



BATES
FILM FESTIVAL
BATES COLLEGE, LEWISTON, ME

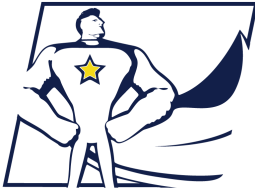
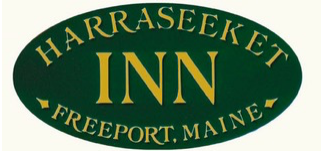
LEWISTON, ME
MARCH 29-31
APRIL 3

FREEPORT, ME
APRIL 1-2

The Bates Film Festival wishes to thank our **41 Bates College co-sponsors** who have made the 2022 Bates Film Festival possible!

The Department of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies
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The Bates Film Festival Board of Directors wishes to thank our Freeport sponsors who have made the 2022 Bates Film Festival possible!



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2022 Bates Film Festival Mission Statement

The Bates Film Festival harnesses a shared love of film to promote equity and justice, facilitate productive discussions of a wide range of topical issues, and foster an appreciation for the artistry of screen media. Organized, programmed, and executed by Bates College students under the direction of a faculty member, the BFF allows students to witness, engage, and lead civic-minded conversations.

The Bates Film Festival would not be possible without the assistance and expertise of numerous Bates College staff members and Freeport community leaders. Collectively, they have helped us to secure screening rooms; arranged travel accommodations for visiting filmmakers; negotiated and secured film permissions; catered various events and arranged necessary technology; advised on video formatting issues and projection capabilities; helped with website management; guided and assisted in promotional efforts; raised funds; kept us up to date on COVID protocols; cut our favorite trailer ever; facilitated our invitations to guests; designed the festival poster; enforced proper accounting practices; updated and managed the BFF budget; secured screening rights for us; formatted documents to the correct specifications; made sure everything is insured; built a ticketing system; and so much more.

Our sincere thanks to:

Bates Academic Administrative Assistants
Chris Schiff, Carole Parker, and their staff in the Ladd Library
Christine Schwartz, Brenda Pelletier, and their staff in Dining Services
Michael Hanrahan, Shauna'h Feugen, Branden Rush, Jamie Watkins, & the Digital Media Studios
Patricia Schoknecht & Scott Tiner
Ben Lizzotte & Ben Pinkham
Mary Pols, Jay Burns, David Ernst, Phyllis Graber-Jensen, & everyone in the Bates Communication Office
Cary Gemmer, Erin Brown, Heather Corbett, Trisha Ayers, & the Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement
Laurie Henderson, Laurie Hiscock, & their entire team at Post and Print
Natalie Williamson, Heather Taylor, & our experts in Accounting
Jason Scheideman
Sam Goss
John Murchison ('88) & Chad Martinez
Al & Alex Yebba
Chip Gray & Josh Cushing
Geoffrey Swift
Jodi Gwydir (P '20)
Andy Day (P '20)
Tom Wilhite
Mary Hitt Davis
Dana Legawiec
Mike Pavlic ('96)
Elizabeth Petley Coyer

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Bates

Department of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies

March 2022

On behalf of the Board of Directors, welcome to the 2022 Bates Film Festival! This is an historic year for us – a coming of age year! We are proud to present a record number of films thanks to the support of a record number of sponsors! Forty-one different departments, programs, centers, offices, and student activity groups from Bates College have contributed to this event. In addition, 12 Freeport businesses and individuals have lent their support. All of this has allowed us to offer a bigger, better festival – one that will screen most of its selections in real movie theaters with beautiful picture and sound and comfortable seats. And all of it is still free and open to the public... the way movies should be!

The BFF is organized by students in “Film Festival Studies,” a seminar taught in the Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies Department at Bates College. Students are involved in every aspect of this festival’s planning and execution. They have rewritten the mission statement, raised a record amount of funds, screened films, programmed a schedule, worked with industry professionals and faculty members to explore programming options, and produced many of the events that will take place over the next five days. They have also written most of the copy that appears in this program. And these first-time festival organizers have done it all in 11 weeks, an insanely short period of time for any festival but especially for a festival of this caliber.

One area where the students’ voices are most clearly heard is the panel discussions that will take place on the Bates campus and at Meetinghouse Arts. Meetinghouse is a welcoming space and the home of the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Freeport, a strong advocate for the Bates Film Festival’s move to Freeport. This year, we have increased the number of panel discussions substantially, a direct response to feedback we received on past festivals, where attendees told us that

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Department of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies

some of the best and most memorable moments of the festival took place during discussions. We are offering 14 panels this year, each of which was inspired in some way by our lineup of films. Most of these panels have been produced by students and they look to bring activists, filmmakers, political leaders, faculty, students, and young people into conversation around important issues. Make sure you attend some of these events. You won't regret it.

This year, our lineup of films includes 29 titles! They include an array of documentaries, fiction narratives, and shorts, and many are making their Maine premieres. Additionally, we've programmed a handful of 30th or 40th anniversaries screenings, offering an opportunity to revisit classics or discover neglected films on the big screen with an audience. There isn't a bad film in the lineup so see as many as you can. And then, there are our guests! Biographer and Lewiston native Mark Griffin throws a 100th birthday party for Judy Garland. Director Marilyn Agrelo and producers Trevor Crafts and Ellen Scherer Crafts bring their 2021 Sundance favorite *Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street* to Freeport for a Friday night screening and Q&A. Pulitzer Prize-nominated novelist Chang-rae Lee joins us via Zoom to discuss *Coming Home Again*. Emmy Award-winning actor and Bates legend John Shea ('70) returns home to screen *Grey Lady*. Oscar-winning director Bruce W. Smith travels to Maine for a 30th anniversary screening of *Bébé's Kids*, the first animated Hollywood release to focus on people of color. And filmmaker extraordinaire John Turturro will be here for a 30th anniversary screening of his writing and directorial debut, *Mac*, as well as a screening of *Romance & Cigarettes*, another film he wrote and directed. It's a stellar lineup! We are so proud of what we have been able to accomplish, and so happy to present it to you in person. We hope you walk away from the 2022 Bates Film Festival with as many memories as we have from organizing it.

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Department of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies

This festival started as an effort to connect current students interested in film and television with alumni, parents, and friends who are established in the industry, but it quickly evolved. Now, the most important part of the festival is that students are using film to not just witness but also participate in and lead civic conversations. The country is so divided right now and what concerns me about that is that we are starting to lose the ability to speak with people with whom we disagree. It's too easy to block them on social media or turn to a different news source. The movies may be one of the few areas where people from differing political perspectives still agree. Almost everyone loves the movies. What the Bates Film Festival is really trying to do is harness that shared love of the movies to bring people together who wouldn't meet otherwise to have conversations they wouldn't have otherwise, and by selecting the films, leading the Q&As, and producing and/or moderating panel discussions, students take an active role as citizens. *Your* presence at the festival is essential if it is to reach its full potential. Thank you for being here, and welcome to the 2022 Bates Film Festival!

Enjoy the show!



Jonathan J. Cavallero

Associate Professor and Chair of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies
Founding Director, Bates Film Festival

SHUTTLE BUS SCHEDULE (Bates/Freeport)

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022

Depart Bates (Chase Hall)

5:00pm

Arrive Freeport (Nordica)

5:45pm

Depart Freeport (Nordica)

10:30pm

Arrive Bates (Chase Hall)

11:15pm

SATURDAY, April 2, 2022

Depart Bates (Chase Hall)

9:00am

Arrive Freeport (Nordica)

9:45am

12:00pm

12:45pm

3:00pm

3:45pm

6:00pm

6:45pm

Depart Freeport (Nordica)

11:15am

Arrive Bates (Chase Hall)

12:00pm

2:15pm

3:00pm

5:15pm

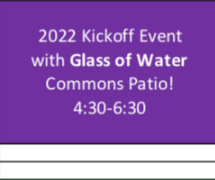
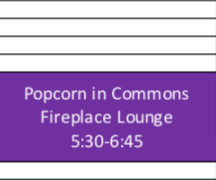
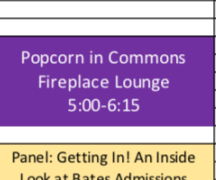

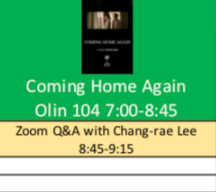
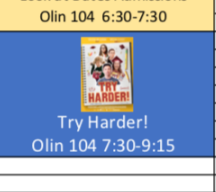
6:00pm

10:00pm

10:45pm

2022 Bates Film Festival Schedule

Events on the Bates Campus!

	Tuesday, March 29	Wednesday, March 30	Thursday, March 31	
4:00PM				4:00PM
5:00PM				5:00PM
6:00PM				6:00PM
7:00PM				7:00PM
8:00PM				8:00PM
9:00PM				9:00PM
10:00PM				10:00PM

2022 Bates Film Festival Schedule

Friday, April 1, 2022

Events in Freeport, Maine!

	Nordica 2	Nordica 3	Nordica 4	Nordica 5	Meetinghouse Arts	
10:00AM						10:00AM
11:00AM						
12:00PM						12:00PM
1:00PM						1:00PM
2:00PM						2:00PM
3:00PM						3:00PM
4:00PM						4:00PM
5:00PM						5:00PM
6:00PM						6:00PM
7:00PM						7:00PM
8:00PM						8:00PM
9:00PM			9:00PM			
10:00PM						10:00PM

2022 Bates Film Festival Schedule
Saturday, April 2, 2022
 Events in Freeport, Maine!

	Nordica 2	Nordica 3	Nordica 4	Nordica 5	Meetinghouse Arts	
10:00AM						10:00AM
11:00AM	Shorts Block (with Filmmaker Q&A) 10:20-12:30		Meet Me in St. Louis (with Mark Griffin) 10:00-12:30	Tantara 10:10-11:50	Panel: Diversity in Children's Media 10:30-11:30	11:00AM
12:00PM					Panel: Reclaiming LGBT+ Representations 12:00-1:00	12:00PM
1:00PM						1:00PM
2:00PM	Memoria (with Paul Schofield) 1:00-3:30	Mac (John Turturro Q&A) 12:30-3:15			Panel: Happy 100th Birthday Judy Garland 1:30-2:30	2:00PM
3:00PM				Secret Screening 3:45-5:15	Panel: Making Space for Black Women in #MeToo 3:00-4:00	3:00PM
4:00PM			Missing in Brooks County 3:30-5:00		Panel: Getting In: Creating Transparency around the College Admissions Process 4:30-5:30	4:00PM
5:00PM	Bébé's Kids (Bruce W. Smith Q&A) 4:15-6:15	Romance & Cigarettes (John Turturro Q&A) 4:00-6:30				5:00PM
6:00PM						6:00PM
7:00PM						7:00PM
8:00PM						8:00PM
9:00PM						9:00PM
10:00PM						10:00PM

2022 Bates Film Festival Schedule
Sunday, April 3, 2022

All Events at Schaeffer Theatre, Bates College

Schaeffer Theatre, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine		
12:00PM		12:00PM
1:00PM	 A Conversation with Bruce W. Smith Schaeffer Theatre - 12:30-2:00	
2:00PM		2:00PM
3:00PM	 A Conversation with John Turturro Schaeffer Theatre - 2:30-4:00	
4:00PM		4:00PM
5:00PM	 A Conversation with John Shea ('70) Schaeffer Theatre - 4:30-6:00	
6:00PM		6:00PM



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Bates Film Festival

(www.bates.edu/BFF)



TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY ON CAMPUS!

