



LOS ANGELES DIVERSITY FILM FESTIVAL

SEPT 17-19, 2026

INSPIRE
EMBRACE
IMPROVE
EMPOWER

EASTWOOD
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

1089 NORTH OXFORD AVE
HOLLYWOOD

LADFF.COM



The DCP Works is a Philadelphia-based DCP mastering and delivery lab, built to make cinema-standard delivery simple and affordable for independent filmmakers. We handle everything from encoding and QC to physical drive fulfillment and cloud delivery — so filmmakers can focus on their work instead of wrestling with DCP specs.

As a proud sponsor of Los Angeles Diversity Film Festival, The DCP Works is providing complimentary DCP creation to select award-winning filmmakers — giving their films a theatrical-ready deliverable they can use for future screenings and distribution.



@THEDCPWORK



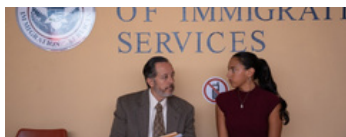
@THEDCPWORKS.COM

BLOCK ONE: OPENING NIGHT

THURSDAY
8:00PM

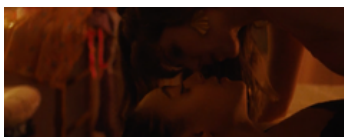


A powerful and diverse collection of short films that aim to inspire, embrace and empower.



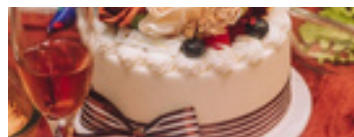
PAREDES ENTRE TÚ Y YO

Directed by Jacob Franco (USA) On the eve of her authoritative father's green card interview, Miriam returns home to a broken food truck and a fractured bond—forcing her to confront whether she's willing to release the resentment that has kept them apart.



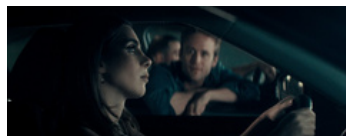
FULL FAT

Directed by Louisa Connolly-Burnham (UK) Grace and Bels do everything together. They live together, spend every waking moment together, and have even slept together. The only problem? Bels has a new boyfriend.



LIT

Directed by Natalie Lomske (USA) A group of friends host a party, unaware that an invisible threat is slowly seeping into their lives.



XY

Directed by Stephan Fleet (USA) A repressed convenience store clerk and a trans cam girl's lives tragically intersect at a bleak strip mall in the USA - A country where identity is regulated and guns are not.



CINDY

Directed by Al Chang (USA) A quirky dramedy about connection, detours, and the strangers who change our lives



THE BIRTHDAY GIFT

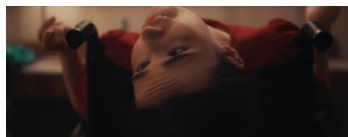
Directed by Arianna Ortiz (USA) One icy Chicago night, an unexpected guest upends the lives of an Argentine mother and daughter over the course of an intimate birthday dinner.

BLOCK TWO: THE WAY THROUGH

FRIDAY
8:00 PM



Life will give you lemons. These films highlight people who turned them into lemonade.



LET IT BURN

Directed by Piotr Karol Baluła (Poland)

Nadia, an arrogant girl with cerebral palsy, must rise above her limitations to save her mother's life.



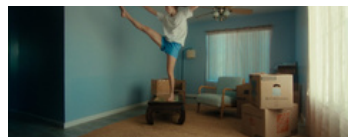
TASTE LA TRADICIÓN: EL SALVADOR

By the Arizona Center for Empowerment (USA) Each episode invites you into the kitchens of students, parents, workers - where food is more than just nourishment; it's memory, pride, and love.



F*CK FEELINGS

Directed by Samantha K Tan (USA) Lin, a talented painter preparing for her huge debut at an art gallery, is shaken by a dark past that she fought hard to forget.



LITTLE DINNERS

Directed by Peter Henry Bussian (USA)

All alone on her first New Year's Eve in Los Angeles, Vera decides to chase away the big city blues by throwing a dinner party for one.



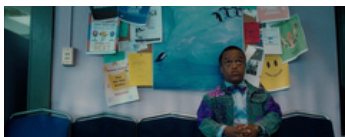
LOVE WILL SET YOU FREE

Directed by Gabriel Fontes (USA) A presentation of "Love Will Set You Free" the opening number of "Lucy! The Musical" a creative work in progress.



FIRST KISS

Directed by Jack Powers (USA) Two people in love flirt with each other and magic happens.



FORWARD THINKING

Directed by Abby Burton & Antonio Harper (USA) A Black man seeks trademark assistance from the Triple K Law Office to prepare for his inevitable encounter with the police.

BLOCK THREE: AWD

SATURDAY 3:00PM

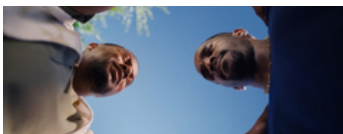


**LADFF is proud to partner with Alliance of Women Directos.
These incredible short films are all directed by AWD members.**



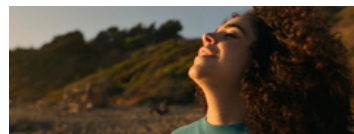
BUBBLE POP

Directed by Aeryn Michelle Williams (USA) Syd can't get over her breakup, but a mysterious machine offers her a path forward...or backward.



SEAWEED SNACKS

Directed by Sylvia Ray (USA) A hard-edged dad just wants to survive another birthday party, but when a try-hard super dad won't take "no" for an answer, things get real awkward ... real fast.



