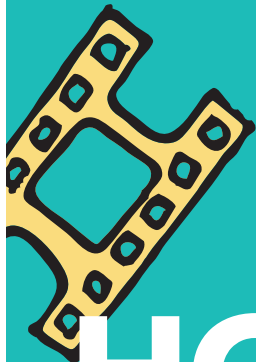


A  CinemaCenter Experience

**Hobnobben**  
FILM FESTIVAL



# HOBNOBBEN FILM FESTIVAL 2019



OCTOBER 11-13, 2019  
HOBNOBBEN.ORG





# WELCOME TO HOBNOBBEN



We hate to rely on cliché, but this really has been a labor of love: love of film, love of storytellers, love of Fort Wayne, and love of Cinema Center.

Everyone who made this event possible is inspiring—from the filmmakers who submitted their stories, to the people who volunteered hours upon hours of their time to make sure this event goes off without a hitch (or with just a minimal hitch—we’re only human, after all. No major hitches is what we’re sayin’).

We made a few changes this year to better serve both the filmmaker and the Fort Wayne film lover communities. By offering more affordable tickets and arranging the films thematically rather than by awards category, we believe we have constructed a truly fantastic slate of programming that allows all the films to shine.

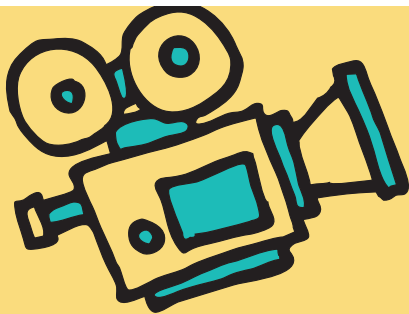
Here you’ll find explorations on how to handle major life change and trauma, dogs that have changed our lives and hearts, one-shot feats of filmmaking, and so much more.

In the end, filmmaking is all about storytelling. It’s easy to get caught up in the technical aspects of editing, sound or cinematography, but all those elements are there to serve the story being told. As you watch these films, we encourage you to think, reflect, and ask questions! Are these important stories? And if so, why? Who is telling them? What can we learn? Why do we like what we like? Why does Alix find the families in *Blue Collar Vampire* and *Roommates* so endearing and lovely? And why does Christi cry every time she watches *Tin Can*?

We hope that you not only enjoy the Hobnobben Film Festival, but that you have meaningful conversations and experiences while you’re with us.

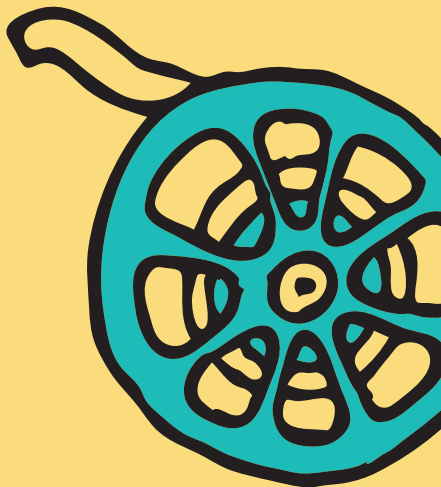
**Alix Watson & Christi Hille**

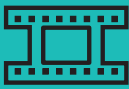
*Hobnobben Film Festival Co-Chairs*



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>BOX OFFICE</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>MEET THE JURORS</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>CINEMA CENTER MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>FRIDAY PROGRAMMING</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>SATURDAY PROGRAMMING</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>FILM SCHEDULE</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>SUNDAY PROGRAMMING</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>OUR PEOPLE</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>OUR SPONSORS</b>	<b>40</b>





# BOX OFFICE



## FESTIVAL PASSES

**VIP All-Access Pass** **\$100**

*Access to all programming, films and filmmakers; special seating; filmmaker greenroom and snacks*

**3-Day Pass** **\$45**

*Access to all programming and films, including Opening Night Reception and Awards Ceremony*

**Friday Pass** **\$20**

*Access to Opening Night Reception, Awards Ceremony and film*

**Saturday Pass** **\$25**

**Sunday Pass** **\$25**

## GENERAL ADMISSION

**Adult Single-Screening Tickets** **\$10**

**Seniors, Students, and Kids** **\$5**

*Tickets may be purchased at the Cinema Center box office and online at [cinemacenter.org](http://cinemacenter.org)*

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• IN •





# MEET THE JURORS

PRESENTED BY FANCY & STAPLE



## SAM DOUGHTY

Sam Doughty is an award-winning writer, director, editor, and cinematographer who also likes to dabble in sound design, animation, and VFX work. He has earned several awards for commercial work in his capacity as a videographer in Fort Wayne. His music video for Slug Love won Cinema Center's 2018 Digital Storytelling Contest.