Tuesday, 3/29/2022

4:30-6:30	Kickoff Event Glass of Water!)	Patio	Commons (with
7:00-9:30	Opening Night Film! <i>The Worst Person in the World</i>		Olin 104

Wednesday, 3/30/2022

5:30-6:45	Popcorn in Commons		Fireplace Lounge
7:00-8:45	<i>Coming Home Again</i>		Olin 104
8:45-9:15	Zoom Q&A with Chang-rae Lee		Olin 104

Thursday, 3/31/2022

5:00-6:15	Popcorn in Commons		Fireplace Lounge
6:30-7:30	Panel: Getting In! An Inside Look at Bates Admission		Olin 104
7:30-9:15	<i>Try Harder!</i>		Olin 104



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Bates Film Festival

(www.bates.edu/BFF)



FRIDAY IN FREEPORT!

Friday 4/1/2022

10:00-12:15	<i>The Worst Person in the World</i>	Nordica 3
10:15-12:00	<i>The New Corporation</i>	Nordica 5
10:30-11:30	Panel: Immigration Stories	Mtghouse
1:00-2:30	<i>Rabbi Goes West</i>	Nordica 2
1:00-2:00	Panel: Climate Change and Corporate Responsibility	Mtghouse
1:15-2:45	<i>Petite Maman</i>	Nordica 3
1:30-3:00	<i>Framing Agnes</i>	Nordica 4
2:30-3:30	Panel: Music and the Movies	Mtghouse
3:30-6:00	<i>Grey Lady</i> (with John Shea '70 Q&A)	Nordica 2
3:45-5:45	<i>The 24th</i>	Nordica 5
4:00-6:00	<i>Sweetheart</i>	Nordica 4
4:00-5:00	Panel: Science True and False: Mixing Fact & Fiction in Movies	Mtghouse
4:15-6:15	<i>On the Record</i>	Nordica 3
7:30-10:00	<i>Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street</i> (with Filmmaker Q&A)	Nordica 3



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Bates Film Festival

(www.bates.edu/BFF)



SATURDAY IN FREEPORT!

Saturday 4/2/2022

10:00-12:30	<i>Meet Me in St. Louis</i> (with Mark Griffin)	Nordica 4
10:10-11:50	<i>Tantura</i>	Nordica 5
10:20-12:30	Shorts Block (with filmmaker Q&A)	Nordica 2
10:30-11:30	Panel: Diversity in Children's Media	Mtghouse
12:00-1:00	Panel: Reclaiming LGBT+ Representations	Mtghouse
12:30-3:15	<i>Mac</i> (with John Turturro Q&A)	Nordica 3
1:00-3:30	<i>Memoria</i> (with Prof. Paul Schofield)	Nordica 2
1:15-3:00	<i>Try Harder!</i>	Nordica 5
1:30-2:30	Panel: Happy 100 th Birthday Judy Garland! (with Mark Griffin)	Mtghouse
3:00-4:00	Panel: Making Space for Black Women in #MeToo	Mtghouse
3:30-5:00	<i>Missing in Brooks County</i>	Nordica 4
3:45-5:15	Secret Screening	Nordica 5



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Bates Film Festival

(www.bates.edu/BFF)



SATURDAY FREEPORT!

Saturday 4/2/2022

4:00-6:30	<i>Romance & Cigarettes</i> (with John Turturro Q&A)	Nordica 3
4:15-6:15	<i>Bebe's Kids</i> (with Bruce W. Smith Q&A)	Nordica 2
3:30-4:30	Panel: Getting In: Creating Mtghouse Transparency around the College Admissions Process	
7:30-9:30	<i>Tron</i>	Nordica 3



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Bates Film Festival

(www.bates.edu/BFF)



SUNDAY ON CAMPUS!

Sunday 4/3/2022

12:30-2:00	A Conversation with Bruce W. Smith	Schaeffer
2:30-4:00	A Conversation with John Turturro	Schaeffer
4:30-6:00	A Conversation with John Shea ('70)	Schaeffer

Board of Directors

Jonathan J. Cavallero
Founding Director
Yarmouth, Maine

Gene Chen ('22)
Beijing, China

J'von Ortiz-Cedeno ('22)
Portland, Texas

Teresa Chico ('22)
The Bronx, New York

Nolan Potter ('22)
Wells, Maine

Rabih Chughtai ('23)
Farmington, Connecticut

Jonah Sacks ('22)
Portland, Oregon

Cole De Magistris ('24)
Emerson, New Jersey

Audrey Soss ('24)
San Francisco, California

Robby Haynos ('22)
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware

Amanda Taylor ('23)
Fair Lawn, New Jersey

Charlie McDonald ('22)
Scituate, Massachusetts

Niharika Tuladhar ('22)
Kathmandu, Nepal

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Arlington, Massachusetts

Oliver Wan ('22)
Hong Kong, S.A.R.

Owen McShane ('22)
Madison, Connecticut

Max Younger ('22)
Orinda, California

Amanda Metzger ('22)
New York, New York

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Victoria Arjoon
BFF 2018

Julia Gutterman
BFF 2019

Matt Chlastawa
BFF 2019

Ethan King
BFF 2019

Gil Connolly
BFF 2018

Nathaniel Merchant
BFF 2018

Gillian Coyne
BFF 2018

Abel Ramirez
BFF 2019

Grant DeWald
BFF 2018

Sierra Ryder
BFF 2018

Ross Ehrlich
Bates 2019

Eleanor Shields
BFF 2019

Madeline Fagundo
BFF 2019

Marissa Sittheeamorn
BFF 2018

Perla Figuereo
BFF 2019

Tristan Van Rooden
BFF 2019

Erin Fuller
BFF 2018

Film Festival Studies Alumni

2018

Luc Alper-Leroux ('20)
Vicky Arjoon ('19)
Gil Connolly ('18)
Gillian Coyne ('19)
Grant DeWald ('18)
Jackson FrenchRobitaille ('18)
Erin Fuller ('18)
Tessa Liebes ('19)
Nate Merchant ('18)
Sarah McCarthy ('18)
Brian Pansius ('18)
Sierra Ryder ('18)
Marisa Sittheeamorn ('18)
Lena Szeto ('18)

2019 Short Term Redesign

Vicky Arjoon ('19)
Gillian Coyne ('19)
Matt Chlastawa ('20)
Abel Ramirez ('20)
Eleanor Shields ('20)

2019

Andrew Berg ('20)
Clemmy Callaway ('20)
Matt Chlastawa ('20)
Drew Collins ('20)
Maddie Fagundo ('20)
Peral Figuereo ('21)
Kody Greenhalgh ('20)
Julia Guttermann ('20)
Shae Gwydir ('20)
Will Holland ('20)
Mike Jones ('20)
Ethan King ('21)
Teagan Ladner ('21)
Nicky Meyerson ('20)
Daniella Pascucci ('20)
Torri Pelletier ('20)
Abel Ramirez ('20)
Isaiah Saunders ('21)
Eleanor Shields ('20)
David Sparks ('20)
Jim Stevens ('20)
Tristan Van Rooden ('20)

Meet Our Board of Directors

Jon Cavallero is an Associate Professor and Chair of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies at Bates College. He founded the Bates Film Festival in 2018 in order to connect current Bates students who are interested in film and television with alumni/ae and parents working in the industry. Over its first two festivals, BFF has shown over 50 films from 6 different continents and brought over 25 guest filmmakers to campus. In addition to his work with the festival, Cavallero is a widely published author. His book *Hollywood's Italian American Filmmakers: Capra, Scorsese, Savoca, Coppola, and Tarantino* was published by the University of Illinois Press in 2011. He is also the co-editor (with Laura E. Ruberto) of *Italian American Review's* special issue on "Italian Americans and Television." His essays have appeared in numerous journals including *Cinema Journal*, *Journal of Film and Video*, *The Journal of Popular Culture*, *MELUS*, and *The Journal of Popular Film & Television*. Cavallero currently sits on the editorial boards of *Journal of Film and Video* and *Diasporic Italy*. He earned his B.A. from Georgetown University, his M.A. from Penn State University, and his Ph.D. from Indiana University – Bloomington. At Bates, he teaches courses on American and world cinema with a particular focus on the representation of race, ethnicity, and gender.

Gene Chen is a senior at Bates College majoring in Art and Visual Culture and minoring in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies. She is a member of AASIA (Asian American Students in Action) as well as the International Club. At Bates, Gene has explored her interests in art, worked on costume design for The Robinson Players, and pursued her interest in photography. Born and raised in Beijing, China, Gene is a regular attendee of the Beijing Film Festival. She has always loved watching and sharing films with others and is extremely excited to take on the challenge of leading the Bates Film Festival. Her favorite director is Paul Thomas Anderson.

Teresa Chico is a senior at Bates College, where she is double majoring in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies and Africana Studies. She is a member of Campus Activities and Traditions (CAT), where she helps program campus-wide events. This past summer, Teresa interned with PBS' *American Experience*, helping filmmaking teams submit their work

to film festivals like Sundance. She sees her work with the Bates Film Festival as an extension of that experience. Teresa has always had a love for movies, and after taking Charles Nero's "White Redemption" course, she knew that film was something she wanted to pursue. She hails from the Bronx, New York.

Rabih Chughtai is a junior Neuroscience and Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies double major from Farmington, Connecticut. At Bates, he leads the Public Health Club and Chemical Society. He has also worked with the Kennedy lab on enhancing the memory of deficient mice. His love of film stems from his early exposure to Pixar films alongside his first viewing of *The Dark Knight*. One film he recommends everyone should watch is *There Will Be Blood*.

Cole De Magistris is a sophomore at Bates College double majoring in Economics and Rhetoric Film & Screen Studies. He is a starting offensive lineman for the Bobcats football team, and works for the Athletics Department as a Facility Operations Attendant. After graduating, Cole plans to pursue a career working for the National Football League. Cole's interest in film began at a very young age when his mother introduced him to *Star Wars*. Cole felt a natural pull towards the Rhetoric department when he came to Bates making him a great fit for the Board of Directors at the Bates Film Festival (BFF). He's excited to be a part of such a special project in the third edition of the BFF!