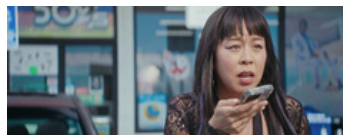
NOTHING BAD EVER HAPPENS

Directed by Heidi Weitzer (USA) Best friends Devin and Kira do everything together, but when Devin wants to go to the beach, Kira must finally face her own demons head on.



WAYS TO FLY

Directed by Kirby Marshall-Collins (USA) When her barrettes mess up her pirouettes, an excitable, hyper-focused Black girl must power through the distractions -- and her mother's expectations -- to fly like the ballerinas do.



SAVERIO

Directed by Ellen Ancui (USA) Mae is desperate to get to an important event when she finds a senior with dementia abandoned in her car. Can she help this stranger *and* make it to the event?

ALLIANCE OF WOMEN DIRECTORS (AWD) is a non-profit organization dedicated to achieving gender parity by substantially increasing the number of women and gender-expansive directors working in the entertainment industry.



BLOCK FOUR: THE MANY MOTHERS

SATURDAY
5:15 PM

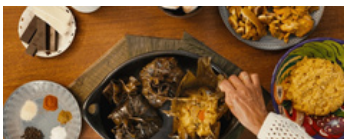


The tale of motherhood is diverse and eclectic. These short films honor mothers, their shared experiences and their individual journeys.



GLITTERBOMB

Directed by Brian Leahy (USA) Based on a true story. During a life-changing job interview glitter begins inexplicably pouring out of Lee.



TASTE LA TRADICIÓN: COLOMBIA

By the Arizona Center for Empowerment (USA) Each episode invites you into the kitchens of students, parents, workers - where food is more than just nourishment; it's memory, pride, and love.



RUYA

Directed by Nicole Mairose Dizon (USA) When a T'boli dreamweaver goes into a coma, her anxious, insomniac daughter must dream and communicate with Fu Dalu, the Spirit of Abaca, to pick up where her mom left off on the next *t'nalak*.



HUGS & KISSES

Directed by Alexandra "Lexie" Orr (USA) A daughter details scenarios of her as a child with her mother. As these memories unfold, we find that these moments were not all hugs and kisses.



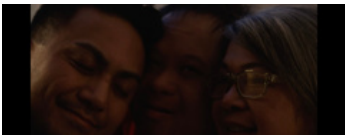
THE SHAPE OF HER SMILE

Directed by Dale Fabrigar (USA) A woman considers a life altering change until a conversation with her daughter reframes not only her appearance, but how she sees herself.



FISTS OF MOTHERS

Directed by Tchaiko Omawale (USA) Two mothers have an awkward conversation about their kids that turns to violence.



THE SHARP POINT IN TIME

Directed by Andrew Acedo (USA) A Filipina mom just wants her American-born son to wash the dishes right, quit smoking weed and be more like his brother.



YOU AND ME MAKES THREE

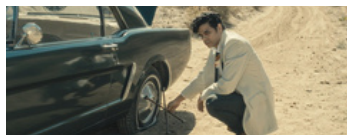
Directed by Emmalie El Fadli (UK) A couple experience sperm donors, DIY insemination, and awkward conversations while trying to get pregnant.

BLOCK FIVE: GOOD GRIEF

SATURDAY
8:00 PM



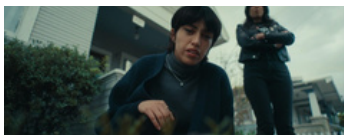
Grief is a heavy load. These short films explore the growth and autonomy that can come from loss.



I F*CKING HATE YOU

Directed by Gabriela Paciel

(Mexico/USA) Michelle and David are on their way to Michelle's wedding when a flat tire leaves them stranded in the desert and simmering tensions come to the surface.



ENSAÑAME COMO MORIR

Directed By Gerardo Maravilla (USA)

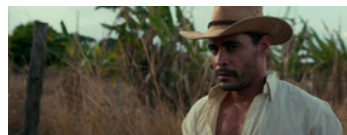
After her grandmother passes away, a grieving Mexican-American woman becomes fascinated with learning what it feels like to die.



BALLOON ANIMALS

Directed by Anna Baumgarten (USA)

Two grocery store employees have a helium-fueled encounter with a late-night customer.



THE BLAME SILENCE

Directed by Israel Cordova (Brazil)

Mauro, a rural farmer, finds himself caught between guilt and desire as he confronts his fears so he can embrace who he truly is..



CHRO

Directed by Hamed Bahrami (Iran) In the quiet of the graves, fleeting glances and brief greetings ignite a spark of hope for renewal in the old man's heart.



I'M DOING FINE

Directed by Aleks Arsin (USA) A home aide in his 50's is forced to face loss, mortality and missing car keys all in the span of one day.



I USED TO LIVE HERE

Directed by Nicholas Paul Ybarra (USA)

Eduardo gets an invite to Michelle's house for a night of wine, cheese, and sex. But when he realizes that she lives in his old neighborhood, their first date devolves into a series of psychological games, transforming a sexy night into an unnerving one.



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

LADFF is committed to providing filmmakers, actors, and stories of diverse backgrounds with a place to showcase their voice without judgment or insincere reflection; free of stereotypes and degradation. Our goal is to establish a true multicultural experience represented by the world's independent film community.

CHECK OUT OUR PODCAST



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Los Angeles Diversity Film Festival is a 501(c)3 non profit organization.

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