## SONYA FLORES

Sonya Flores' background is in art restoration and installation and has served on several local boards such as Taste of the Arts. Sonya currently hosts and produces *Fort 806*, a local podcast that focuses on the culture and diversity rooted in the Summit City.



## JULIA MEEK

Julia Meek, a graphic artist and Fort Wayne native, is the longtime Arts & Culture Reporter for Northeast Indiana Public Radio WBOI, and Producer/Host of WBOI's weekly *Folktales* and *Meet the Music* programs. Proud of her creative community, she treasures her place in it and has never met a medium or genre she didn't like.



## MONTHA THATCH

Montha Thach is a Communication graduate with a minor in Media Production and served as the cinematographer for the student film *Myra's Distinction*, which won the Top Student Original Media Submission at the Central States Communication Association Conference.

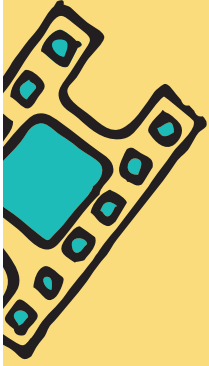


## LACHLAN WHALEN

Dr. Lachlan Whalen is a scholar, teacher, musician, and writer who has published on cinema in a variety of academic venues. While Irish political prisoners are the central focus of his research, he has an abiding love for social justice documentaries and horror films.



# YOU BELONG HERE



**When you become a Cinema Center member**, you're providing philanthropic support for our programs and offerings on a monthly or annual basis. As a nonprofit cultural organization, Cinema Center relies on the generosity of donors like you who make our work possible.

Did you know that roughly 50% of our ticket revenue is paid back to distributors in licensing fees? And that 40% of our budget comes from sponsorships, grants and individual donations?

Cinema Center memberships not only support our mission to provide unique opportunities to explore the world through film, but they also give you access to great films, discounted tickets and FREE POPCORN. Plus, you can become a member for as little as \$5 a month!

**YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**  
[cinemacenter.org/support-us](http://cinemacenter.org/support-us)





**FRIDAY**  
**OCTOBER 11**



## OPENING NIGHT EVENTS

Come celebrate the kickoff of Hobnobben 2019 with three big events on one night! It all starts with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and general "hobnobbing," followed by awards for the best Narrative Feature, Documentary, Short, Hoosier Spirit and Student Film. This year, we're also announcing nominees! Then grab some popcorn and settle back for our opening night film, *Before You Know It*, presented by Punch Films.

### Opening Reception

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 5:30 PM

### Awards Ceremony

MAIN THEATER • 7:00 PM

### Film: *Before You Know It*

MAIN THEATER • 8:30 PM

Free to Hobnobben filmmakers, sponsors and passholders. Or \$20 general admission for all three events.



### *Before You Know It*

MAIN THEATER • 8:30 PM

Two sisters learn the mother they thought was dead is actually alive and starring in a soap opera. Judith Light, Mandy Patinkin, Alec Baldwin, and Hannah Pearl Utt star in this charming, female-directed comedy about family dysfunction.

**Director:** Hannah Pearl Utt

**Writers:** Jen Tullock, Hannah Pearl Utt

*Presented by*



## CATEGORY KEY

For your convenience, each film is identified by a category icon in the lower left corner of the photo (e.g., Short Film, Documentary).

