

BRINGING THE WORLD TO YOUR DOORSTEP ONE FILM AT A TIME

THE 34TH

WOODS HOLE FILM FESTIVAL

SATURDAY
JULY 26 -
SATURDAY
AUGUST 2,
2025



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**8 DAYS OF FILMS, MUSIC, MASTER CLASSES,
WORKSHOPS, PARTIES AND MORE...**

WOODSHOLEFILMFESTIVAL.ORG
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The 2025 Woods Hole Film Festival is presented by **Liam Maguire's Irish Pub**, 273 Main St., Falmouth

THE 34TH WOODS HOLE FILM FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY
JULY 26 -
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8 DAYS OF IN-PERSON SCREENINGS, WORKSHOPS, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, FILMMAKER Q&A'S AND MORE...

How to Festival 2025

The 34th Festival will include over 100 live screenings and events over the 8 day Festival. This year, all film screenings and events will be held in-person only, at Festival venues in Woods Hole and Falmouth.

Screening and event venues in Woods Hole:

Redfield Auditorium (WHOI), Clapp Auditorium (MBL), Meigs Room, Swope Center (MBL), Woods Hole, Woods Hole Community Hall, Old Woods Hole Fire Station and Falmouth Academy.

Tickets packages and passes available now online at woodsholefilmfestival.org. Individual tickets available starting July 1. Festival box office at Fire Station open daily starting July 7th.

For more information about the films and events, including workshop, panel and event descriptions and film trailers check woodsholefilmfestival.org.



FESTIVAL HEADQUARTERS AND STORE

89 Water Street, Second Floor
Woods Hole, MA 02543.

Open daily 11 am – 6 pm.

SPECIAL GUEST Amy Brenneman



Amy Brenneman dedicates her time equally to acting, producing, and activism. She graduated from Harvard with a degree in Comparative Religion, specializing in Indo-Tibetan traditions and studying sacred dance in Kathmandu. As a founding member of Cornerstone Theater Company, she helped create community-driven, site-specific productions focused on social justice. Amy co-created and starred in "Mouth Wide Open" and "Overcome," and was the driving force behind "Judging Amy," inspired by her mother, Judge Frederica Brenneman. Her extensive television career includes roles in "NYPD Blue," "Frasier," "Private Practice," "The Leftovers," "Tell Me Your Secrets," and "The Old Man." In film, she has collaborated with Rodrigo Garcia and appeared in "Heat," "Casper," "Fear," "The Jane Austen Book Club," and "Words and Pictures." She directed the documentary "The Way the World Should Be," highlighting inclusive education, and hosts the podcast "The Challengers." A dedicated educator, she has taught drama at Harvard and UCLA and directed theater at Sierra Canyon School and CHIME Charter School. She lives between Los Angeles and West Tisbury, MA, with her husband, writer/director Brad Silberling, and their two children.

SPECIAL EVENT SCREENING

Friday, July 25th 7:30 pm, Redfield Auditorium

Overcome

Feature Documentary Written and Produced
by Amy Brenneman and Sabrina Peck
USA • 2024 • 60 min.

Q&A following the film.



In this autobiographical journey infused with music and movement, celebrated actress Amy Brenneman (Judging Amy, Private Practice, The Leftovers, Goliath, Heat, The Old Man) takes us along as she learns how to become a true ally to her daughter Charlotte, born with a rare chromosomal abnormality. Years of testing and assessment yield frustratingly few results, leading Brenneman to surrender to a new path forward. Funny, poignant, and powerful, "Overcome" takes a bold look at preconceptions of disability, what we consider "normal," and the promise/challenge of a truly inclusive society.

This is a recording of a performance presented at the Cotuit Center for the Arts, March 2024.

Saturday, July 26

10:00pm • Captain Kidd

SARAH BURRILL BAND



This Band is about fun. With a song list that spans multiple genres, it's not unusual to hear, blues, country, R&B, classic rock, soul, alternative, pop, and reggae in the same set. It becomes clear that the band is here for a good time and brings the audience along for the ride!

SATURDAY, JULY 26 THROUGH SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 2025

SCREENINGS AND EVENTS

SATURDAY

- July 26 -

SHORTS: Conversations

2:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Jimmy & The Demons

3:00pm • Clapp Auditorium

My Sweet Land

4:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Viva Verdi!

Preceded By: **Grit**

5:30pm • Clapp Auditorium

The Easy Kind

6:15pm • Redfield Auditorium

The Quiet Diplomat

Preceded By: **Dukakis: Recipe for Democracy**

8:00pm • Clapp Auditorium

The Summer Book

8:30pm • Redfield Auditorium

Opening Night Party

with music by **Sarah Burrill**

10:00pm • Captain Kidd

SUNDAY

- July 27 -

SHORTS: Moving Forward

2:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Room For Us? Confronting Nantucket's Housing Crisis

3:15pm • Clapp Auditorium

An Autumn Summer

4:30pm • Redfield Auditorium

Oceania: Journey to the Center

5:30pm • Clapp Auditorium

Loving John

5:30pm • FA-Simon Center

Prime Minister

6:45pm • Redfield Auditorium

Bankie Banx: King of the Dune

7:30pm • FA-Simon Center

SHORTS: The Kids Are Alright

7:45pm • Clapp Auditorium

Homewrecker

Preceded By: **The Stone System**

9:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

MONDAY

- July 28 -

Master Class: The Intersection of Music and Documentary Filmmaking

12:00pm • Community Hall

Master Class: Wearing Many Hats

2:30pm • Community Hall

SHORTS: The Blue Between Us

4:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Beyond the Gaze: Jule Campbell's Swimsuit Issue