Robby Haynos is a senior at Bates College majoring in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies with concentrations in Pop Culture and Film and Media Studies. He is currently completing a thesis on the rhetoric used in modern stand-up comedy and the roots of offensive language. Robby has worked extensively with the radio and theater clubs on campus and acquired writing and directing experience with both groups. When he's not writing, he's an amateur stand-up comedian who knows entirely too much about *Lord of the Rings*.

Charlie McDonald is a senior at Bates College majoring in Psychology and minoring in Education and Rhetoric, Screen, and Film Studies. He works as a Teaching Assistant in the Psychology Department and a Senior Fellow in the Office of Admission. Charlie also conducts original

cognitive psychology research, and this past summer, he worked on the development team at Josephson Entertainment, a top-tier production company. After graduating from Bates, Charlie plans to pursue his Master's in Social Work at Columbia University in New York City. Charlie enjoys playing the piano, going on runs, performing in musical theater, driving around listening to Ariana Grande, and spending time with his friends.

Max McKersie is a junior at Bates College where he is majoring in Political Economy and minoring in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies. He is a captain of the Bates Men's Soccer team. In the summer of 2021, Max played semi-professional soccer for Electric City Shock in Scranton, Pennsylvania, where he finished 10th in the league in starts/games played. This summer, he has signed to play for the Seacoast United Phantoms in Epping, New Hampshire, a USL League 2 team, one of the most respected pre-professional soccer leagues in the US. Max credits sports with teaching him many life lessons, and he aspires to foster similar experiences for young people. He volunteers his time to coach and teach young athletes, and in the coming months, he hopes to be awarded a US Soccer Foundation *Safe Places to Play* grant to open a new multi-sport court in his hometown of Arlington, Massachusetts. After college, Max plans to pursue a Master's degree in sports management and hopes to find ways to improve athletic facilities in low-income communities nationwide. Max was born in Cleveland and raised in Boston. His love for movies derives from his memories of watching various films with his family.

Owen McShane is a senior Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies major at Bates College. He wrote his senior thesis on Pixar's use of nostalgia to market *Toy Story*. Raised in Madison, Connecticut Owen has volunteered his time to the local Maine community by partnering with the Community Credit Union to produce a multilingual campaign to assist refugees and Asylum Seekers with banking information. His love for photography, writing, and videography hopefully will be a part of his aspirations to work in a marketing branch of a strategic marketing organization.

Amanda Metzger is a senior History Major and Rhetoric, Film and Screen Studies minor at Bates College. As an undergraduate, she has worked in and participated in theater as a stage manager, and she is passionate about the world of film and screen studies. On campus she has also written for the Bates newspaper and competed for the Equestrian Team. In her spare time she runs an art instagram in which she paints and sells Broadway portraits along with other commissions. She is currently writing her thesis on the impact of Black Death on Medieval and Early Renaissance English Theater. Amanda particularly enjoys historical documentaries and period dramas, and after graduation, she hopes to combine her love of history and film studies to work on historical dramas and documentary films. She is looking forward to the film festival and is excited to collaborate with fellow students to put on such a large-scale feat.

J'von Ortiz-Cedeno is a senior from Portland, Texas. As a student in the Politics, Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies, and Theater departments, he has spent his academic life at the intersections of art, language, and politics. His faith in art's ability to inform and mobilize people is what drew him to be a part of the BFF board. On campus, J'von is a varsity debater and serves as Director of Operations on the Brooks Quimby Debate Council's board. He is also a member of Bates' oldest acapella group, the Deansmen, and regularly acts in theater productions. In his free time, J'von can be found rollerblading around Lewiston and experimenting with filmmaking.

Nolan Potter is a senior at Bates College majoring in Rhetoric, Film & Screen Studies with concentrations in Early Childhood Development and Theories of Teaching and Learning. After graduating, he plans to earn a Master's degree at the University of Southern Maine before pursuing a career in educational administration. From a young age, Potter has been passionate about movies, a love that he credits to his Dad who schooled him in classic films. At Maine's Wells High School, Potter was the president of the broadcast media team, an experience that complemented his passion for watching movies with practical experience in media production. Potter was a proud member of the Bates football team playing on the defensive line all 4 years. He started at defensive end for three years and was named defensive player of the

year as a sophomore. For the 2022 Bates Film Festival, he has contributed to the BFF trailer and worked with the documentary programming team.

Jonah Sacks is a senior at Bates College double majoring in History and Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies and minoring in German. He has experience in production, including on set for Guillermo del Toro's *Pinocchio*, which stars John Turturro and is scheduled to be released on Netflix later this year. Jonah's undergraduate thesis focussed on his favorite directors, the Coen Brothers, and their 2009 film *A Serious Man*. Jonah's parents and the internet cultivated his love for film. An avid skier and fly fisherman, he hails from Portland, Oregon, and his favorite film is Chinatown.

Audrey Soss is a Sophomore at Bates College majoring in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies and considering a concentration in English or Creative Writing. Soss plays outside midfield on the varsity Women's Soccer Team and is known for her speed down the line. She was born and raised in San Francisco, California, where she discovered her love for movies and television at an early age. She is excited to organize the Bates Film Festival and is eager to learn more about how film festivals operate.

Amanda Taylor is a junior at Bates College majoring in Psychology and minoring in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies. As a member of the Bates softball team, Amanda is passionate about sports, particularly baseball, and is a member of the MLB Take the Field program and the Society of American Baseball Research. Off the field, Amanda works in the Academic Resource Commons as a manager and writing tutor, and for Admissions as a tour guide. She also supports Bates' Athletic Department with stat keeping, social media promotions, and supporting other sports programs in various capacities. After graduating, she hopes to pursue a career in operations and compliance for a Major League Baseball team. Amanda's interest in documentaries, real-world relevance, and relatedness translates to the films she favors and promotes in programming.

Niharika Tuladhar is a senior Politics and Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies double major at Bates. Her theses in both the Politics and RFSS departments focus heavily on power dynamics and how they impact the world around us. An international student from Kathmandu, Nepal, Niharika hopes to begin a professional career in political research and humanitarian development upon graduation. To set herself on that track, she has completed a number of internships within fields such as river conservation, teaching, and health/sanitation in the Global South. Further down the road, she wants to continue her education within the same branch of study at a graduate school level. Niharika discovered her love for film at an early age while watching movies about the Ancient Empires and their mythologies with her father. Since then, she has branched out and explored new genres, including documentaries and fantasy series, which she particularly enjoys.

Oliver Wan is a senior at Bates College majoring in Environmental Studies, minoring in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies, and pursuing a concentration in Digital Computational Studies. He recently completed his senior thesis on the future of American offshore wind energy, looking specifically at the economic and environmental impacts of increased integration of offshore wind turbines to the power grid. On campus, Oliver is an informational technology help desk assistant and a member of the Manic Optimists (a capella group). In his free time, Oli, who hails from Hong Kong, loves to ski, listen to Justin Bieber, photograph and edit landscape images, and go on long runs. He is currently training for the Boston Marathon after running his first marathon in Portland last fall. After graduating, he hopes to enter the field of renewable energy and continue living in the United States.

Max Younger '22 is an aspiring actor from the San Francisco Bay Area. As a student in Bates' Theater and Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies departments, Max is driven by a burning desire to use art and media to understand himself, others, and the world around him. His passion for the screen and stage led him to join the Bates Film Festival's Board of Directors. When he's not onstage or in the classroom, he can be found leading Bates' oldest acapella group, the Deansmen, helping out with the student-run theater group the Robinson Players, and working in Bates' admission office. Currently, Max plans to pursue an M.F.A. in

Acting, and is auditioning for various graduate programs both domestic and abroad.

Advisory Board Members

Victoria Arjoon (BFF 2018) is a multimedia coordinator and producer at Reel Guyana, an environmental video production company based in Georgetown, Guyana. Her short documentary *Eco Travelers* was the first Guyanese film to be played theatrically. Arjoon's wide-ranging work includes environmental awareness videos for non-governmental organizations as well as tourism campaigns for the public sector. She graduated from Bates College in 2019 with a major in Rhetoric and a minor in Spanish. Since then, she has traveled all around Guyana documenting incredible wildlife, rich indigenous cultures, and stunning landscapes. Arjoon is driven by a desire to share her nation and its cultures with the rest of the world. (Written by Max McKersie '23)

Matt Chlastawa (BFF 2019) works for Teach for America as an English teacher in the Rio Grande Valley. He is also a member of Puerto Rico's National Men's Lacrosse Team. Chlastawa graduated from Bates in 2020 with a degree in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies and very fond memories of working on his class's Bates Film Festival. After a standout lacrosse career as a Bobcat, Chlastawa spent his last year of eligibility at Fairfield University, where he earned his MBA. This summer, he will compete in the World Games Lacrosse qualifiers in Colombia, representing Puerto Rico. Chlastawa plans to attend law school after fulfilling his commitment to Teach for America. (Written by Robby Haynos '20)

Gil Connolly (BFF 2018) works as an account manager for Trident DMG. After graduating from Bates College in 2018, he landed a job with the United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, eventually becoming a Press & Digital Assistant. At Bates, Gil majored in Rhetoric and minored in Film. He was an offensive lineman for the Bobcats, and was a member of the team that won four straight CBB titles. Originally from Wilmington, Delaware, Gil was a founding member of the Bates Film Festival – an experience that cultivated his love for documentaries. He now lives and works in Washington DC, and is

looking forward to the third installment of the BFF! (Written by Cole De Magistris '24)

Gillian Coyne (BFF 2018) holds a bachelor's degree in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies and French and Francophone Studies from Bates College and a Master's degree in Film Studies from King's College London. As an undergraduate she volunteered with Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project, helping French-speaking asylum seekers receive legal aid, in addition to co-running the French and Francophone Club and participating on the club sailing and equestrian teams. Gillian served on the 2018 Bates Film Festival Board of Directors and the 2019 Bates Film Festival Restructuring Committee. During her senior year, she received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Award to Luxembourg. Gillian has worked for film festivals in the U.S., U.K, and E.U., where she is currently a screener for the Luxembourg City Film Festival programming team. (Written by Oliver Wan '22)

Grant DeWald (BFF 2018) is a senior business consultant within Fidelity Investment's digital wealth management service where he works in AI product development. He graduated from Bates College in 2018 with a major in Economics and a minor in Rhetoric. Grant competed as a placekicker on the Bates Football team and was a founding member of the Bates Film Festival. After graduating, he joined the Emerging Leader Program at Fidelity, which allowed him to develop his professional career through a multitude of roles. Following completion of the program, Grant served as a scrum master in the Customer Knowledge & Strategic Insights division of Fidelity's retail brokerage business. The role allowed him to coach, support, and engage with collaborative, interdisciplinary teams focused on developing artificial intelligence marketing capabilities. It was an engaging work environment similar to the one he first experienced in the formation of the Bates Film Festival. Grant credits the BFF with refining the direction of his early career and fostering a unique set of transferable skills. Most recently, he began an MBA program at Boston College's Carrol School of Management in January 2022. (Written by Niharika Tuladhar '22)