 Short Film

 Hoosier Spirit

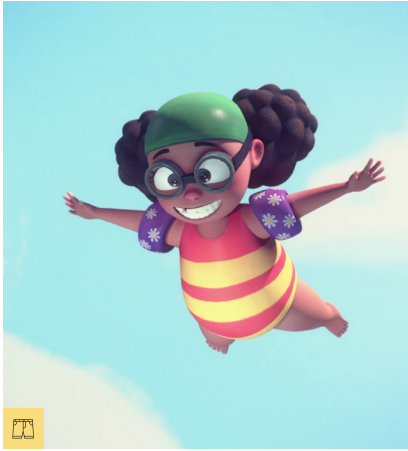
 Student Work

 Narrative

 Documentary

 Panel Discussion

SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 12



CHILDREN'S FILM  
FESTIVAL OF  
SEATTLE (SHORTS)

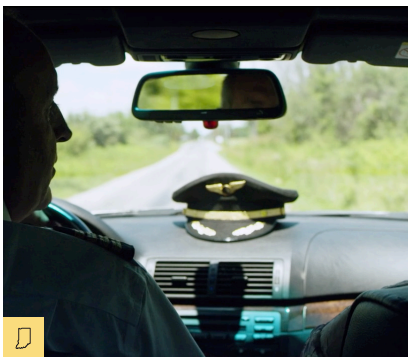
SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 10:00 AM  
*Sponsored by Jerri Martin  
& Joe Kokosa*

Each year, Northwest Film Forum selects short films from all over the globe, seeking the cream of the crop in fun, educational entertainment for young audiences. Hobnobben is proud to screen this selection of 13 films from the Children's Film Festival of Seattle.

MOMENTS OF TRANSFORMATION

MAIN THEATER • 10:30 AM

An unconventional and lighthearted collection of four short films that take on life's most challenging moments—from facing the mortality of your parents to realizing new relationships are okay after a loved one has passed.



*Grounded*

A career-focused pilot and his very proper mother embark on what may be their last road trip.

**Director:** John Bruner  
**Writer:** John Bruner  
**Producers:** John Bruner,  
Natalie Francis



## ***The Reunion***

Paul, a widower and recent retiree, follows a typical mundane lifestyle after the loss of his wife. However, a 50<sup>th</sup> high school reunion may be just the occasion to rebuild his social life.

**Director/Writer:** Richan Anderson (will attend)

**DP:** David Mantock (will attend)

**Producer:** Sara Mark



## ***Burying Mitchell***

Having loved and lost the same man, two women meet at the funeral of their ex-husband for the first time to settle a one million dollar life insurance policy. They work together as they put their past in the ground.

**Director:** Sam Williamson

**Writer:** Sam Williamson

**Producers:** Deb Williamson, Cameron Logan Cox



## ***Sparky & Butch***

Imagine Starsky and Hutch are retired but can't stop fighting crime or chasing ladies: Meet Sparky & Butch. In their unrelenting pursuit of justice, things go awry for the pair and Butch's son Dirk shows up to force them into an assisted living facility.

**Director:** Kyle Kleinecke

**Writer:** Lorraine Portman

**Producers:** Kyle Kleinecke, Lorraine Portman, Holly Rice

SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 12

EMBRACING LIFE

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 11:45 AM

This pair of films profiles two very different people with two very different, but equally powerful stories.



**Grateful**

A courageous young woman debilitated by ALS sees beauty and humor in life—and keeps moving forward.

**Director:** Paul W. Nethercott

**Writer:** Paul W. Nethercott

**Producers:** Amy Pauszek,  
Paul W. Nethercott



**Jumpin' Johnny: The Incredible True Story of Dr. John Kline**

Profile of Dr. John Kline who played for the Harlem Globetrotters from 1953-59. After his basketball career, he struggled with drug addiction before finding a path to sobriety and returning to school to gain his bachelor's, master's, and doctorate.

**Director/Writer:** Cameron McCasland

**Producers:** Cameron McCasland,  
Erin Dineen, Josh Ickes





## **Book Week**

MAIN THEATER • 12:30 PM

**Sponsored by Fort  
Wayne Writers Guild**

When it looks like his novel is going to be published, high school English teacher and once-famous novelist Nicholas Cutler thinks his luck has finally changed. But what promises to be the best week of his life quickly spirals into seven days of hell.

**Director/Writer:** Heath Davis  
**Producer:** Joe Weatherstone

## **VULNERABILITY IN HUMAN CONNECTION**

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 2:00 PM

Life is fleeting, yet full of joy. These four short films address loss, loneliness, and the comfort we get from those we let into our lives, despite convention.  
**Panel discussion to follow.**



## **Sister**

A lonely young woman reminisces about what life is like with her annoying younger sister.