5:30pm • Clapp Auditorium

SHORTS: The Spirit of Massachusetts

5:30pm • FA-Simon Center

The Scout

6:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Holding Liat

8:00pm • FA-Simon Center

The Gas Station Attendant

8:00pm • Clapp Auditorium

Tinsman Road

8:15pm • Redfield Auditorium

TUESDAY

- July 29 -

Workshop: Filmmaker Meetings

11:00am • Community Hall

SHORTS: Modern Problems

4:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Village Keeper

5:15pm • Meigs Room

Uneath

5:30pm • Clapp Auditorium

The Librarians

6:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

SHORTS: Not Your Average Bedtime Story

7:30pm • Meigs Room

Love, Danielle

8:00pm • Clapp Auditorium

Out of Plain Sight

8:15pm • Redfield Auditorium



BRINGING THE WORLD TO YOUR DOORSTEP ONE FILM AT A TIME

WEDNESDAY

- July 30 -

Revisit

5:15pm • Meigs Room

Comparsa

5:30pm • Clapp Auditorium

Lost Wolves of Yellowstone

5:30pm • FA-Simon Center

SHORTS: Finding Our Way

6:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Rebel with a Clause

7:30pm • FA-Simon Center

An Arrangement

7:30pm • Meigs Room

SHORTS: Be The Change

7:45pm • Clapp Auditorium

Shattered Ice

8:15pm • Redfield Auditorium

Wednesday Night Party

with music by **Vanna Pacella and Tom Davis**

10:00pm • Captain Kidd

THURSDAY

- July 31 -

In Conversation with Elijah Wald

1:00pm • Community Hall

Science Filmmaking in Changing Times

3:00pm • Community Hall

Mistura

5:15pm • Meigs Room

The Chaplain & The Doctor

5:30pm • Clapp Auditorium

The Fisherman

6:15pm • Redfield Auditorium

Third Act

7:30pm • Meigs Room

Cracking the Code: Phil Sharp and the Biotech Revolution

8:00pm • Clapp Auditorium

Séance

8:30pm • Redfield Auditorium

FRIDAY

- August 1 -

Getting your film made, seen and sold, strategies for filmmakers

2:30pm • Community Hall

Welcome to Jay

4:30pm • Redfield Auditorium

Xibalba Monster

Preceded By: **If The Creek Don't Rise**

5:15pm • Meigs Room

SHORTS: Decisions Decisions

5:30pm • FA-Simon Center

Steve Schapiro: Being Everywhere

Preceded By: **My Back Pages**

6:45pm • Redfield Auditorium

Etched In Pavement

7:30pm • Meigs Room

The Arborist

8:00pm • FA-Simon Center

Anxiety Club

Preceded By: **View From the Floor**

9:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Friday Night Party

with music by **Arlo**

10:00pm • Grumpys Pub

SATURDAY

- August 2 -

The Travel Companion

3:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Motherland

5:00pm • Clapp Auditorium

Phillip Dutton: Leap of Faith

Preceded By: **Building A Champion**

5:15pm • Redfield Auditorium

Folktales

7:30pm • Redfield Auditorium

Magic Hour

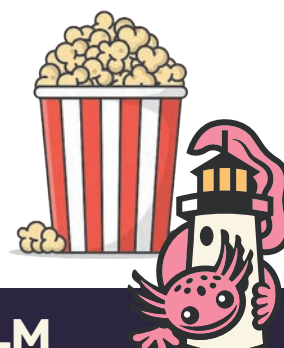
7:30pm • Clapp Auditorium

Closing Night Party & Awards Celebration

10:00pm • Captain Kidd

☞ A Bringing Science to the Screen screening.

* Schedule subject to change. Check website for latest updates and information.



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THE 34TH ANNUAL WOODS HOLE FILM FESTIVAL

DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

Anxiety Club

Wendy Lobel • USA • 2024 • 86 min.

A humorous and heartfelt exploration of anxiety through the lens of some of today's most brilliant comedians: Tiffany Jenkins, Joe List, Marc Maron, Aparna Nancherla, Mark Normand, Baron Vaughn, and Eva Victor. With a mix of stand-up performances, sketch videos, exclusive interviews, and relatable everyday life scenarios, they candidly share their personal struggles with the condition that affects more than 300 million people.

Bankie Banx: King of the Dune

Nara Garber • USA • 2024 • 118 min.

From humble beginnings on the remote island of Anguilla, trailblazing singer-songwriter Bankie Banx defied genre constraints and industry expectations to forge his own path. Dubbed "the Bob Dylan of the Caribbean," he has journeyed from breakout stardom to founding the iconic Moonplash Music Festival and the Dune Preserve, where he presides as pirate king of a de facto autonomous zone.

Beyond the Gaze:

Jule Campbell's Swimsuit Issue

Jill Campbell • USA • 2024 • 107 min.

In the 1960s at the height of the Mad Men era, Jule Campbell fights sexism and accusations of objectification to turn the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue into a cultural phenomenon. She empowered models like Christie Brinkley, Tyra Banks, and Kathy Ireland while launching a media empire and creating a legacy that continues to inspire.