Ross Ehrlich ('19) works as a production coordinator for CNN+. After graduating from Bates in 2019 with a degree in Psychology and Rhetoric

Film & Screen Studies, Ross worked as a freelance production assistant on shows like *Married at First Sight*. As a former audience member at the Bates Film Festival, he is excited to serve on the advisory board and hear about the work that current students are doing. (Written by Amanda Metzger '22)

Madeline Fagundo (BFF 2019) is a product manager at the Hillman group in Denver, Colorado. She holds a B.A. in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies from Bates College and was a board member of the 2019 Bates Film Festival. Madeline co-led the effort to bring the first-ever VR screening to the BFF. As one of the co-producers of the event, she helped to obtain access to the title, secure the participation of the filmmakers, and facilitate the necessary equipment and a suitable venue for the screening. All of this created a space where VR served as a catalyst for dialogue in communities beyond the classroom. Raised in Boulder, Colorado, Madeline hopes to attend the Mountain Film, Telluride, and/or Sundance Festivals in the near future. (Written by Owen McShane '22)

Perla Figuereo (BFF 2019) works for Fabletics, an athletic apparel company, based in Los Angeles. As a production assistant, she creates editorials, arranges shoots, and formulates advertising campaigns on social media. Figuereo also works closely with The Bronx House, a media company run by her brother. She has been engaged in several major film events, including the Cannes Film Festival and Hollyshorts. Figuereo graduated from Bates in 2021 with a degree in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies. At Bates, she served as co-president of the student body and was also a BFF board member for the 2019 festival where she produced the "Representing Difference" panel. Figuereo hails from The Bronx, New York. (Written by Gene Chen '21)

Erin Fuller (BFF 2018) works in the field of medicine in her hometown of Reno, Nevada. She graduated from Bates in 2018 where she majored in Psychology, minored in Rhetoric, and served as a member of the 2018 Bates Film Festival (BFF) Board of Directors. She is planning to return to the East Coast to attend medical school and become a clinical geneticist. The daughter of a doctor and a nurse, Fuller has always been around medicine, and thrives on assisting her patients and seeing

their health improve. These interpersonal connections are an extension of her work with the Bates Film Festival where she deepened her abilities to collaborate with others and apply her fellow programmers' thoughts and perspectives into festival events. Fuller's involvement with the festival stemmed from her Rhetoric minor and her passion for the unique opportunities and experiences Bates offers. She fondly remembers seeing her work come to fruition and encourages current programmers to enjoy the process and the opportunity to bring Batesies together. (Written by Amanda Taylor '23)

Julia Gutterman (BFF 2019) works as a publicity assistant for the Head of Content at Wolf Kasteler Public Relations. She most recently assisted with the PR campaigns for a feature and short film that premiered at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival. She graduated from Bates in 2019 and served as a member of the Bates Film Festival Board of Directors. Her experience with the BFF steered her to internships with the Awareness Film Festival and the New York International Children's Film Festival. Gutterman's work at these respected festivals included moderating Q&A sessions with filmmakers, handling correspondence between filmmakers and the festival, and programming films. (Written by Jonah Sacks '22)

Ethan King (BFF 2019) graduated from Bates College in 2021 with a major in English and a minor in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies. As an undergraduate, Ethan interned with Tom Wilhite, the former executive director of the Sundance Film Festival and a noted producer. The experience left Ethan more interested in screenwriting, producing, and editing. He is currently in the process of incorporating his passion for film into his professional career. During his spare time, Ethan enjoys running, skiing, and building firepits. He is excited to use his experience as a former BFF Programmer to help advise the current team in creating a successful festival this year. (Written by Teresa Chico '22)

Nathaniel Merchant (BFF 2018) is a UX Copywriter at the New York City office of MCD Partners, an advertising firm with offices spread across the US. He graduated from Bates in 2018 with a degree in Rhetoric, Film, & Screen Studies. At Bates, he played on the Men's Varsity Soccer team making the Scholar All-America Team for DIII his senior year. He was also a member of the inaugural Bates Film Festival

Board of Directors. For the 2018 festival, Nate produced and moderated the “International Perspectives on Climate Change” panel. After graduating, he moved back to LA where he worked as a Production Assistant on various movies and TV series. Nate strongly believes in the power of film festivals, emphasizing that many people are interested in the indie film scene, they just don’t know it. (Written by Max Younger '22)

Abel Ramirez (BFF 2019) is a Team Lead at Accenture, managing a group responsible for digital advertising for a top social media platform. He graduated from Bates in 2020 with a degree in Spanish and Rhetoric. As an undergraduate, Abel was a member of the 2019 Bates Film Festival Board of Directors as well as the 2019 BFF Short Term Redesign Team, which allowed him to travel with a small group to the Independent Film Festival – Boston to scout films for the 2019 BFF. Abel contributed mightily to the branding of the Bates Film Festival, designing much of BFF’s public-facing components, including its website. In his current position, he applies many of the same skills that he developed and cultivated as a member of the BFF team. (Written by Nolan Potter, '22)

Sierra Ryder (BFF 2018) is an anchor and news reporter at NBC Montana where she mainly works on the morning show and reports relevant news stories on air. She earned her B.A. in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies from Bates College before obtaining a Master’s degree in Broadcast Journalism from Syracuse University’s famed S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. At Bates, Ryder was a founding member of the Bates Film Festival Board of Directors. She credits the BFF with helping her to develop strong communication skills, which play a critical role in her current position. One of Ryder’s fondest memories from the inaugural BFF was having NYPD 12 police officers Pedro Serrano and Richie Baez come and speak about *Crime + Punishment*, a documentary that chronicles their efforts to challenge the department’s quota system. (Written by Charlie McDonald '22)

Eleanor Shields (BFF 2019) is an Interim Admissions Services Supervisor at Colorado State University Global. She graduated from Bates in 2020 with a major in Psychology and minors in Rhetoric and Education

Studies. At Bates, Eleanor served on the 2019 Bates Film Festival board of directors and was a member of the 2019 Short Term Innovative Pedagogy Redesign Team. In both, she worked to grow the festival while retaining its community-centric ethos, and as an advisory board member, she is driven by the same desire. Eleanor credits the festival with developing communication and teamwork skills that she uses in her current position. (Written by J'von Ortiz-Cedeno '22)

Marisa Sittheemorn (BFF 2018) works as an external relations consultant for UN Women in Bangkok, Thailand. While serving as a member of the 2018 Bates Film Festival (BFF) Board of Directors, she developed an interest in festivals and behind-the-scenes operations. After graduating, Sittheemorn moved to Toronto and worked as a production and research assistant at Her Film Company, a majority female-run production company. Among other accomplishments, she secured \$25,000 in grant funding for the company. Sittheemorn also worked as a writer and editor for Photographers Without Borders, and as a project coordinator at Farsi Cinema Center, where she helped to develop film festivals in Toronto. In 2019, she returned to Bates as a BFF special guest, to introduce *Midnight Traveler* (BFF Jury Award-Winner for Best Documentary Feature) on behalf of the Farsi Cinema Center. (Written by Audrey Soss '24)

Tristan Van Rooden (BFF 2019) works at Bliss Point Media, a video advertising agency in New York City. He graduated from Bates College in 2020 with a degree in Economics and Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies and began his post-graduate career at a legal affairs tech startup. At Bates, Tristan was a member of the 2019 Bates Film Festival Board of Directors. His senior Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies thesis focused on Netflix's involvement with Alfonso Cuarón's *Roma*. In the future, Tristan plans to explore the area of film finance. He loves to explore theaters around New York City with the Nighthawk Cinema being his current favorite. (Written by Rabih Chughtai '23)

BFF SPECIAL GUESTS

Marilyn Agrelo

Marilyn Agrelo is a New York director and producer. Marilyn's directorial debut was *Mad Hot Ballroom*, which enjoyed a theatrical run of over 24 weeks and took its place among the top highest-grossing documentary films of all time.



Mad Hot Ballroom is currently in pre-production for its Broadway debut. Marilyn's feature film debut came in the form of *An Invisible Sign*, shot in the fall/winter of 2009 and released by IFC Films. She has directed numerous commercials and branded content films that have aired around the world, and several projects for television and new media, including the Emmy-winning children's series *Sesame Street* and *The Electric Company*, and *The Untold Stories of Motherhood for the Oxygen Network*. Her documentary shorts *No Small Parts* and *Good Muslim Girls* enjoyed wide play in international film festivals. *Good Muslim Girls*, about two outspoken young women in Iraq, was shot while she was there in 2014 with the American Film Showcase teaching a documentary storytelling workshop. Marilyn is very proud of her work on *Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street*, a documentary feature about the visionaries behind the creation of *Sesame Street*.

Clarissa Carter

Clarissa Carter is a Stanford University alumna. She graduated with an MA in Education (Learning, Design, and Technology), a BS in Symbolic Systems (Computer Music concentration), and two minors (Creative Writing and Music). As a singer-songwriter, producer, and actress from Richmond, VA, she is interested in all aspects of entertainment, having performed with various acts such as Summer Walker, T-Pain and Wiz Khalifa. She released her second EP, "Spotlight," in February 2019. Clarissa currently works at Disney for Bruce W. Smith and Ralph Farquhar, under the Apprenticeship Program. She looks forward to continue strengthening her talents and broadening her aspirations in film, business, marketing, and music.



Ellen Scherer Crafts

Reason over risk and production under pressure, all with a huge smile.

That's Ellen. Ellen started her career in entertainment producing special events to include headline entertainment for Caesar's Entertainment and live boxing co-productions with HBO and Telemundo. She went on to prominent roles in promotion and marketing for branded content, producing large scale events and product launches for Fortune 500



companies internationally. Ellen partnered with husband and producer Trevor Crafts to build Macrocosm Entertainment®, helping to market their original transmedia property *Lantern City* and co-create the original children's property *The Not-So Secret Society*. Ellen recently produced the documentary *Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street* which premiered at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival and is now Certified Fresh on Rotten Tomatoes with 95% critics and audience rating.

Trevor Crafts

Trevor Crafts is an entrepreneurial producer and founder and President of Macrocosm Entertainment®.

