

2019 PROGRAM



EMP

**NO COAST
FILM FEST**

KAN

Peddling Great Movies!

BLOCK ONE

Family

10:00 am - 11:05 am



Penelope in the Treehouse

Director Jonathan Langager / Fantasy Drama / 14 mins. USA

Filmmaker Jonathan Langager's charming Penelope in the Treehouse is the family friendly tale of a young girl having to adapt to a new set-up at home.

Now looking to expand the universe from Penelope in the Treehouse into a feature film, Langager is also currently working on pre-production for a stop motion short film set in space.



In a Heartbeat

Directors Esteban Bravo & Beth David / Comedy Animation / 4 mins. USA

In a Heartbeat is a 2017 computer-animated short film produced by Ringling College of Art and Design. Written and directed by Esteban Bravo and Beth David.

This adorable animated short tells the story of a boy who has a crush on another boy and he is too shy to confess, but his heart is not so reticent.



Freaks of Nurture

Director Alexandra Lemay / Comedy Animation / 7 mins. USA

Freaks of Nurture is an animated short about a neurotic mother-daughter relationship inspired by the filmmaker's own unorthodox upbringing with her single-parent mom, who is also a foster parent and dog breeder. Self-deprecating and bursting with energy, the film reveals that no matter how grown-up we think we are, we never quite stop craving the love and support of a parent.

Director Alexandra Lemay is a freelance artist specializing in stop-motion animation as well as various types of design and fabrication.



Frolic n' Mae

Director Danny Madden / Fantasy Drama / 12 mins. USA

Outcast and bored at her cousin's party, 10-year-old Mae unleashes her imagination with doodles. But when the doodles come to life, she's got a knock-down, drag out fight on her hands!

Director Danny Madden's latest short, Frolic n' Mae, is sweet, exciting, and imparts a strong moral lesson at the end.



One Small Step

Directors Bobby Pontillas & Andrew Chesworth / Comedy Animation / 8 mins. China/USA

Luna is a vibrant young Chinese American girl who dreams of becoming an astronaut. From the day she witnesses a rocket launching into space on TV, Luna is driven to reach for the stars.

According to the film's director Andrew Chesworth, "One Small Step is our love letter to everyone who chased that impossible dream, and the family that supported them through it and Luna's story is filled with the rich life experiences of the talented, diverse team here at Taiko Studios." The film was nominated for the 91st Academy Awards-Academy Award for Best Animated Short Film.



Fulfilament

Director Rhiannon Evans / Comedy Animation / 8 mins. UK

Ever wondered where those light bulb moments come from? A lightning bolt from a brainstorm cloud creates a little, lost thought who just wants to find a place to belong, but instead discovers what it takes to become a great idea.

Dir. Rhiannon Evans is an award winning film-maker from South Wales. She studied animation at the University of Wales Newport and chose to specialize in stop motion for her graduation film 'Heartstrings'. After a few years of freelance work in commercials she began a postgraduate degree in Directing Animation at The National Film & Television School where she was chosen as a recipient of the prestigious BAFTA scholarship. 'Fulfilament' is her graduation film.



Lost & Found

Directors Andrew Goldsmith & Bradley Slabe / Comedy Animation / 7 mins. Australia

A knitted toy dinosaur must completely unravel itself to save the love of its life in one of the most impressive stop motion animations of the year.

Directors Andrew Goldsmith and Bradley Slabe credit the melancholy of their work to being inspired by Wabi Sabi, a Japanese philosophy that seeks meaning through an "acceptance of transience and imperfection", and the ending in particular strikes a nice balance between hope and a sense of the elegiac.

BLOCK TWO

General

11:05 am - 1:20 pm



Kim's Big Date 🏆

Director Claire McFadden / Romantic Comedy / 9 mins. USA

This romantic comedy short follows late-bloomer Kim as she tries to navigate her first real romantic encounter. The film celebrates that early period of a relationship where your friends are as much a part of the journey as the person you like.