Comparsa

Doug Anderson, Vickie Curtis • USA • 2025 • 78 min.

Sisters Lesli and Lupe are visionary young artists who are spurred to action after a horrific act of violence strikes their community in Guatemala City. From the shadows of a neighborhood scared into silence, these two sisters lead a luminous rebellion—unleashing joy, art, and radical truth in a fight for survival.

Cracking the Code: Phil Sharp and the Biotech Revolution

Bill Haney • USA • 2025 • 98 min.

Phil Sharp's journey from a Kentucky farm boy to Nobel laureate embodies the American Dream and the triumph of entrepreneurial spirit. His 1977 groundbreaking discovery of RNA splicing rewrote the rules of molecular biology and ignited a life-saving scientific revolution, laying the foundation for an industry that has become a cornerstone of global innovation and economic growth – and transformed the health of billions of patients worldwide.



Wednesday, July 30
10:00pm • Captain Kidd

VANNA PACELLA AND TOM DAVIS

Vanna's haunting vocals, keyboard solos, and profound lyricism will suck you in and caress you with its carefully crafted imagery. Tom's guitar playing makes a statement—each solo layered with brilliant callbacks— it is tasteful, engaging, and beautifully raw. Debut Album "Listen" out July 25th.

Etched In Pavement

John Sippel • USA • 2025 • 88 min.

The legacies we inherit the moment we're born into our circumstances, the legacy we create throughout our time on this earth, and ultimately how our legacy is kept alive by those we impact after we're gone are all explored through the weaving paths of two young men from SW Detroit who set out to uplift their worlds in the best way they know how: FIGHTING.

Folktales

Rachel Grady, Heidi Ewing • USA • 2025 • 106 min.

FOLKTALES tells the timely and emotional story of teenagers who choose to spend an unconventional "gap year" learning to dog sled and survive the Arctic wilderness, in hopes of finding connection and meaning in the modern world. Guided by patient teachers and a yard full of Alaskan huskies, they discover their own potential and develop deep relationships with the land, animals and humans around them.

Holding Liat

Brandon Kramer • USA • 2025 • 97 min.

When Liat Beinon Atzili and her husband are kidnapped on October 7th, her Israeli-American family is thrust into turmoil, grappling with fractured loyalties and painful truths as they fight to bring her home—and hold on to the places they call their own. Through the intimate lens of a family's experience, HOLDING LIAT poses complex questions of identity across generations, as the family is thrust into the epicenter of a global conflict rapidly unfolding in real-time.

Jimmy & The Demons

Cindy Meehl • USA • 2025 • 93 min.

For six decades, Jimmy Grashow's intricate woodcuts and fantastical sculptures in cardboard have graced many galleries and museums. His work has been featured on album covers and in countless publications including Rolling Stone, Esquire, and the New York Times. Now at age 79, Jimmy is offered a commission by an art collector who has a strong faith that is different from his own.

Lost Wolves of Yellowstone

Thomas Winston • USA • 2024 • 92 min.

On January 12, 1995 wolves returned to Yellowstone, 50 years after their extirpation. Mollie Beattie, the first female director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, carried the first Canadian born wolf into The Park's experimental acclimation enclosure, Alpha Female Wolf No. 5. From that day forward, their lives would be forever connected.

Loving John

Robert Rooy • USA • 2025 • 76 min.

John Godinet is an irrepressible Pacific Islander and ultra-runner living with his husband Peter in rural Maryland. He's outrun abuse as a teenager and discrimination as an adult, but now has a new adversary: ALS. But ALS isn't so much the subject as it is a catalyst -- life lived with a ticking clock. Nothing is simple -- not the love of friends, husband, family or even oneself. But John has a survival strategy: humor and even hilarity!

My Sweet Land

Sareen Hairabedian • USA, France, Jordan, Ireland • 2024 • 86 min.

Growing up in Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh), 11-year-old Vrej dreams of becoming a dentist in his picture-postcard village with its roaming ducks and golden bees. His sweet land, however, is strewn with mines from previous wars, shaping a country that remains unrecognized to the world. Vrej's life takes a sudden turn when war erupts, forcing him to flee with his family. He spends his days in exile impatiently waiting for victory, but reality takes a different turn; Armenians lose the war. Upon returning to his surviving village, he confronts the devastation, new power dynamics, and education that prepares children for near-future battles. Vrej must learn the rules of war... But can he carry a nation's hopes on his young shoulders? The film is a testament to the people of Artsakh, where hope and trauma had shaped their resilience across generations.

☪ A Bringing Science to the Screen screening.

MASTER CLASSES



The Intersection of Music and Documentary Filmmaking with Chris Perez (entertainment attorney) and Jonathan Finegold (music supervisor)

Monday, July 28, 12:00 pm, Community Hall

This Master Class will unite two industry leaders to share their expertise on everything from creative music selection to navigating rights and budgets. Drawing from their extensive experience with acclaimed documentaries and global productions, they will provide valuable insights into both the artistic and business aspects of music in filmmaking.

Wearing Many Hats with Brad Silberling, Director and Producer

Monday, July 28, 2:30 pm, Community Hall

In this Master Class, Brad Silberling, television and film director whose credits include the feature films CASPER, CITY OF ANGELS, MOONLIGHT MILE, LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS and LAND OF THE LOST among others as well as numerous television credits, will talk about working in film and television, changing roles and adapting to work on projects both large and small and developing the skills to adapt to a variety of projects.