Trevor recently released *Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street* (2021) a feature length documentary on the origins of *Sesame Street* distributed by HBO and Screen Media in North America, that also premiered at the 2021 Sundance film festival. Trevor has spent 10 years in the film industry creating dynamic stories with striking visuals that



feature strong characters and unique worlds. With a true understanding and passion for the cinematic arts, his track record of leading studio teams to produce innovative story-driven content has helped film projects like *7 Splinters in Time* (2018) *12 Feet Deep* (2016), Sundance favorite *Experimenter* (2015) starring Peter Sarsgaard and Winona Ryder, *Manson Family Vacation* from the Duplass Brothers (2015), *Deep in the Heart* (2013) and *Smokewood, Nevada* (2013). Trevor's work has won an Emmy®, the LATV Festival, and 13 other industry awards.

Gabriel Cuillier

Gabriel Cuillier grew up in a suburb outside an Air Force Base in Sherwood, Arkansas with a camcorder glued to his hand. Majoring in Business and taking a tech job right after graduating, he was able to self-fund his passion by buying equipment and learning to shoot and edit through internet tutorials. Now based in Chicago, Gabriel works full-time as the owner and operator of Mxxd Media, a video production studio that specializes in producing bespoke content for people, initiatives, and brands. Gabriel plans to continue to direct and produce films, series, and skits that tell honest stories of alienation, acceptance, and growth through the lens of mixed-race families and people of color. He's currently writing and working on a series.



Erin Enberg

Erin Enberg is a screenwriter/director from Maine (a spooky Stephen King town in the woods where "The Mist" takes place) and has worked in production on film and TV in New York City and Los Angeles for NBC, A&E, Travel Channel, TLC, HBO and more. She also traveled around the country for 3 months on a renovated city bus assisting Emmy-winning cinematographer Chris Teague (Russian Doll) on a documentary about unique roadside attractions. Erin's short films have won various awards

including several best shorts and audience awards, and her screenplays have garnered accolades including Second Rounder at Sundance, and finalist selections in the Final Draft Big Break Contest and Cinestory.



She's also a script reader for the ISA (International Screenwriters' Association). Most recently Erin worked at HBO in the Production Department and at HBO Max in Original Content, and currently works as Program Director for the West Hollywood based non-profit Age Inclusion in Media. In 2021, Erin received a scholarship from Sundance to attend their nine-week directing course.

Mark Griffin

Mark Griffin is the author of *A Hundred or More Hidden Things: The Life and Films of Vincente Minnelli* (Da Capo Press), a biography of the Oscar-winning director of *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *An American in Paris* and *Gigi*. Griffin is also the author of *All That Heaven Allows: A Biography of Rock Hudson* (HarperCollins). The book examines the life and career of the Hollywood legend who



starred in such classics as *Giant* and *Pillow Talk*. Warner Brothers has acquired the rights to *All That Heaven Allows*, with plans to turn it into a biopic to be produced and directed by Greg Berlanti (*Love, Simon, Riverdale*). The screenplay is by Richard LaGravense (*The Fisher King, Beautiful Creatures*). Griffin will serve as an associate producer and consultant for the forthcoming HBO Max documentary, *Rock Hudson: Accidental Activist*, to be directed by Stephen Kijak (*We Are X, Stones in Exile*). Griffin has appeared in the television documentaries *Mythical Couples: Judy Garland & Vincente Minnelli* and *Gene Kelly: To Live and Dance*. He recently completed a feature length screenplay.

Chang-rae Lee (P '23)

Chang-rae Lee is the author of six novels: *Native Speaker* (1995), *A Gesture Life* (1999), *Aloft* (2004), *The Surrendered* (2010), which was a Finalist for the Pulitzer

Prize, *On Such a Full Sea* (2014)

which was a Finalist for the NBCC and won the Heartland Fiction Prize, and his most recent novel, *My Year*

Abroad (2021).

His works have won numerous awards and citations, including the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award, the American Book Award, the Anisfield-Wolf Literary Award, the Gustavus



Myers Outstanding Book Award, and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize. In 2021, he was recognized for lifetime achievement in the Novel with an Award of Merit from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, as well as elected as a Member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

Erik Moody

Erik Moody's (he/him) first feature film was Allen Baldwin's *Up Up Down Down* (2008).

Since then, he has had the pleasure of acting in many independent films, including, but not limited to, Erin Enberg's *The Getaway* (2021), *The Poet* (2015), and *Arabel* (2014), Aron Gaudet and Gita Pullapilly's *Beneath the Harvest Sky* (2013), Morgan Nichols' *How to Make Movies at Home* (2012), Corey Norman's *The Hanover House*



(2014), *Natal* via *The*

Invoking 2 (2015). Erik also starred in Barry Dodd and Karen L. Dodd's award-winning web series *Ragged Isle* (2011-2014) and in comedian Bob Marley's *Wicked Pissers* (2008). He provided character narration in HISTORY's mini-series documentary *D-Day in HD* (2014). Erik has voiced characters in Pocket Universe Productions' *Locke & Key*, *Titanium Rain*, *EC Comics Presents... The Vault of Horror!*, Dagaz Media's *Dream Breachers*, *The X-Files: Cold Cases*, and FinalRune Productions' *The Cleansed*. Moody has performed in many plays in the Portland, ME theatre community since 2008, including, but not limited to, working with Good Theater (*4000 Miles*), Mad Horse Theatre Company (*Lieutenant of Inishmore*), Lorem Ipsum (*Threepenny Opera*), AIRE (*The Streets of Portland*), Dramatic Repertory Company (*Year of the Rooster*), and PSC (*Haunting Hour 2.0*). Erik Moody is 1/2 of the band ROBBER & THIEF (Spotify, Apple Music).

John Shea ('70)

Primetime Emmy Award winner John Shea, one of the most versatile actors of his generation, is also an award-winning filmmaker. *Grey Lady*, which he wrote, acted in and produced, is a romantic thriller set on Nantucket island. Lionsgate Films distributes



internationally. Shea produced the *Grey Lady* soundtrack for Spotify, iTunes and 120 international streaming sites.

As an actor he's received critical acclaim for fleshing out a wide range of dimensional characters for stage, screen and television. Shea burst onto the international scene in Costa-Gavras' Academy Award winning political thriller *Missing* which won the Palme D'Or at the Cannes Film Festival, 1982. Starring opposite Sissy Spacek, he began a tradition of working with talented actresses. His sociopathic Lex Luthor opposite Teri Hatcher in *Lois and Clark, The New Adventures of Superman* was an international hit for Warner Brothers.

Diverse work continued opposite Sharon Stone in the political thriller *Agent X*; playing Joseph in the biblical epic *The Nativity* opposite Madeline Stowe; as Ann-Margaret's young lover in Alan Alda's romantic comedy *A New Life*; as the stalker of French star Natalie Baye in the thriller *Lune de Miel* which Shea shot in both French and English

(*Honeymoon*). He made his feature film debut starring opposite Helen Mirren in the British film noir *Hussy* (1980); challenging choices continued with *Windy City* opposite Kate Capshaw (Best Actor, Montreal International Film Festival); with Bill Nighy in *Hitler's SS*; with Jodie Foster in *Stealing Home*; with Kelly McGillis in Israeli epic *Unsettled Land*; as Robert Kennedy in the BBC's *Kennedy* with Martin Sheen; with Eli Wallach in *The Impossible Spy*, with Lea Thompson in the romantic comedy *The Trouble With the Truth*, to name a few of his fifty films shot around the world.

Shea made his Broadway debut at age 26 as a Polish yeshiva boy in *Yentl* (Theatre World Award as Most Promising Actor). He's starred in twenty plays on and off Broadway and on London's West End, sharing the theatrical stage with, among others, Meryl Streep, Sigourney Weaver, Linda Hunt, Estelle Parsons, Anne Jackson, Kate Burton, Bianca Jagger and Estelle Parsons. He's starred in five television series including international hits *Gossip Girl* and Marvel's *Mutant X*. Shea's currently Artistic Director Emeritus of the Theatre Workshop of Nantucket.

Southie (1998), his debut as a screenwriter and film director, is a drama set in the tough Irish enclave of South Boston. Starring Donnie Wahlberg and Rose McGowan, *Southie* won Best Picture at the Seattle International Film Festival and is distributed by Lionsgate. He is currently producing *The Junkie Priest* a film which he wrote and will direct in New York.

A graduate of Bates College, Shea studied acting with his first mentor Lavinia Schaeffer. Bill Beard taught him stage directing. At Bates Shea also played football, ran track, was captain of the varsity debating team (under Brooks Quimby and Tom Moser), and was co-editor of the literary magazine, helped by mentor John Tagliabue. Shea studied acting and directing at the Yale School of Drama (MFA'73). At the invitation of founder Lee Strasberg, he observed at the Actor's Studio in New York. Married to artist Melissa MacLeod, he has three children, Jake, Miranda and Caiden and is deeply grateful for everything he learned at Bates.

Bruce W. Smith

Multiple award-winning animation artist Bruce W. Smith is creator and executive producer of Disney+'s "The Proud Family: Louder and Prouder," the long-anticipated revival of the groundbreaking animated series "The Proud Family."

An accomplished director, producer and animator, Smith has been part of the animation industry for over three decades. He is best known for creating and executive-producing Disney Channel's hit series "The Proud Family" and "The Proud Family Movie." Most recently Smith served as one of three directors of the Academy Award-winning short "Hair Love."

During his tenure at Walt Disney Animation Studios, Smith supervised animation on many animated feature films including "The Princess and the Frog," specifically for evil villain Dr. Facilier; "Winnie the Pooh;" "Tarzan" and "The Emperor's New Groove." His gift for unique character design led him into visual development for the Studio's other projects such as "Wreck-It Ralph" and "Frozen." He was also the lead animator on the short film "Tangled Ever After."

A California Institute of the Arts alumni, Smith co-founded Jambalaya Studio; an animation company whose goal is to generate both racially and ethnically diverse projects for all mediums, to produce over 50 episodes for Disney Channel's "The Proud Family" and "The Proud Family Movie."



His additional credits include "Space Jam," "Who Framed Roger Rabbit," "A Goofy Movie," "Bébé's Kids" and "Happily Ever After: Fairy Tales for Every Child."

In December 2020, Smith and his producing partner, Ralph Farquhar, entered a wide-ranging, multiyear overall deal with Disney that calls for them to produce animated and live-action series and movies for Disney Branded Television. The agreement provides separate funding for them to find and develop emerging talent as well as leverage their combined experience to bring unique projects and voices to Disney.

John Turturro

John

Turturro

studied at
SUNY New
Paltz and
the Yale
School of
Drama. For
his
theatrical
debut he
created the
title role of



John

Patrick

Shanley's

"Danny and the Deep Blue Sea" for which he won an OBIE Award and a Theater World Award.