Claire McFadden is a writer and filmmaker living in Chicago. By day she writes for Jackbox Games. By night, she performs with The Second City. Her web series "Framed" was an Official Selection at The New York Television Festival in 2018.



How Much 🏆👁️

Director David Wayne Young / Drama Animation / 7 mins. USA

How Much is an exploration into past and present circumstances for a family whose struggle with paranoid schizophrenia becomes quite vivid. Though only a short representation, the lifelong struggle of the characters can be felt and heard. This film invites audiences to look into the eyes of those people who have seen too much - if only for five minutes.

David Wayne Young is an actor, writer, and director. David first began writing at the age of six and developed an interest in acting in sixth grade. It should also be known that David is quite fond of dogs and can make a mean PB&J.



Krampon 🏆

Director Abdullah Şahin / Drama / 11 mins. Turkey

Ilyas and Ahmet are two close friends. Later, Syrian refugee Emir joins them. Ilyas wants to make the tryouts for a local football team and saves money to buy new cleats. Emir shares his ideal. After seeing his father pays the debts of Emir's family to the grocery, Ilyas gives his new cleats as a gift to Emir in order to join to the tryouts. However, his own cleats tear up just after. The shoemaker gives him a bigger cleats temporarily. The tryouts morning one of Ilyas' cleats drops to the river. When Ilyas and Ahmet try to take it out, Emir surprises them with what he's done

Director Abdullah Şahin was born in Istanbul in 1987 and graduated from Istanbul Şehir University's Cinema and Television department. He is doing his master degree in the same field.



Ghostwriter 🏆👁️

Director Naythan Smith / Horror Drama / 8 mins. USA

An award-winning novelist with writer's block decides to seclude herself in hopes of finding inspiration. As the pressure for continued success begins to take its toll, she must decide what she is capable of.

Naythan Smith is a filmmaker born and raised in Wichita, KS. As a child, he was diagnosed with stereoblindness, a condition where one eye suppresses vision and leaves the individual with no depth perception. In effect, this creates a flat world, much like a photo. While in some ways it is a visual disability, it also grants Naythan a unique view of the world in which the whole world is seen as through a camera lens. It was clear from an early age that the visual arts was his calling.

Blink 🏆

Director Kayden Phoenix / Drama Sci-Fi / 13 mins. USA

John Delacroix is an ambitious businessman, so much so that he finds himself neglecting what is truly important in his life. After a sudden heart attack, a mysterious woman grants him the time he spent blinking to go back and relive his greatest joys and struggles.

Director Kayden Phoenix is a Chicana writer, director from Boyle Heights, California. Upon entering the industry, she became a huge advocate for diversity, both in front and behind the camera, giving a voice to stories untold. Kayden is the founder of Chicana Director's Initiative, and a recipient of Panavision's New Filmmaker's Program.



Pre-Mortem 🏆👁️

Director Adam R. De Kleine / Drama / 16 mins. USA

Produced as part of the Short Film Class at Dordt College last Fall, Pre-Mortem follows a man on a journey to find someone to accompany him to Judgement.

Director Adam R. De Kleine is currently studying Digital Media Production at Dordt College.



Letter To My 14 Year Old Self

Director Brian Mulholland / Drama / 8 mins. N. Ireland

If you could write a letter to your 14 year old self, what would you say? A brave writer shares a letter to her younger self on the secret she holds, hate she is facing, and her wish to be normal. Based on a true story written by journalist and blogger Lyra McKee, who was sadly killed this year.

Born with a love of film and music, Director Brian Mulholland found a home for his creative talents in story telling with film as his medium. Brian has written and directed a number of short films, winning awards for Hoplophobia (2014) and Redlight (2013).





Falling Through the Cracks 🏆

Director Valerie Rinder / Animation Music / 3 mins. USA

In this surreal stop motion short, with incredible attention to detail, the protagonist's home seems to be turning against her.

Dir. Valerie Rinder is currently a student at the University of Montana. She created this short as a student project. It's inspired by a song of the same name by Locksaw Cartel.



