dialogue, a character trait and a prop, filmmakers are given 48-hours to complete and submit their film. This is a juried competition and the screening includes awards presentations.

## MIDNIGHT MADNESS

A cult-like programming series that features obscure and sometimes terrifying films that are new and old. Included in this series is the yearly screening of Tommy Wisseau's *The Room*, known as the worst film of all time.

## SPECIAL SCREENINGS

WIFF is also committed to providing space for culturally relevant conversations by programming films that are presented with panel discussions. In 2022, this included a special screening of *Indian Horse*, which was followed by a panel discussion with Indigenous Elders and the University of Windsor Men's Hockey Team.



# EVENTS

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## WIFF PRESENTS

Outside of the 11-day festival, WIFF provides the opportunity for continued exceptional film viewing experiences by screening films throughout the year with its WIFF Presents series - giving audiences more of what they love - more WIFF.

## WIFF UNDER THE STARS

Created in response to the restrictions put in place because of COVID-19, WIFF Under the Stars programming includes any film event happening outside of our main venues and throughout our community. This included the drive-in style events that were held during the summers of 2020 and 2021, and community screening events at Charles Clark Square.

## OPENING NIGHT FILM AND PARTY

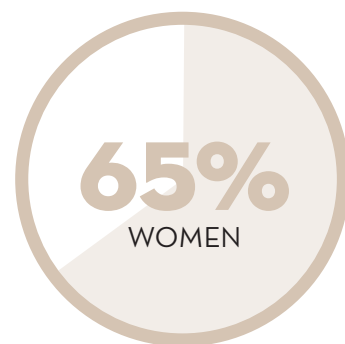
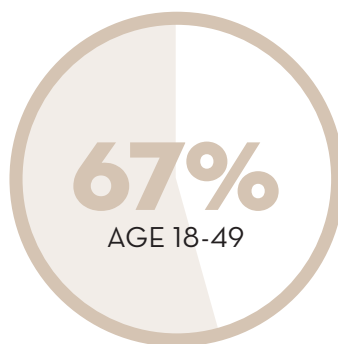
The premier event of the year! Join WIFF's closest friends and enjoy our opening night ceremonies, including a specially curated film, followed by the party of the year!

## WIFF VILLAGE

A vibrant downtown venue featuring a tented space on University Ave. W., one block east of the Capitol Theatre, during the second weekend of the festival. WIFF Village will feature live entertainment and signature events.



# ABOUT OUR AUDIENCE



**7,719**  
EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS

**40,000**  
UNIQUE WEBSITE VISITORS





WINDSORFILMFESTIVAL.COM

**WIFF**

CONTACT:

**VINCENT GEORGIE**

WIFF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CHIEF PROGRAMMER  
VINCENT@WINDSORFILMFESTIVAL.COM  
519.563.7444

**PAT PAPADEAS**

CHAIR, FUND DEVELOPMENT  
PAT@WINDSORFILMFESTIVAL.COM  
519.791.4414





Photo credit: Erika Sanborn

WIFF Alley is an urban transformation project, showing WIFF's investment in our community. This addition expands the festival experience, creating a corridor connecting our venues and animating our downtown core.