WORKSHOPS

Filmmaker Meetings with Chris Perez and Jonathan Finegold

Tuesday, July 29, 11 am, Community Hall

Filmmakers will be able to set up 20 minute meetings with Chris and Jonathan to discuss their individual projects. Advance registration required.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

In Conversation with Elijah Wald

Thursday, July 31, 1 pm, Community Hall

Science Filmmaking in Changing Times

Thursday, July 31, 3 pm, Community Hall

Women in Film & Video New England, Getting Your Film Made, seen and Sold: Strategies for Filmmakers

Friday, August 1st, 2:30 pm, Community Hall



Oceania: Journey to the Center

Natalie Zimmerman · Kiribati, USA · 2024 · 75 min.

A mother and her adult son in Kiribati grapple with climate change and the predicted loss of their home islands as they strive to maintain their culture, freedom and independence after decades of colonizing encounters.

Out of Plain Sight

Rosanna Xia, Daniel Straub · USA · 2024 · 94 min.

Not far from Catalina Island, aboard one of the most-advanced research ships in the world, David Valentine discovered a corroded barrel on the seafloor that gave him chills. The full environmental horror sharpens into greater clarity once he calls Los Angeles Times journalist Rosanna Xia, who pieces together a shocking revelation.

SPONSORED BY: YAW KEY FOUNDATION

Phillip Dutton: Leap of Faith

Tracy Egan · USA · 2024 · 53 min.

Equestrian Phillip Dutton overcomes humble roots on an Australian cattle farm, inauspicious beginnings in the US, and a life-changing riding accident to become a seven-time Olympian in the sport of Eventing; but does the aging legend have enough left to qualify for his eighth Games at the age of 60?

Prime Minister

Michelle Walshe, Lindsay Utz · USA · 2025 · 101 min.

A view inside the life of former New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, capturing her through five tumultuous years in power and beyond as she redefined leadership on the world stage. Jacinda Ardern's outlook is summarized by a quote from her childhood hero, Sir Ernest Shackleton: "Optimism is true moral courage." She reluctantly took on what she called "the worst job in politics" as Leader of the Opposition. Then as prime minister, Ardern went on to lead with humanity, compassion, and common sense. She didn't hesitate to implement nationwide gun law reforms following a devastating mass shooting and guided her country through the pandemic by relying on science — even at the expense of her own popularity.

Rebel with a Clause

Brandt Johnson · USA · 2025 · 86 min.

One fall day, Ellen Jovin set up a folding table on a Manhattan sidewalk with a homemade sign that said "Grammar Table." Right away, passersby began excitedly asking questions, telling stories, and filing complaints. What happened next is the stuff of grammar legend. Ellen and her filmmaker husband, Brandt Johnson, took the table on the road, visiting all 50 states as Brandt shot the grammar action. People from every imaginable background visited the table to share a laugh, settle disputes, and talk about their grammar insecurities. But this story transcends grammar. It's the story of an epic quest in a divided time to bring us closer together.

Room For Us? Confronting Nantucket's Housing Crisis

Patrick Kennedy, Jasper Craven · USA · 2025 · 85 min.

Where do you go when the average home price is \$4.5 Million, the cheapest freestanding house costs \$1.8 Million, and you're 30 miles out to sea? Despite significant investments in affordable housing and the efforts of a committed group of housing advocates, the unique pressures of living on a vacation island that caters to billionaires and millionaires has many locals asking: "Does Nantucket have room for us?"

Steve Schapiro: Being Everywhere

Maura Smith · USA · 2025 · 71 min.

Traveling on his own to Arkansas to photograph migrant workers in 1961 gave Steve Schapiro his start as a photojournalist. He went on to photograph Andy Warhol, Muhammed Ali, David Bowie, the Selma March, James Baldwin, John Lewis, Ray Charles, Barbra Streisand, The Godfather, Taxi Driver, and countless more — bearing witness to some of the most significant social and cultural moments in modern American history.

The Chaplain & The Doctor

Jessica Zitter · USA · 2025 · 86 min.

Betty Clark is an 80-year-old hospital chaplain and one of few African American women on staff at Highland Hospital, the trauma center in Oakland, California. Jessica Zitter is a white physician who has worked on the Palliative Care team with Betty for over a decade, caring for patients who are approaching the ends of their lives. Their relationship took years to develop, originally beset by racial tensions on the team and a professional hierarchy that siloes and divides. But over many years, their professional relationship blossoms into a deep and caring friendship which supports them both as they work to provide the best care possible — one patient at a time.

The Gas Station Attendant

Karla Murthy · USA · 2025 · 83 min.

A daughter reflects on her father's life — weaving the story of his miraculous journey from the streets of India with the realities of life in America. Using recorded phone calls with her dad while he worked nights at a gas station along with home movies past and present, this deeply intimate film is a meditation on family, the immigrant experience, and the dreams we carry with us.

The Librarians

Kim A. Snyder · USA · 2025 · 92 min.

As an unprecedented wave of book banning is sparked in Texas, Florida, and beyond, librarians under siege join forces as unlikely defenders fighting for intellectual freedom on the front lines of democracy.

The Quiet Diplomat

Charles Lyons · USA · 2025 · 65 min.