Turturro has performed in many films, including Spike Lee's *"Do the Right Thing,"* and *"Jungle Fever."* Martin Scorsese's *"The Color of Money"* Robert Redford's *"Quiz Show"* Francesco Rosi's *"La Tregua"* Robert De Niro's *"The Good Shepherd"* Tom DiCillo's *"Box of Moonlight"* Nanni Moretti's *"Mia Madre"* and Joel and Ethan Coen's

"Miller's Crossing" *"The Big Lebowski"* and *"O Brother Where Art Thou."* For his lead role in the Coen Brothers' *"Barton Fink"* Turturro won the Best Actor Award at the Cannes Film Festival, and the David Donatello Award.

John Turturro can be currently seen in *"The Batman"* playing Carmine Falcone and will be the voice of a character in Guillermo del Toro and Mark Gustafson's animated feature, *"Pinocchio"*.

He received the Camera D'Or Award at the Cannes Film Festival for *"Mac"*, his directorial debut. Other films as director/ writer include *"Illuminata"* *"Romance & Cigarettes"* *"Passione"* *"Fading Gigolo"* and *"The Jesus Rolls"*.

On Television, Turturro was nominated for a SAG Award for his portrayal of Howard Cosell in *"Monday Night Mayhem"* and again nominated for *"The Bronx is Burning"*. He won an Emmy Award for his guest appearance on *"Monk"* and was nominated for a Golden Globe and a SAG Award for his performance in HBO's *"The Night Of"*.

John Turturro led an international cast in *"The Name Of The Rose"*, a limited series for Sundance TV and starred as Rabbi Bengelsdorf in *"The Plot against America"* on HBO.

John Turturro currently stars in Apple's new drama series *"Severance"* as Irving Bailiff.

**2022 Bates Film Festival
Official Selections**



The 24th

(Directed by Kevin Willmott, 2020, 113 minutes)



Awards: Outstanding Independent Motion Pictures Nominee, NAACP Image Awards

The 24th is a historical drama that tells the story of the all African-American 24th United States Regiment. Corporal William Boston (Trai Byers) dreams of fighting not only for his country but for equal rights. Stationed in the segregated South and forced to live under Jim Crow laws, the 24th struggles with local racists, including the all-white Houston police force. Written and directed by the Academy Award-winner (and former guest lecturer at Bates) Kevin Willmott, this film recovers a history that many have forgotten or never learned. *The 24th* comments on racism and colorism and advances discussions about the representation of Black bodies. (Written by Owen McShane '22)

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10452854/>

Screens: Fri Apr 1 / 3:45pm / Nordica Theater 5

Are You Still There?

(Directed by Sam A. Davis and Rayka Zehtabchi, 2021, 15 minutes)



Notable Festivals: South by Southwest, 2021; Clermont-Ferrand, 2021; Seattle International Film Festival, 2021

Are You Still There? follows Safa (Safa Tarifi), a young woman whose car battery dies in a strip mall parking lot. Despite being a relatively common occurrence, this seemingly simple incident becomes the inciting event for a story about perseverance, family, and love. Co-directed by Sam A. Davis and Rayka Zehtabchi (Academy Award-winner® for *Period. End of Sentence.*), *Are You Still There?* is an incredibly heartfelt watch that draws you in and sets you on an emotional roller coaster within the span of only 15 minutes. (Written by Audrey Soss '24)

Website: <http://www.raykazehtabchi.com/works>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 10:20am / Nordica Theater 2 (in the Shorts Block)

Bebe's Kids

(Directed by Bruce W. Smith, 1992, 72 minutes)



Awards: Best Animated Feature Nominee, Annie Awards; Best Casting for Animated Voiceover, Casting Society of America

Bébé's Kids (1992), is an animated-comedy film about a first date between Robin Harris (Faizon Love) and Jamika (Vanessa Bell Calloway). In order to impress Jamika, Robin agrees to take her son Leon (Wayne Collins Jr.) to an amusement park. During their eventful adventure, Robin tries to become a father figure for Leon and his three rambunctious, unpredictable, and fearless friends. Directed by Bruce W. Smith and featuring colorful, creative animation and engaging acting, *Bébé's Kids* was the first feature-length animated film to focus on people of color. It is lighthearted, fun, action packed, and innovative, but it is also a landmark film that addresses serious issues of racial disparity. The Bates Film Festival is proud to celebrate *Bébé's Kids* with this 30th anniversary screening! (Written by Max McKersie '23)

In Person: Bruce W. Smith, Director

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0103783/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 4:15pm / Nordica Theater 2

Buy, Sell, Trade

(Directed by Gabriel Cuillier, 2022, 21 minutes)



Buy, Sell, Trade tells the story of Daniel, a young father who struggles with addiction and the consequences of his past actions. Daniel pursues a steady job, a loving relationship with his daughter Jaiden, and a future where he is clean. However, the consequences of his past render his goals for the present and future difficult to attain. Directed by Gabriel Cuillier, the film explores the pitfalls of addiction, the unforgiving nature of American society, and how both can alter a family dynamic. (Written by Cole De Magistris '24)

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/buyselltradefilm/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 10:20am / Nordica Theater 2 (in Shorts Block)

Coming Home Again

(Directed by Wayne Wang, 2019, 86 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Toronto, 2019; Busan, 2019

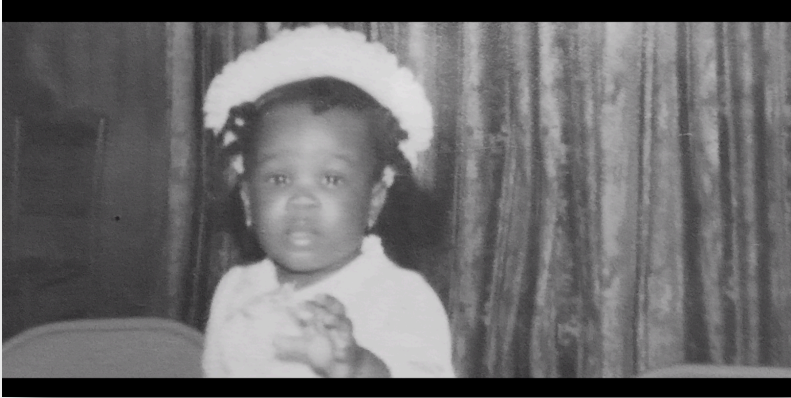
Coming Home Again is a coming-of-age film showcasing the relationship between a son and his terminally-ill mother. Co-written by PEN/Hemingway Award-winning writer (and Bates parent) Chang-Rae Lee, and co-written and directed by acclaimed filmmaker Wayne Wang, the film is an adaptation of Lee's autobiographical 1995 *New Yorker* essay. In the film, the course of Chang-Rae's (Justin Chon) life is altered by the responsibility he feels to care for his dying mother. We learn that Chang-Rae moved away from the family home to pursue his education and that his return has led him to temporarily abandon his professional career. Bonded by their love for one another and Korean cuisine, mother and son anchor an emotionally powerful film that revels in Korean-American culture. (Written by Amanda Taylor '23)

Website: <https://www.outsiderpictures.us/movie/coming-home-again/>

Screens: Wed Mar 30 / 7:00pm / Olin 104

death. everything. nothing.

(Directed by LeRhonda Manigault-Bryant, 2020, 6 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Aspen ShortsFest, 2021; DOC LA, 2020

The summer of 2020 was a uniquely tense and confusing time - especially for Black people. Just months after the world came to a screeching halt in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the brutal murder of George Floyd spurred millions of people to take to the streets in what would become the largest protest movement in human history. While the Black community dealt with the immediate and acute impact of graphic police violence, systemic inequalities in America's healthcare system exacerbated the impact of COVID-19 on Black and Brown communities. Director LeRhonda S. Manigault-Bryant does a brilliant job of portraying the difficulties of navigating a pandemic while Black. Her film, *death.everything.nothing* tells the story of her family trying to support her terminally ill mother. While her mother doesn't have COVID, she faces a lot of the same barriers to treatment and comfort that many Black elders did during and even long before the pandemic. The film puts faces and names to the statistics we hear about systemic racism and makes them linger in your mind long after the show is over. (Written by J'von Ortiz-Cedeno '22)

Screens: Sun Nov 10 / 10:20am / Nordica Theater 2

Framing Agnes

(Directed by Chase Joynt, 2022, 75 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Sundance, 2022; BFI Flare, 2022; HotDocs 2022

Awards: Next Innovator Award, Sundance, 2022; Audience Award: Next, Sundance 2022

Using 1950s case files from UCLA's gender clinic, *Framing Agnes* examines the topic of gender identity through the story of Agnes: a trans woman who used the system to her advantage and attained gender confirmation surgery at a time when it was often denied. Chase Joynt's second feature-length documentary (following *No Ordinary Man* which was his first) stars trans actors and academics. Joynt employs the talk show format to examine how the media has marginalized trans people historically and how it continues to marginalize them today. The film is an important conversation starter that centers trans people in conversations about trans identity, the trans community, and exposes long-neglected aspects of trans history. In addition, *Framing Agnes* also offers a unique structure that challenges and expands the documentary form. (Written by Audrey Soss '24)

Website: <https://www.framingagnes.com/>

Screens: Fri Apr 1 / 1:30pm / Nordica Theater 4

The Getaway

(Directed by Erin Enberg, 2021, 7 minutes)



Notable Festivals: New York State International Film Festival, 2021;
Studio City International Film Festival, 2021.

A gangster makes a new life for himself on a remote farm. One day he runs into his old partner, and they share a moment together as the FBI closes in on them. Directed by up-and-coming filmmaker (and Maine native) Erin Enberg, *The Getaway* complements remarkable production design and camerawork with a compelling narrative. Shot on location in Maine during the height of COVID-19, Enberg's latest film recreates a bygone era and constructs a picture that is both beautiful and exciting. (Written by Nolan Potter '22)

In Person: Erin Enberg, Director, and Erik Moody, Actor

Website: <https://www.erinenberg.com/the-getaway.html>

Screens: Sun Nov 10 / 10:20am / Nordica Theater 2

The Great Malaise

(Directed by Catherine LePage, 2021, 6 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Berlin International Film Festival, 2020; Aspen ShortsFest 2021.