**Director:** Stephanie Salyer  
**Writer:** Stephanie Salyer

 **SATURDAY**  
**OCTOBER 12** 

**VULNERABILITY IN HUMAN CONNECTION** (contd.)  
SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 2:00 PM

Life is fleeting, yet full of joy. These four short films address loss, loneliness, and the comfort we get from those we let into our lives, despite convention.  
**Panel discussion to follow.**



***Bird of Paradise***

Despite age and background, love can develop between anyone. Yet, rarely is everyone okay with unconventional love. This film is not just a fictional representation of the societal strains placed on relationships that defy the norm, but also a direct critique of how society forces relationships for the sake of comfort.

**Director:** Alexander Zorn  
**Writers:** Alexander Zorn, Jacob Zorn  
**Producers:** Zoe White, Jacob Zorn, Alireza Khatami, Toren Johnson



***You Are My Person***

When a couple having an affair decides to take their relationship to the next level, breaking up with their partners proves to be harder than expected.

**Director:** Dan Dobi  
**Writer:** Dan Dobi  
**Producers:** Bradley Rettele, Dan Dobi





## ***For Rose***

Follow the life of a single mother as she decides to leave one final gift to her daughter.

**Directors:** Selena Webb,  
Samantha Essex

**Writers:** Samantha Essex,  
Selena Webb

**Producer:** Christina Faucher

## ***Life•Love•Dogs***

MAIN THEATER • 2:45 PM

Every dog's life has value. Every one, a story worth telling. Through the lens of three distinctly different stories, *Life•Love•Dogs* explores the intense emotional bonds we share with our dogs, and how these bonds inspire human and dog to mutually rescue each other.

**Directors/Producers:** Michael Buday, Oreet Rees

**Writers:** Noah Abelman, Oreet Rees



SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 12



**Black Pool**

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 3:45 PM  
*Panel discussion to follow.*

Thirty years ago, Michael's life was shattered by a shadowy figure he saw for only a fleeting moment. Through a chance encounter, he believes he's found the man responsible for ruining his life. And he's going to make him pay. But does he have the right man?

**Director/Writer:** Dustin Morrow  
**Producers:** David Jordan, Lisa Molinelli

**TOUGH TOPICS, THOUGHTFUL REFLECTIONS**

MAIN THEATER • 5:00 PM

Double lives, secrets, an absurdist kafkaesque experience, and the hegemonic rules that dictate our lives. These four shorts examine the subtle (and not so subtle) ways cultural norms influence or are reinforced in the characters' lives.  
*Panel discussion to follow.*



**Double Standard**

Why can't I play soccer with the boys at recess? It's because they're too rough, say the teachers. We can jump rope instead, say my friends. It's because you're a girl, say the boys.

**Director:** Eric Lester  
**Writer:** Jordan Andersen



## *The Tattooed Heart*

A creative writing instructor at a juvenile detention center finds common ground with a troubled student, yet quickly finds herself in great danger when she decides to help her.

**Director:** Sheldon Wong Schwartz

**Writer:** Matt Olmstead

**Producers:** Battles Battles,  
Gary Bryman, Lin Oeding



## *Burqa City*

Souleymane and Leila just got married, for better or for worse. The better is that they love each other very much. The worse is that they are forced to live by societal standards.

**Director/Writer:** Bracq Fabrice

**Producer:** Preel Cleach Fabrice



## *Residents of the Last Floor*

What is life when happiness is illegal? What is salvation when fun is a sin? Where does one seek privacy when all is monitored? This short film from Iran provides a bittersweet look at the reality of modern life under Sharia laws.

**Director:** Amir Jalali

**Writer:** Amir Jalali

**Producer:** Amir Jalali

SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 12

CONTEMPLATIVE INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 6:00 PM

A block of contemplative and visually stunning films. These four shorts find heart and humor in dire and unavoidable situations.



*You're Still Here*

When the relationship of a young couple is on the verge of collapsing in the face of one man's blindness, the only thing that will save them is their common past.