Sparkleville 🏆🌟

Director Fritz Robinson / Western / 18 mins. USA

A stranger wanders into Sparkleville. It seems to be a friendly quiet, small Western town. But the people who live there are just a little bit different.

Sparkleville is the first film directed by Fritz Robinson who has written and produced in the past. Fritz lives in Wichita, KS where he retired after a marketing career.



Game Over 🏆

Director Amanda Sabater / Horror Thriller / 8 mins. USA

Who is the master of this game, and what are the consequences for not playing by the rules? Grace awakens in a cell shared by fellow-captive, Lucy. The plot unfolds through a series of disconnected flashes, as Grace struggles to understand her circumstances.

Director Amanda Sabater is a writer, producer, director, and co-founder of NextRound Productions and is a graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.



Rabbits 🏆🌟

Director Patrick Clement / Western / 13 mins. USA

Set in 1914 Kansas, a desolate farmer finds a young woman along a dirt road. A rabbit earring makes him question a recent hunt, and a reluctant trip into the family home overwhelms him.

Director Patrick Clement is originally from Boston, MA where he gained notoriety for his punk record label, FNS Records. He graduated from The University of Kansas in 2015 and began the prestigious Directing M.F.A. Program at Columbia University in New York City.



The Bee 🐝

Director Sam Rocco / Action Comedy / 14 mins. USA

Fed up with the violence and bullying in her city, Sydney dresses up like a bee to fight crime, but to reach her full potential she must first overcome a tragic event from her past.

“The Bee encompasses everything I love: action, humor, darkness and super weird super heroes.” says Director Sam Rocco, who is currently working on his MFA in film production at the University of Southern California. When not writing or directing the next in-your-face action epic, Rocco spends most of his time searching for Pokémon, taking free intro martial arts classes, and eating bean burritos in his car.

BLOCK THREE

Documentaries

1:30 pm - 2:40 pm



Living in Tension 🏳️‍🌈

Director Clayton Jarrard / Documentary / 8 mins. USA

Existing between two seemingly opposed entities, Christianity and the LGBTQ+ community, LGBTQ+ Christians are turning to digital spaces to build community and find belonging.

Director Clayton Jarrard grew up actively engaged in the conservative Southern Baptist faith of North Carolina. But the shaming silence surrounding LGBTQ+ issues gradually revealed that his faith was not as welcoming as it boasted. Based on nine months of research with LGBTQ+ Christians, “Living in Tension” is the result of exploring the difficulties LGBTQ+ Christians face within these faith communities.



For Your Amusement: The Wonderland Park on Ackerman Island 🏳️‍🌈

Director Sara Harmon / Documentary / 20 mins. USA

A mini-documentary about Wonderland Park (1906-1918), Wichita’s first amusement park. It was located on Ackerman Island in the Arkansas River.

Director Sara Harmon is a Renaissance woman who often describes herself as an illustrating, camera-operating, comedy writing tap dancer! Combining her multimedia background and love of history.



Strawberry Hill Fight Club 🏳️‍🌈

Director Kevin Rabas / Documentary / 6 mins. USA

This short documentary looks at a Kansas City, KS boxing club for youths led by former pro boxer Lalo Robles, and his Olympic hopeful trainee.

Director Kevin Rabas, Poet Laureate of Kansas (2017-2019), teaches at Emporia State University, where he leads the poetry and playwriting tracks. He has eleven books, including Lisa’s Flying Electric Piano, a Kansas which is a Notable Book and Nelson Poetry Book Award winner.



Critical Condition 🏆

Director Ky Dickens / Documentary / 19 mins. USA

In America, where you live can determine if you live. In Kansas the lack of access to affordable healthcare in rural areas is an issue of life or death.

Award winning filmmaker Ky Dickens is best known for her highly acclaimed documentary work and her endless list of questions. Ky received the Focus Award for "Achievement in Directing" from Women in Film. She also received the "Change Maker Award," for influencing social change through art, in Washington DC in 2017, alongside Maxine Waters.