Awards: Nominee, Canadian Screen Awards, 2021; Best Animated Short, Calgary International Film Festival, 2020

Directed and written by accomplished Canadian graphic novelist and animated filmmaker Catherine LePage, *The Great Malaise* is a beautiful, animated short film that depicts the struggles of a successful woman suffering from anxiety. This film offers an honest depiction of mental health in a creative and informative way but watch closely! The words and pictures may end up saying different things in this heart touching and beautifully drawn piece. (Written by Robby Haynos '22)

Website: <https://catherinelepage.com/le-mal-du-siecle>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 10:20am / Nordica Theater 2 (in Shorts Block)

Grey Lady

(Directed by John Shea, 2017, 107 minutes)



Director/Writer/Producer/Actor John Shea (Bates Class of 1970)

John Shea's (Bates Class of 1970) *Grey Lady* follows the story of James Doyle (Eric Dane), a homicide detective working out of Boston. When his sister and partner are killed in a failed rescue mission, he returns to Nantucket to search for the killer. The film explores the limits of revenge by asking a central question, "How far would you go to protect your family?" Shea wrote, directed, produced, and starred in this film, which was shot largely on Nantucket, the island he now calls home. His turn as Chief Maguire is one of the film's best, and if you watch closely, you may even catch a glimpse of Shea's youngest son Caidan who is a high school senior this year. (Written by Max Younger '22)

In Person: John Shea ('70), Director/Writer/Producer/Actor

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3693042/>

Screens: Fri, Apr 1 / 3:30pm / Nordica Theater 2

Her Dance

(Directed by Bar Cohen, 2020, 22 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Palm Springs International ShortFest, 2021; AFI Fest, 2021; Aspen ShortsFest, 2021.

Awards: Best Student International Short, Palm Spring International ShortFest, 2021; Grand Jury Prize, Special Mention, Best Acting, 2021.

Her Dance examines the treatment of a transgendered family member within a modern Orthodox Israeli family. Having recently transitioned to female, Aya returns, uninvited, to the family home to celebrate her oldest sister's wedding shabbat. Each family member has a different reaction to Aya, but to varying degrees, all are uncomfortable with her presence. Aya is made to feel like a stranger within her religious family. Will she stay or will she go? What should she do? The BFF board feels that this film illuminates the struggles of people whose stories are often untold while bringing up the always important issues of personhood, religion, and family. (Written by Jonah Sacks '22)

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt15366232/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 10:20am / Nordica Theater 2 (in Shorts Block)

Lune

(Directed by Zoé Pelchat-Ouellet, 2020, 16 minutes)



Notable Festivals: DC Shorts, 2021; Aspen ShortsFest, 2021.

Awards: Grand-Prix, Kyiv International Short Film Festival; Nominee, Best Short Film, Directors Guild of Canada.

Babz, a woman who has recently been released from prison, searches for her place in a world that has tried its hardest to discard her. As she struggles to adjust to life on the outside, she proves to herself and others that she is worthy of giving and receiving love. The main characters of this award-winning Canadian short aren't the sort that are typically featured on screen; they are recovering addicts, low-wage workers, and ex-convicts. *Lune* reaffirms the personhood of those who are marked by such descriptors by showing them as neither heroes nor villains, but normal people trying their best to make a life for themselves. (Written by J'von Ortiz-Cedeno '22)

Website: <https://www.h264distribution.com/en/films/distribution/moon/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 10:20am / Nordica Theater 2 (in Shorts Block)

Mac

(Directed by John Turturro, 1992, 117 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Cannes Film Festival, 1992.

Awards: Camera d'Or, Cannes Film Festival; Nominee, Best Director and Best First Feature, Independent Spirit Awards.

After their father dies, three brothers quit their construction jobs and try to make it on their own. They risk everything to follow in their father's footsteps, starting their own construction company and building quality houses that would make their dad proud. In the process of creating and running their company, the oldest brother, Mac (John Turturro), becomes obsessed with the business finances and the quality of the houses. This puts a strain on his relationship with his brothers, and ultimately, Mac must choose between his family and the company. John Turturro's directorial debut is a story about family and conflicting values and a film that is very personal and based loosely on the Turturro family. The Bates Film Festival is proud to present this 30th anniversary screening. (Written by Nolan Potter '22)

In Person: John Turturro, Writer/Director/Actor

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1127881/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 12:30pm / Nordica Theater 3

Meet Me in St. Louis

(Directed by Vincente Minnelli, 1944, 113 minutes)



Starring the incomparable Judy Garland and directed by the severely underrated Vincente Minnelli, *Meet Me in St. Louis* drips with nostalgia. The setting is St. Louis. The time is the year leading up to the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition (the St. Louis World's Fair). The Smith family lives an idyllic existence, but all of that is placed in jeopardy when Alonzo Smith, husband to Anna and father of five, informs the family that he has been transferred to New York City and the family will have to relocate there in several months. Featuring a number of musical favorites, including "Meet Me in St. Louis," "The Trolley Song," and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," the film was a box office smash in 1944. It's Garland and Minnelli at their best, and while it may appear escapist, listen closely to the words of songs like "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and think about what they might have meant to viewers whose loved ones were overseas fighting World War II. It's the perfect film to celebrate Garland's 100th birthday! (Written by Jonathan J. Cavallero, Bates Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies Professor).

In Person: Mark Griffin, Maine-Based Author of *A Hundred or More Hidden Things: The Life and Films of Vincente Minnelli*

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0037059/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 10:00am / Nordica Theater 4

Memoria

(Directed by Apichatpong Weerasethakul, 2021, 136 minutes)

Notable

Festivals:

Cannes Film Festival, 2021; Palm Springs International Film Festival, 2022; New York Film Festival, 2021.



Awards: Jury

Prize, Cannes Film Festival, 2021; Best Feature, Chicago International Film Festival, 2021; Nominee, Best Foreign Language Film, Palm Springs International Film Festival.

Directed by acclaimed filmmaker Apichatpong Weerasethakul and starring Tilda Swinton, *Memoria* follows a Scottish woman living in Medellin, Colombia who begins hearing loud sonic booms. Told in a non-linear format, the film is both intriguing and engaging and keeps viewers on their toes. Weersaethakul's ability to stress the main character's awakening as a spiritual being while also revealing her connection to past memories and events makes his latest film another important artwork that explores and advances the possibilities of cinema as a medium. The Bates Film Festival is proud to present *Memoria* as an exclusive special engagement – one of the first stops on the film's roadshow theatrical release. (Written by Jonah Sacks '22)

Followed by A Conversation with Bates Philosophy Professor Paul Schofield

Website: <https://www.memoria.film/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 1:00pm / Nordica Theater 2

Missing in Brooks County

(Directed by Jeff Bemiss and Lisa Molomot, 2020, 81 minutes)

Notable

Festivals:

Ashland

Independent

Film Festival,

2021; Hot

Springs

Documentary

Film Festival,

2020.



Awards: Best

Documentary Feature, Ashland Independent Film Festival, 2021; Jury Award, Doc. Boston Documentary Film Festival, 2021; Best Southern Documentary, Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, 2020.

In recent years, the battle over immigration policy has become one of the most contentious issues in American politics. Oceans of ink have been spilled writing headlines about the overwhelming number of undocumented people crossing our southern border. While some of this media coverage delves into the harsh conditions that migrants face on their way to the border and inside of detention centers, there is a crisis that has silently plagued South Texas for the last two decades: immigrants dying in the desert. *Missing in Brooks County* sheds light on the missing persons crisis that was purposely manufactured by the Clinton administration. This is documentary filmmaking at its best; it takes its viewers to one of the most overlooked and underserved parts of the country, introduces them to an issue they've never heard of, and tells them a story they'll never forget. (Written by J'von Ortiz-Cedeno '22)

Website: <https://www.missinginbrookscounty.com/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 3:30pm / Nordica Theater 4

The New Corporation: The Unfortunately Necessary Sequel

(Directed by Jennifer Abbott and Joel Bakan, 2020, 105 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Toronto International Film Festival, 2020; AFI Fest, 2020.

Awards: Nominee, Best Canadian Feature Film, Toronto International Film Festival, 2020; Nominee, Best Direction, Documentary Program, and Best Writing, Documentary, Canadian Screen Awards, 2022.

The New Corporation is a documentary film that spotlights the urgency of regulating the power of corporations. It identifies corporate greed as the root cause of global issues such as climate change, inequality, and democratic ruination. However, because of strategic rebranding to label themselves as socially conscious, corporations are able to slink beneath the public's scrutiny and continue dismantling core institutions, the environment, and human lives. *The New Corporation* then delves into how corporations have transcended the private sector and collectively act as the governing body of nations all over the world. This film is a call to action and may even hope to provoke outrage. At the very least, it will inspire discussion and debate about how corporate practices affect the world on both an individual and global level. (Written by Niharika Tuladhar '22)

Website: <https://thenewcorporation.movie/>

Screens: Fri Apr 1 / 10:15am / Nordica Theater 5

On the Record

(Directed by Kirby Dick and Amy Ziering, 2020, 95 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Sundance, 2020; Warsaw International Film Festival, 2020.

Awards: Nominee, Outstanding Documentary, NAACP Image Awards, 2021; Best Documentary – Special Mention, Warsaw International Film Festival, 2020.

On The Record tells the story of Drew Dixon, a former music producer, who was sexually assaulted and abused by Russel Simmons. Throughout the film, Dixon is forced to relive her past trauma as she considers going public with her experiences. Worried that speaking out will damage Hip Hop and Black culture but wanting justice to prevail, Dixon is forced to make a choice that is uniquely difficult because of her positionality as a Black woman. This film and the brave women who are its subjects make space for women of color in the #MeToo Movement. By highlighting the voices of Black women specifically (who are too often ignored and silenced), the film inspires conversations about #MeToo and serves as both a plea and a strategy for making social movements more inclusive. (Written by Teresa Chico '22)

Website:

https://play.hbomax.com/page/urn:hbo:page:GXrw_sA07SZGXWQEAAADb:type:feature

Screens: Fri Apr 1 / 4:15pm / Nordica Theater 3

Petite Maman

(Directed by Céline Sciamma, 2021, 72 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Berlin International Film Festival, 2021; Sydney Film Festival, 2021.

Awards: Nominee, Best International Film, Film Independent Spirit Awards, 2022; Nominee, Best Film Not in the English Language, BAFTA Awards, 2022.

Céline Sciamma is one of the most respected and interesting filmmakers working today. The director of acclaimed features like *Girlhood* and *Portrait of a Lady on Fire*, Sciamma has devoted her career to interrogating classical cinema's male gaze. Her characters push the boundaries of traditional gender norms and her movies become a form of protest and activism as a result. Sciamma's latest, *Petite Maman*, tells the story of Nelly, a young girl whose grandmother has just passed away. As she cleans out the house where her mother was raised, Nelly meets a girl who is her same age. The Bates Film Festival is proud to screen this film in advance of its theatrical release on April 22, 2022. (Written by Jonathan J. Cavallero, Bates Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies Professor).

Website: <https://neonrated.com/films/petite-maman>

Screens: Fri Apr 1 / 1:15pm / Nordica Theater 3

The Rabbi Goes West

(Directed by Amy Geller and Gerald Peary, 2019, 73 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, 2019; Vancouver International Film Festival, 2019; DOC NYC, 2019.