Along with his family, Ban Ki-moon was displaced during the Korean War. The UN Command fought on the side of South Korea and forever changed Ban's life, inspiring him to become a man who fought for peace throughout his career. Nearly fifty years later, Ban was selected as the 8th Secretary General of the UN. His 'quiet diplomacy' helped to promote multilateralism at a time when collaboration between countries is a key to our survival.

Third Act

Tasashi Nakamura · USA · 2025 · 91 min.

Generations of artists call Robert A. Nakamura "the godfather of Asian American media," but filmmaker Tadashi Nakamura calls him Dad. What begins as a documentary about his father's career takes a turn with a Parkinson's Disease diagnosis, and evolves into an exploration on art, activism, grief, and fatherhood.

Unearth

Aube Strickland, John Hunter Nolan, Dune Strickland · USA · 2024 · 93 min.

Amid the global race for critical minerals essential to energy and national security, Bristol Bay's commercial salmon fishermen and Indigenous leaders confront the prospect of North America's largest-ever copper mine in their beloved homeland, exposing the mining industry's systemic recklessness while proving the power of community activism.

Viva Verdi!

Yvonne Russo · USA · 2024 · 77 min.

An intimate glimpse into the lives of the celebrated opera singers and musicians currently living out their 'third act' while mentoring international music students who live among them at Milan's unique retirement home, Casa Verdi, built by Giuseppe Verdi in 1896. As stories of romance, tragedy and triumph abound from these living treasures, it's easy to see Verdi's vision thriving — a life-affirming reminder of how music moves us at a fundamental level; how nurturing artistic expression can be life-enhancing and nourishing to the spirit at any age; and how one distinctive retirement home has reclaimed and enriched thousands of artists' lives.

Welcome to Jay

Jeffrey Morgan · USA · 2024 · 105 min.

Jay is a predominantly white town in the rural countryside of northwest Florida. Ask anyone who lives in the area — Black or white — and you'll likely hear that the town simply does not welcome black people and almost no one, inside or outside the community, knows the origins of the town's reputation. It simply persists. In 2010, Gus Benjamin, a Black teen

from Brewton, Alabama, attended a party in Jay, only to wind up dead, a gunshot from a hunting rifle through his back. Robert Floyd, a young white man, is arrested and put on trial for second degree murder. The truths that emerge rip open deep wounds from the past between the black and white communities and lead towards reckoning with a dark history of racial violence that includes a shockingly similar fatal shooting that took place almost a century before.

PANEL DISCUSSION
In Conversation with Elijah Wald

Thursday, July 31, 1 pm, Community Hall

Boston-based music writer and critic Jim Sullivan and Ty Burr, film critic, will join Elijah Wald, musician and author whose books have served as the inspiration for critically acclaimed films such as INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS and A COMPLETE UNKNOWN. He has toured as a performer on five continents and served as student and accompanist to the founding folk-blues revivalists Dave Van Ronk and Eric Von Schmidt, the legendary Congolese guitarist Jean-Bosco Mwenda, and toured for five years with the African-American string-band master Howard Armstrong. He was the Boston Globe's world and roots music correspondent for twenty years. His books include Escaping the Delta: Robert Johnson and the Invention of the Blues; Narcocorrido, about the Mexican ballads of drug smuggling and social struggle; Global Minstrels: Voices of World Music; Dave Van Ronk's memoir, The Mayor of MacDougal Street, which inspired the Coen Brothers' Inside Llewyn Davis; How the Beatles Destroyed Rock 'n' Roll: An Alternative History of American Popular Music; The Dozens: A History of Rap's Mama; and Dylan Goes Electric!, which inspired the hit movie, A Complete Unknown, which was based on his book about Bob Dylan's relationship to Pete Seeger and journey towards rock 'n' roll, Dylan Goes Electric! Newport, Seeger, Dylan, and the Night that Split the Sixties..



WHAT IS THAT THING?

This year's Festival art features the fascinating axolotl. The axolotl is a type of paedomorphic salamander, meaning they retain their juvenile features into adulthood and never undergo full metamorphosis. Unlike most amphibians, axolotls remain fully aquatic throughout their lives, sporting external gills and a perpetual smile that has made them a favorite among pet owners and researchers alike.

Native to Lake Xochimilco in Mexico City, axolotls are critically endangered in the wild due to habitat destruction and pollution. However, they thrive in captivity and are widely studied for their incredible regenerative abilities—they can regrow limbs, parts of their heart, and even sections of their brain!



NARRATIVE FEATURES

An Arrangement

Noree Victoria • USA • 2024 • 86 min.

A politician's wife with a drug problem that is threatening to derail her husband's gubernatorial run, is forced by her husband to secretly undergo rehab at their secluded summer home. But when he starts to take an interest in her young and unconventional nurse, tensions arise that put their marriage, and all of their lives, on the line.

An Autumn Summer

Jared Isaac • USA • 2025 • 98 min.

Kevin and his girlfriend, Cody, are two months into his family's annual trip at their lake house. Time causes change...and this year, one month remains before their lives take them on different paths. Amid peaceful days and adventurous nights, Kevin and Cody awaken to reality: This time together will eventually end, and each moment may become a fleeting memory.

Homewrecker

Dante Marino • USA • 2025 • 75 min.