**Directors/Writers:** Katayoun Parmar, Mohammad Roohbakhsh  
**Producers:** Saman Salour, IYCS



*Elephantbird*

A bus is on a journey across the mountains to Kabul. However, the main road is blocked by insurgents. They decide to use an alternative road, which is not very secure and also carries with it the possibility of getting caught by insurgents.

**Director/Writer:** Masoud Soheili  
**Producers:** Masoud Soheili, Sayed Jalal Rohani



## **Stari Grad (Old Town)**

A fable set in Old Town, Dubrovnik, Croatia. A boy, hiding from artillery fire, makes a wish for peace, with unexpected results.

**Director/Writer:** Jack Beck

**Producer:** Barbara Beros



## **Rise from the Tide**

Hau Xi wants to leave the small Chinese village where she lives with her grandfather and join her parents in the big city. She tries to practice ballet every day after learning that the best students get to go to the big city for a tour.

**Directors:** XU Mingsheng, YANG Liu

**Writers:** YANG Liu, XU Mingsheng

**Producer:** ZHANG Mengnan



## **Ako**

MAIN THEATER • 6:45 PM

A young Kurdish porter works to provide for his family at Tehran's grand bazaar. At the bazaar, every product has a story and every porter has a secret. Ako does not want anyone to know his secret.

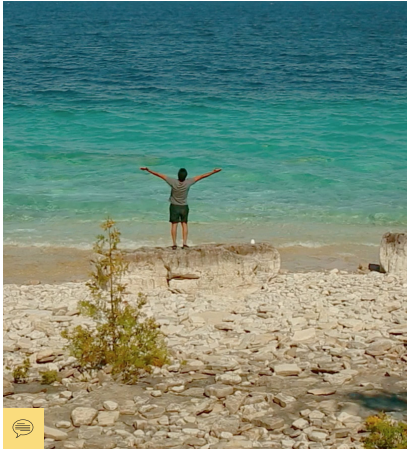
**Director:** Nabi Gholizadeh

**Writers:** Mohammadreza Yarikia, Nabi Gholizadeh

**Producers:** Rahmatollah Mahdiyani, Nabi Gholizadeh



SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 12



**We**

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 7:45 PM

In the pursuit of love and the better side of humanity, Ethan must face many obstacles, some that threaten to end his quest. As he makes his way through this kaleidoscope of challenges, he meets an eclectic mix of people who help him better understand life and its complexity.

**Director/Producer:** Mani Nasry

**Writer:** Alejandro Leopardi

**NOT ALL BLOCKS OF MOVIES NEED TITLES**

MAIN THEATER • 8:30 PM

This block of seven films has it all: dancing, deceit, your mother's voicemails, Republicans, and an order of queer and trans nuns.



**Homecoming**

When a college sophomore returns home to share some important news with his parents, things don't go exactly as he had planned...until they do.

**Director/Writer:** Jennifer Blair

**Producers:** Jennifer Blair, Tom Hodges, Elly Lachman



## ***Dance Ditchers***

Three students decide to ditch their school dance and have their own party in the halls of the school, but encounter trouble when they run into a no-nonsense teacher and the ex-girlfriend of one of the students.

**Director/Writer:** Jon Mayer

**Producer:** Linnea Glas



## ***Sin Regresos (No Returns)***

Karina and Emilia are two young novices living in a religious order. Emilia appears to have a strong vocation, while Karina is a youthful rebel hiding from justice. Once they notice the police presence increasing, Karina asks Emilia to help her orchestrate an escape.

**Director/Writer:** Karla Badillo

**Producers:** Maria Jose Cordova,  
Rafa Ley, Rodrigo S. Gonzalez,  
Mariana Arredondo



## ***Places***

This mockumentary follows a three-member dance troupe reuniting despite bad blood between two rival dancers. Tension emerges as they relive the moments leading to their disastrous performance three years ago.