Director Amy Geller (Bates Class of 1996)

The Rabbi Goes West unfolds like an onion, revealing a world that may appear simple only to evolve into a massively complex sociopolitical world. Chaim Bruk is a charismatic young Rabbi who entered the community of Bozeman, Montana from a conservatory in Brooklyn, New York. At first glance, he is not just a good man, but a great man, making the Jewish people of Montana proud to be members of the faith and growing and uniting a community with deep roots that was lost to time. That's how Chaim would have you see it, but others see Chaim and his work as one part of a massive story defined by outdated gender norms and ulterior motives. Co-directed and produced by Bates graduate Amy Geller ('96), *The Rabbi Goes West* features a unique style of storytelling that shines a light on a marginalized community whose presence in Montana may be a surprise to many viewers. (Written by Robby Haynos '22)

Website: <https://www.therabbigoeswest.com/>

Screens: Fri Apr 1 / 1:00pm / Nordica Theater 2

Romance & Cigarettes

(Directed by John Turturro, 2005, 105 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Venice Film Festival, 2005.

Awards: Nominee, Golden Lion, Venice Film Festival, 2005.

Romance & Cigarettes features a star-studded cast with big names such as James Gandolfini, Kate Winslet, Susan Sarandon, and Christopher Walken. In this musical, where the characters lip sync well known songs, audiences follow Nick (Gandolfini), a blue-collar worker from Queens, New York. Nick recently committed adultery, and his life has been turned upside-down. His wife Kitty (Sarandon) is hurt and incensed by his actions, but she still loves him. His mistress Tula (Winslet) expects Nick to leave Kitty for her. Nick faces a moral dilemma and must choose between two paths with uncertain futures. Directed by John Turturro, *Romance & Cigarettes* is a valuable film that opens conversations about gender equality, masculine and feminine norms, and the power of music in telling a story. (Written by Cole De Magistris '24)

In Person: John Turturro, Director

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0368222/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 4:00pm / Nordica Theater 3

Squirrel Wars

(Directed by Jill Morley, 2020, 9 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Aspen ShortsFest, 2021; Hot Docs, 2021; Sarasota Film Festival, 2021.

Awards: Best Documentary Short Film, Hamilton New York Film Festival, 2021.

Squirrel Wars chronicles the story of how a once-innocent, squirrel-inspired Facebook group became the site of a heated political exchange. This film follows Billie Madley, a woman who loves squirrels so much that she feels compelled to defend them when Facebook users digitally dress them in offensive Confederate and Nazi gear. Told with humor, this film investigates a serious issue. Through Madley's online interactions with detractors and supporters alike, we see how powerful social media platforms can be in creating and fracturing communities. *Squirrel Wars* will keep you laughing and thinking! (Written by Amanda Taylor '23)

Website: <https://www.jillmorley.com/work2/squirrel-wars>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 10:20am / Nordica Theater 2 (in Shorts Block)

Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street

(Directed by Marilyn Agrelo, 2021, 107 minutes)

Notable Festivals:

Premiere, Sundance, 2021; HotDocs, 2021; Seattle International Film Festival, 2021; San Francisco Film Festival, 2021; Sydney Film Festival, 2021.



Awards: Nominee, Critics

Choice Documentary Awards, 2021; Top Ten Audience Favorite, HotDocs, 2021.

Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street is an acclaimed documentary that focuses on the development of the beloved children's program. Weaving together archival material from early workshops, behind-the-scenes footage, and candid interviews with everyone from series creator Joan Ganz Cooney to Oscar the Grouch, *Street Gang* offers an intimate view of the making of a children's television institution. The documentary celebrates the humor and innocence of this feel-good show as well as its persistent engagement with serious themes, including the educational, racial, and economic disparity of the US. *Street Gang* sheds new light on a well-known program, applauds its influence on generations of children, and frames the show as a groundbreaking work that brought education and entertainment together. (Written by Amanda Metzger '22)

In Person: Director Marilyn Agrelo and Producers Ellen Scherer Crafts and Trevor Crafts

Website: <https://streetgangmovie.com/>

Screens: Fri Apr 1 / 7:30pm / Nordica Theater 3

Sweetheart

(Directed by Marley Morrison, 2021, 103 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Outfest, 2021; Frameline, 2021; Inside Out Toronto, 2021, BFI Flare, 2021.

Awards: Audience Award, Glasgow Film Festival, 2021.

Sweetheart follows AJ, a socially conscious and awkward teenager, who is forced on a family road trip to a holiday park. Constantly trying to negotiate her own identity, AJ rebels against her mother's and sister's adherence to more traditional feminine norms and struggles to feel connected to a family that she feels does not accept her. Along the way, AJ finds a friend in Isla, a lifeguard who works at the park. As the two get close, AJ must learn to love herself while she navigates her sexual desire. Written and directed by Marley Morrison [*Sticks and Stones* (2014) and *Baby Gravy* (2017)], *Sweetheart* transforms the typical queer coming of age narrative, provides unique representations the LGBTQ+ community, and advances discussions of identity negotiation and societal norms. (Written by Owen McShane '22)

Website: <https://www.sweetheartfilm.co.uk>

Screens: Fri Apr 1 / 4:00pm / Nordica Theater 4

Tantura

(Directed by Alon Schwarz, 2022, 85 minutes)

Notable

Festivals:

Sundance
(Premiere) 2022,
Cleveland
International Film
Festival, 2022.

Awards:

Nominee, World
Cinema -
Documentary,
Sundance.



Shortly after World War II, war broke out in Palestine-Israel. Israelis know it as "The War of Independence" but Palestinians call it Nakba, the Palestinian Catastrophe. Alon Schwarz's *Tantura* portrays what occurred during the 1948 War. More importantly, the film uncovers some of the crimes committed and covered up by the Israeli state in the first phases of statehood, and how Israeli society has looked the other way and built its own narrative and founding myths. An important film that premiered at Sundance in January, *Tantura* has become increasingly relevant with the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The international community, led by the US and EU, have banded together in support of white, Ukrainian refugees, but Palestinian, Yemeni, and Syrian refugees continue to receive a fraction of that attention and aid. We hope this film will ignite discussions about current issues in foreign policy and the disparity between the treatment of white and non-white refugees in the West.

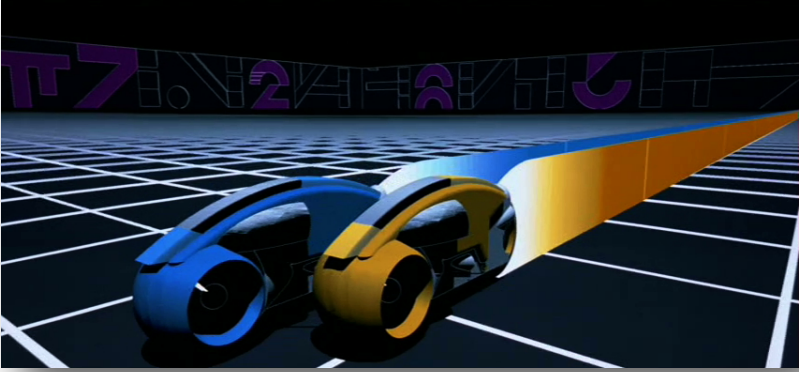
(Written by Niharika Tuladhar '22)

Website: <http://www.reelpeakfilms.com/tantura>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 10:10am / Nordica Theater 5

Tron

(Directed by Steven Lisberger, 1982, 96 minutes)



Awards: Nominee, Best Costume Design and Best Sound, 55th Academy Awards®; Nominee, Best Special Visual Effects, BAFTA Awards.

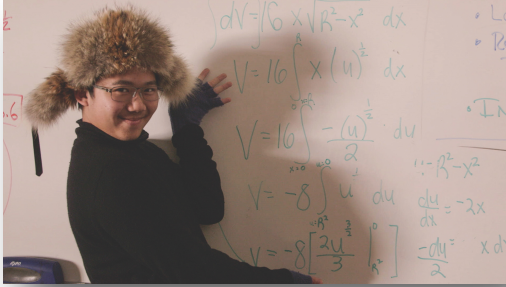
Tron, directed by Steven Lisberger, is a science fiction action adventure film that is heavily influenced by Lisberger's fascination with video games. The film follows Kevin Flynn, a computer programmer and video game developer who is imported into a software world. In order to escape, Flynn must interact with various programs. *Tron* is an important film that spearheaded innovations in the film industry, especially in the area of visual effects. The groundbreaking effects used backlit animation combined with computer animations and live action and influenced later films like *Toy Story*. The Bates Film Festival is proud to present this 40th anniversary screening. (Written by Oliver Wan '22)

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0084827/>

Screens: Sat Apr 2 / 8:00pm / Nordica Theater 3

Try Harder!

(Directed by Debbie Lum, 2021, 85 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Sundance 2021; AFI Docs, 2021; Full Frame Documentary Film Festival, 2021; DOC NYC, 2021.

Awards: Nominee, Truer Than Fiction Award, Film Independent Spirit Awards, 2021.

Try Harder! takes viewers to California's Lowell High School and into the lives of five gifted students coping with the brutal reality of the college admission process. Facing the extreme pressures of both a rigorous academic program and the expectations of family members, peers, and themselves, these highly talented and intelligent students are forced to question their worth as they struggle through the uncertainty of their senior year. *Try Harder!* addresses how more privileged students question the accomplishments of students of color and how students of color then internalize those insinuations and question the reasons for their own well-earned achievements and successes. The film brings awareness to the inequities within the admission process, advocates for those facing rejection, and mixes in light-hearted moments that ensure that this charming and salient documentary will keep the conversation going long after the end credits roll. (Written by Charlie McDonald '22)

Website: <https://www.tryharderfilm.com/>

Screens: Thurs Mar 31 / 7:30pm / Olin 104
Sat Apr 2 / 1:15pm / Nordica Theater 5

The Worst Person in the World

(Directed by Joachim Trier, 2021, 128 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Cannes Film Festival 2021; Toronto Film Festival, 2021;

Awards: Best Actress, Cannes Film Festival, 2021; Nominee, Best International Feature Film and Best Original Screenplay, 94th Academy Awards®

The Worst Person in the World is a modern dramedy about the quest for love and the search for meaning in contemporary Oslo. Divided into different chapters, the film chronicles four years in the life of Julie (Renate Reinsve), a young woman who navigates the troubled waters of her love life and struggles to find her career path, both of which lead her to take an honest look at herself. The film is the finale of director Joachim Trier's 'Oslo Trilogy,' an homage to the Norwegian capital city and the young people who call it home. One of the most acclaimed films of 2021, *The Worst Person in the World* premiered at the Cannes Film Festival and later earned Academy Award® nominations for both Best International Feature Film and Best Original Screenplay. (Written by Gene Chen '22)

Website: <https://www.worstpersonfilm.com/>

Screens: Tues, Mar 29 / 7:00pm / Olin 104 (OPENING NIGHT FILM!)
Fri, Apr 1 / 10:00am / Nordica Theater 3

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