Megan is devastated when her mom can no longer afford to buy her a house, due to her stepdad's financial troubles. So Megan decides that she has to split them up. With the help of her boyfriend, Liam, she hatches a plan to use artificial intelligence to make a deepfake sex tape of her stepdad in order to frame him for cheating. Things get messy as Megan commits to the increasingly elaborate scheme and grapples with the morality of her actions.

Love, Danielle

Marianna Palka • USA • 2024 • 79 min.

When Danielle, a happily married thirty-something, tests positive for a BRCA1 gene mutation, she learns that this puts her at a very high risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer. Thanks a lot, DNA. She now struggles with daily life, working at her bakery with her hubby Pat and hanging out with her clueless best buds on game night. She now contemplates preemptively removing her "ticking time bomb" breasts and reproductive organs before cancer gets her, too. Ultimately, Danielle must figure out how to prioritize her health and well-being by putting herself first.

Magic Hour

Jacqueline Christy • USA • 2025 • 94 min.

Harriet, a once-promising filmmaker, is stuck in the suburbs of New Jersey. Alienated from her cheating husband and spurned by her teenage daughter, she secretly enrolls in film school. But, when she gets fired off her own film and found out by her daughter, Harriet must decide if her life's ambition is pure folly or a dream worth saving.

Mistura

Ricardo de Montreuil • Peru • 2025 • 97 min.

In 1960's Peru, a privileged French-Peruvian woman's life unravels when her husband's betrayal ostracizes her from elite society and leads her to embrace people from the very communities that she was raised to disregard. Amidst the backdrop of newfound alliances, she embarks on a transformative journey that challenges societal norms and reveals Peru's authentic identity through a daring culinary venture that celebrates the country's remarkably diverse cuisine and peoples and ignites a revolution that redefines her life.

Motherland

Evan Matthews • USA • 2024 • 99 min.

In the Motherland, state-run Children's Centers raise all citizens, ensuring a fair upbringing and freeing parents from child-rearing burdens. This seemingly utopian system turns into a nightmare for a Motherland enforcer who uncovers the true identity of a young woman in her care. When the Center launches a program to combat population decline, she becomes determined to protect the young woman from becoming part of it. Defying the system she once upheld, she risks everything to save her—that is, if the Motherland doesn't stop her first.

Revisit

Harriet Wong Teng, Teng • China, Macau • 2024 • 88 min.

As Olivia charts her course through Beijing's urban maze post-graduation, a fateful call redirects her to Macau. Faced with her grandmother's ailing health, Olivia embraces her role as caregiver. Through their time together, they share stories, find comfort, and rebuild their relationship.

Séance

Vivian Kerr • USA • 2024 • 85 min.

In 1892 California, a woman contemplating adultery is forced to take refuge from a storm at the home of her first husband and his unstable wife, who claims to be haunted by their dead child.

Shattered Ice

Alex Ranarivelo • USA • 2025 • 100 min.

High school hockey bruiser Will Mankus is struggling to navigate life as a teenager following the unexpected loss of his best friend and the school's star player to suicide. As he confronts his grief, Mankus must lift himself up from rock bottom with the help of his small-town New England community to find hope and purpose through his family, friends, and the sport he loves.

The Arborist

Andrew Mudge • USA • 2025 • 95 min.

A grief-stricken arborist and her son awaken a haunting when they begin felling trees at the estate of a mysterious recluse.

The Easy Kind

Katy Chevigny • USA • 2024 • 98 min.

A rollicking journey inspired by and starring Nashville singer EC as she breaks through the constraints of country music to become the artist that she's meant to be.

The Fisherman

Zoe Martinson • USA • 2024 • 106 min.

A traditional Ghanaian fisherman forced into retirement teams up with a sarcastic talking fish and his GenZ associates on a whimsical adventure to Accra, chasing their dream of owning a boat while learning to navigate the modern world.

The Scout

Paula González-Nasser • USA • 2025 • 89 min.

Sofia works as a location scout for a network TV show shooting in New York City. This means a daily journey into the private spaces and lives of numerous city residents, photographing their properties and briefly stepping into the fabric of their lives. Over the course of a day filled with these encounters, Sofia plays witness to moments of curiosity, vulnerability, and quiet tension, until her work takes a sudden, personal turn.

The Summer Book

Charlie McDowell • USA • 2024 • 90 min.

Nine-year-old Sophia is growing up fast, but her grandmother is nearing the end of her life. Together with Sophia's father, they spend time at their family's summer home on a tiny unspoiled island in the Gulf of Finland, exploring the islet, talking about life, nature and everything but their feelings about Sophia's mother's death and their love for one another. Based on Tove Jansson's beloved novel.

The Travel Companion

Alex Mallis, Travis Wood • USA • 2025 • 91 min.

Simon, a struggling documentary filmmaker, enjoys free flights courtesy of his best friend and roommate, Bruce, who works for an airline. However, when Beatrice, a more successful filmmaker, enters the picture and starts dating Bruce, Simon risks flying too close to the sun.

Tinsman Road

Robbie Banfitch • USA • 2025 • 119 min.

In the backwoods of New Jersey, a young man navigates the serpentine mystery surrounding his long-missing sister and their family home.

Village Keeper

Karen Chapman • Canada • 2024 • 83 min.