Umbilicus Desidero 🏆

Director Michael J. Epstein / Documentary / 4 mins. USA

Umbilicus Desidero (a short documentary about Neal Jones) is the true story of Neal Jones, whose life forever changed when he lost his belly button. Some voids aren't meant to be filled.

Michael J. Epstein is a Los Angeles director, actor, writer, musician, and producer known primarily for horror and sci-fi feature films layered with modern sociopolitical commentary. He often co-writes, co-directs, and co-produces with his wife, Sophia Cacciola, with their production company Launch Over.



Baba's Next Chapter 🏆

Director Jamie C.X. Wang / Documentary / 10 mins. China/USA

As her father's retirement approaches, a student filmmaker living abroad attempts to bring the story her father wrote to life, to prevent him from abandoning his one last creative passion that's fading away.

Jamie C.X. Wang is a California-based multidisciplinary artist with a focus on Filmmaking & Acting. Originally from China, she received an education in the U.S. in both the business and creative sides of film and television. She holds a masters degree in Entertainment Industry Management, and is pursuing post-graduate certificates in directing and producing.

BLOCK FOUR

General

2:50 pm - 5:00 pm



Temptation of St. Francis 🏆

Director Johnnie Semerad / Comedy Animation / 6 mins. USA

Two ill matched garden statues fall in love in this animated exploration of the battle between spiritual enlightenment and physical desires that we all go through. An imaginative take on what happens in your garden when you're not looking.

Director Johnnie Semerad grew up in Schenectady NY. At eighteen he attended Pratt Institute and never looked back. Quiet Man was started a few years later, and has won virtually every advertising award, Emmys, and even a Grammy. Johnnie will tell you his greatest joys are his daughters, Emma and Dara.



Catherine 🏆

Director Britt Raes / Comedy Animation / 12 mins. Belgium

A tragic comedy of a sweet little girl who grows up to be a crazy old cat lady.

Director Britt Raes loves to draw and tell stories. Working in animation makes her happy every day! She likes chocolate, indie music, Totoro, and riding her bike. If she is reincarnated, she hopes to come back as a cat named Fluffy.



Organics 🏆

Director Dillon Dowdell / Comedy Horror / 8 mins. USA

A night turns dark once a naive Barista is convinced by his newly hired co-worker to stay after hours for a late night drink. Organics is an exercise in mumblecore filmmaking with a genre twist. Everything you see on screen is improvised, there is no screenplay behind this film..

Dillon Dowdell is a writer, director, and producer from the San Francisco Bay Area. He's directed music videos which have premiered on publications such as Paper magazine and Billboard. He's worked with bands signed to Atlantic Records own Wallows, as well as the German indie dance artist Roosevelt. His short film Organics is his narrative debut.



Lukewarm 🏆

Director Mitch Yapko / Comedy / 7 mins. USA

Just your typical, mediocre, beige, room temperature sex. John and Eric put the lust back in lackluster.

Director Mitch Yapko was born on June 11, 1981 in Queens, New York, USA. He is a director and producer, known for Always Worthy, Bill Murray: No One Will Ever Believe You, and Nosferajew.



Knee High 🏆

Director Marissa Vonn / Drama / 14 mins. USA

Set against the Iowa farmlands, Knee High follows Calvin Melbourne as he struggles to keep hold of the reins to the family farm while still making time for his young son, Avery.

Born and raised in the Midwest, Director Marissa Vonn used her experiences growing up to shape this film. She has nearly 15 short films and 2 series to her name and plans to keep the momentum going through 2019.



The Final Hour of Roger Lawrence 🏆

Director Truman Wheeler / Thriller / 13 mins. USA

Roger Lawrence, an aging small-town insurance agent, returns to his office to find an angry man, Todd, waiting for him with a rifle. While attempting to diffuse the situation, Roger learns that his negligence has caused Todd a lifetime of hospital bills for the care of his dying mother.

Truman Wheeler is a writer/director from Missouri and created "The Final Hour of Roger Lawrence" for his senior thesis project at university.