After life's precarious scale tips Jean's fortune back into poverty, she relocates her children with their grandmother to the community housing project where she grew up. Jean lives in constant fear of everything that could go wrong, going to great

lengths to shelter her children, so when a spree of violence comes to her doorstep, she secretly cleans an abandoned crime scene, which unknowingly leads her on a path that exposes generational chains of silence, self-discovery and finally putting herself first.

Xibalba Monster

Manuela Irene • México • 2024 • 76 min.

Rogelio is 8, his parents are never around and he gets his best birthday gifts from his dentist. This summer he is sent away to his nanny's hometown, nestled in the Yucatan jungle. There, he embarks on a trip to the Mayan jungle with his nanny, where he will spy on the legendary "Xibalba Monster" and try to decipher the mystery of life and death.

SHORTS: Conversations

July 26, 2025 2:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Fiddler on the Moon: Judaism in Space

Documentary • Jeremy Newberger, Daniel A. Miller, Seth Kramer • USA • 2025 • 31 min.

Goodnight

Dramatic • Isabel Pask • USA • 2025 • 15 min.

Resaca

Dramatic • Joe Borg • UK • 2025 • 11 min.

Shouting at the Sea

Dramatic • Benjamin Verrall • UK • 2024 • 20 min.

Terms & Conditions

Dramatic • Mar Sudac • USA • 2024 • 15 min.

SHORTS: Moving Forward

July 27, 2025 2:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Class Reunion

Dramatic • Ruolin Dai • China • 2024 • 10 min.

Lazybones

Comedy • Douglas Williams • USA • 2025 • 13 min.

Middleground

Documentary • Alex Herz • USA • 2025 • 20 min.

Ploujët

Dramatic • Andrea Nordgren • USA • 2024 • 14 min.

River Oaks

Dramatic • Kalyani Persaud • USA • 2025 • 11 min.

Simple Machine

Documentary • Sara Hendren • USA • 2025 • 23 min.

SHORTS: The Kids Are Alright

July 27, 2025 7:45pm • Clapp Auditorium

Esperance to Fremantle

Dramatic • William Sebastian Turner • Australia • 2023 • 18 min.

F*ck That Guy

Dramatic • Hanna Gray Organschi • USA • 2024 • 18 min.

Kopala

Documentary • Anderson Vetle Sevid, Hugh Francis • Norway • 2024 • 33 min.

Revenge of the Language Master 1757B

Comedy • Michael Beeson • USA • 2024 • 7 min.

Who Are You, Nanu?

Dramatic • Anjini Taneja Azhar • USA, India, Belgium • 2025 • 15 min.

SHORTS:

The Blue Between Us

July 28, 2025 4:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Born of the Ice

Documentary • Stephanie Alton • USA • 2024 • 16 min.

Chasing Time

Documentary • Sarah Keo, Jeff Orlowski-Yang • USA • 2024 • 39 min.

Mission microbiome

Documentary • Giulia Grossmann • France • 2023 • 19 min.

Moon Crab

Documentary • Leah Clare Michaels • USA • 2024 • 10 min.

When I'm in the Water

Documentary • Kennedy Laylon • USA • 2025 • 12 min.

SHORTS:

The Spirit of Massachusetts

July 28, 2025 5:30pm • FA-Simon Center

From Sea to Shining Sea: Katherine Lee Bates and the Story of America the Beautiful

Documentary • John de Graaf • USA • 2025 • 37 min.

Keytar Bear

Documentary • Kely Maloney • USA • 2025 • 11 min.

Peace, Quiet & A Little Dirt

Comedy • Kevin Samar • USA • 2025 • 13 min.

Rule Number 2

Comedy • Mark Kiefer • USA • 2025 • 10 min.

The Cottage

Dramatic • Haulston Mann • USA • 2025 • 11 min.

Wilbur, The King

Comedy • Abby Sommers • USA • 2024 • 15 min.



SHORTS:

Modern Problems

July 29, 2025 4:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Babka

Comedy • Serena Dykman • USA • 2025 • 17 min.

Catalogue of Noses

Comedy • Josie Andrews • USA • 2025 • 13 min.

City of Pigs

Comedy • Juan Ángel Hernández • Spain • 2024 • 24 min.

Common Fly

Animation • Ian Alexander Castracane • USA • 2024 • 14 min.

i want to go to moscow

Comedy • Sarah Baskin • USA • 2024 • 13 min.

Prawn Star

Comedy • Juan C. Linares, Mitch Deitz • USA • 2024 • 9 min.

Supercritical

Comedy • John Osment • USA • 2024 • 7 min.

SHORTS:

Not Your Average Bedtime Story

July 29, 2025 7:300pm • Meigs Room

A Capsule for Robin

Dramatic • Lalithra Fernando • USA • 2024 • 13 min.

Cliff

Dramatic • Jess Anderson • USA • 2025 • 11 min.

House Hunters

Comedy • Joe Warner • UK • 2024 • 11 min.

Mother's Child

Animation • Naomi Noir • Netherlands • 2024 • 10 min.

My Boo

Comedy • Stephanie J. Röst • USA • 2024 • 8 min.

The Woods are Lovely, Dark and Deep

Dramatic • Mykel Salazar • USA • 2024 • 20 min.

Triptych

Dramatic • Sophia Ray • UK, Bulgaria • 2024 • 15 min.

SHORTS:

Finding Our Way

July 30, 2025 6:00pm • Redfield Auditorium

Appalheads

Documentary • Scott Faris • USA • 2024 • 17 min.

Deuce

Dramatic • Margot Budzyna • USA • 2024 • 18 min.

Jean Jacket

Comedy • The Nebeker Twins • USA • 2024 • 14 min.

Snowbird

Comedy • Patrick Curran • USA • 2025 • 25 min.

The Second Oldest Man Alive

Dramatic • Jeremy Max • USA • 2025 • 22 min.

SHORTS:

Be The Change

July 30, 2025 7:45pm • Clapp Auditorium

Amish Country Queer

Documentary • Colleen C Brady • USA • 2024 • 14 min.

Forward is a Pace

Documentary • Robin Oroso • USA • 2025 • 18 min.

Headbang

Dramatic • Anna Khaja • USA • 2025 • 15 min.

Ruby

Dramatic • Jaclyn Bethany • USA • 2024 • 14 min.

The Changebaker

Documentary • Courtney Dixon • USA • 2024 • 16 min.

They Call Me The Tattoo Witch

Documentary • Lindsay Nyman • USA • 2025 • 14 min.

SHORTS:

Decisions, Decisions

August 1, 2025 5:30pm • FA-Simon Center

A Radical

Dramatic • Michael Wooldridge • USA • 2025 • 7 min.

Alice

Dramatic • Jake Alden-Falconer • UK • 2024 • 15 min.

A Bringing Science to the Screen screening.

Crying on Command

Dramatic • Nick Craven • USA • 2025 • 13 min.

Le Parrot

Comedy • Rachael Sonnenberg • USA • 2024 • 12 min.

My Kind of People

Comedy • Joe Picozzi • USA • 2025 • 15 min.

Saverio

Dramatic • Ellen Ancui • USA • 2025 • 14 min.

Swipe

Animation • Patrick Smith • USA • 2025 • 5 min.

Through Thin Ice

Documentary • Arthur Veenema, Gabrielle Kardon • USA • 2024 • 11 min.

SHORTS

Before Features:

Building A Champion

Documentary • Neal Woodall, Mike Woodall • USA • 2025 • 21 min.
Precedes Phillip Dutton: Leap of Faith

Dukakis: Recipe for Democracy

Documentary • Erin Trahan, Jeff Schmidt • USA • 2024 • 28 min.
Precedes The Quiet Diplomat

Grit

Documentary • Vanina Feldsztein, Johannes Kroemer • USA • 2024 • 14 min.
Precedes Viva Verdi!

If The Creek Don't Rise

Dramatic • Andrew Stevens • USA • 2024 • 13 min.
Precedes Xibalba Monster

My Back Pages

Documentary • Nick Canfield, Paul Lovelace • USA • 2024 • 10 min.
Precedes Steve Schapiro: Being Everywhere

The Stone System

Dramatic • Jonah Rosenberg, David Rosenberg • USA • 2024 • 10 min.
Precedes Homewrecker

View From the Floor

Documentary • Mindie Lind, Megan Griffiths • USA • 2025 • 5 min.
Precedes Anxiety Club



Friday, August 1
10:00pm • Grumpys Pub

ARLO

Covering everything from the Dead to Taylor Swift, there's no limits to an ARLO setlist. ARLO returns to the Film Fest stage after a 2023 performance that had the whole crowd on their feet and wanting more.

FESTIVAL TICKETS

In Advance:

Non-Member \$18, Member \$12

Day of show:

Non-Member \$20, Member \$16

FESTIVAL TICKET PACKAGES

6-pack:

Non-Member \$96, Member \$70

10-pack:

Non-Member \$160, Member \$110

FESTIVAL PASSES

All Films:

\$350, Member \$270

VIP ALL ACCESS PACKAGE

All Films and Events:

\$500, Member \$450



FESTIVAL LOUNGE AT THE CAPTAIN KIDD

77 Water Street, Woods Hole

Open Daily from 12pm - 4:30pm

The place for Filmmakers
and Festival goers to meet and eat!

MERCHANDISE

Festival merchandise, t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats for adults and children is on sale now at the Festival office, located at 89 Water Street, Second Floor, Woods Hole or via woodsholefilmfestival.org. All designs are created by local artisans specially for the Woods Hole Film Festival.

DONATE

Please support the Woods Hole Film Festival. It's easy to donate and the Woods Hole Film Festival is a tax exempt organization. We would appreciate your support. We are working hard to continue to offer the best in emerging independent film and we can't do it without you.

TO DONATE:

www.woodsholefilmfestival.org/donate

BECOME A MEMBER

Support the Festival by becoming a Member and receive discounts on passes and additional benefits according to your membership level.

SCREENING VENUES



Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution's Redfield Auditorium
45 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA

Clapp Auditorium
MBL 7 MBL Street, Woods Hole, MA

Falmouth Academy's Simon Center for the Arts
7 Highfield Drive, Falmouth, MA

Meigs Room
Swope Center, MBL Street, Woods Hole, MA

Woods Hole Community Hall
68 Water Street, Woods Hole

PARTY / MUSIC VENUES

The Captain Kidd
77 Water Street Woods Hole, MA

Grumpy's Pub
29 Locust Street, Falmouth, MA

* Schedule subject to change. Check website for latest updates and information.

ENJOY THE 2025 FESTIVAL BY STAYING WITH OUR LODGING SPONSORS.

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Sands of Time

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