Einstein-Rosenburg

Director Olga Osorio / Sci-Fi Comedy / 9 mins. Spain

Summer of 1982. Teo claims he has found a wormhole. His brother Óscar does not believe him - at least not for now.

Director Olga Osorio is a teacher of Editing in the faculty of Ciencias da Comunicación (media sciences) in A Coruña and Filmmaking in the Escola de Imaxe e Son in the same city. She is currently developing Einstein-Rosen into a feature film.



Award
Contender



Kansas
Made



Safire

Director Pattie Martins / Romance Thriller / 12 mins. France

Cloe is a poor struggling painter who rents a room in wealthy business woman Antoinette's apartment. But who really has the power, the landlady or the tenant? And what's power worth without freedom?

Director Pattie Martins is an award winning Portuguese Filmmaker that upon working for years as an actress in Portugal and London discovered her calling as a writer/director for stage and film.



Awake 🏆

Director Ben Wang / Drama / 17 mins. USA

In this short, both protagonists are artists, frustrated about life and attitudes toward creating art. However, when they meet it awakens the internal desire for beauty through each other's works.

Director Ben Wang was inspired by his personal relationship with art, internal struggles, and frustrations when making art.



The Devil Needs a Fix 🏆

Director Ian Ebright / Comedy Animation / 12 mins. Belgium

An ambivalent reporter will get a big break if his interview with the Devil goes as planned. Blending the genres of dark comedy, drama, and fantasy, The Devil Needs a Fix explores disconnectedness, longing, and the nature of fear

Director Ian Ebright's debut as writer/director was the multi-award-winning narrative short film 'From the Sky' (2014), an Arabic language story about a peaceful father and troubled son struggling to cope with the effects of drone warfare in their region of the Middle East. Ian was the recipient of the Most Promising Filmmaker Award at the 2015 Spokane International Film Festival for writing, directing, and co-producing the film.



Boys Night 🏆

Director James Price / Drama / 17 mins. UK

Late one night, barely able to stand unassisted, a drunken Davy commands his 12 year old son Reece to join him when his wife throws him out of the car. Concerned for his father's safety Reece follows along to bring his drunken father safely home. Their halting journey through the Glasgow streets is filled with humor, embarrassment, and no small amount of danger.

Director James Price is a self-taught screenwriter and filmmaker from Springburn in Glasgow. He is extremely passionate about telling authentic, raw stories which are usually based on true events in or around his life. He was nominated for a BAFTA New Talent award for his screenplay for Dropping Off Michael.

EVENING

Awards

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Did your favorite film make it? Join us to see who are this years winners at No Coast Film Fest 2019.

Visit nocoastfilmfest.com/voting to vote for your favorite! The film with the most votes will receive the Audience Choice Award.

***Buckshot* Midwestern Premier**

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Join us afterwards for a live Q&A with Director Joshua J. Smith and Actor Tim DeZarn who portrays Buckshot Thomas himself.



Buckshot

Director Joshua J. Smith / Comedy / 78 mins. USA

Buckshot is a dark comedy that follows Charlie Stillman, a struggling country singer from New Jersey, who journeys to Nashville to follow in his father's footsteps of becoming a country star. But when his father's checkered past derails his chances, his only job offer is to drive Buckshot Thomas, an aging, hard-living, honky tonk legend, cross-country to his final concert. Along the way, the two men forge a rare friendship, which could change both their lives forever.

Joshua's resume includes four short films and one documentary in which he served as writer, producer and director. The films have played in countless film festivals and won two Audience Awards: Austin Film Festival, Hill Country Film Festival. His most recent work includes directing comedy sketches for The Nerdist. He is also an accomplished feature film producer on the following award winning films; Pretty Ugly People starring Melissa McCarthy (The Boss) directed by Tate Taylor (The Help), Kabluey featuring Lisa Kudrow (Friends) and The Garage with Xander Berkley (Taken). Born and raised in Emporia, he currently resides in Santa Monica, CA.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

This film fest started as a labor of love, but we would never have been able to make it happen without the support of our community and the companies, people, and organizations who helped us make this possible:



BRAD HARZMAN

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