**Director/Writer:** Betsy Morson

**Producers:** Edge Piece Media,  
Hope Wells (will attend),  
Christine Grenier (will attend)

# KEY

# SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

## TYPE

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### BLOCK OF FILMS

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### FEATURE-LENGTH FILM







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### SPECIAL EVENT

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## CATEGORY

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-  Short Film
-  Hoosier Spirit
-  Student Work
-  Narrative
-  Documentary
-  Panel Discussion

## MAIN THEATER

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**10:30 - 11:33 AM**

Moments of Transformation



**12:30 - 2:06 PM**

*Book Week*



**2:45 - 4:16 PM**

*Life•Love•Dogs*  
Adoption event with  
FWACC to follow



**5:00 - 6:30 PM**

Tough Topics,  
Thoughtful Reflections  
*includes panel discussion*



**6:45 - 8:07 PM**

*Ako*



**8:30 - 9:28 PM**

Not All Blocks of  
Movies Need Titles



**10:30 PM - 12:00 AM**

Lord Blood-Rah

## SPECTATOR LOUNGE

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**10:00 - 11:12 AM**

Kids Shorts



**11:45 AM - 1:34 PM**

Embracing Life



**2:00 - 3:30 PM**

Vulnerability in  
Human Connection  
*includes panel discussion*



**3:45 - 5:40 PM**

*Black Pool*

*includes panel discussion*



**6:00 - 7:14 PM**

Contemplative  
International Shorts



**7:45 - 9:11 PM**

*We*



**9:45 - 10:51 PM**

Scintillating Shorts  
for a Saturday





# SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

## MAIN THEATER

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**10:15 - 11:54 AM**

American Dreaming



**12:30 - 2:33 PM**

Serving Others

*includes panel discussion*



**3:15 - 4:30 PM**

*Day of the Western  
Sunrise*



**5:00 - 6:21 PM**

Confronting Borders

*includes panel discussion*



**7:15 - 9:15 PM**

*Last Call*

*includes panel discussion*



## SPECTATOR LOUNGE

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**10:00 - 10:52 AM**

Family-Friendly  
Animations



**11:15 AM - 12:29 PM**

*Body Swap*



**1:00 - 1:52 PM**

Define "Us"



**2:30 - 3:20 PM**

*Skin: The Movie*



**4:00 - 6:26 PM**

Whores on Film

*includes panel discussion*



**6:30 - 7:23 PM**

Sometimes You  
Gotta Slay



SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 12

**NOT ALL BLOCKS OF MOVIES NEED TITLES** (contd.)

MAIN THEATER • 8:30 PM

This block of seven films has it all: dancing, deceit, your mother's voicemails, Republicans, and an order of queer and trans nuns.



***The Sisters***

Drag nun order, The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, believe all people have a right to express their unique joy and beauty. This short doc follows JP on his path to sisterhood.

**Director/Producer:** Todd York



***I'm Not Avoiding You, But Please Don't Call Here Again***

An experimental exploration of the dynamic between mother and daughter.

**Director/Writer:** Mars LeClerc



***Straight or Alive***

**Sponsored by Jennifer Fray and Lynn Serstad**

A group of people attempts to escape a conversion camp that's turning the nation's gays into straight zombies!

**Director:** Elvira Ibragimova

**Writer:** Edward Vera (will attend)

**Producers:** Edward Vera, Gina Harrison (will attend)

## SCINTILLATING SHORTS FOR A SATURDAY

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 9:45 PM

A quirky block of three shorts featuring a family of vampires, a group of punk clowns rocking out, and some “ganjapreneurs” looking to break into a new industry.



### *Blue Collar Vampire*

A reporter gets drawn into an unconventional family after learning that a night-shift worker at the Lansing GM plant thinks he is a vampire. Their story is sweet, quite ridiculous, and strange.

**Director/Writer:** Bruce Bennett



### *R. Clown Presents “The Big Break”*

*Sponsored by The Brass Rail*

*The Big Break* is a musical short film following the hijinks and lojinks of the rodeo-punk band R. Clown and their quixotic quest to entertain the masses.

**Director:** Julian Shine



### *The High Five*

Five colleagues grind it out as “ganjapreneurs” dealing with the issues of the day and the challenges of pioneering a new industry—all while a bit high.

**Director:** Jason William Lee

**Writer:** Matthew Lutz

**Producers:** Michael Gyori,  
Dave Peniuk, Matthew Lutz

SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 12



LORD BLOOD-RAH'S  
HALLOWEEN TERROR  
TONIGHT SHOW!

MAIN THEATER • 10:30 PM

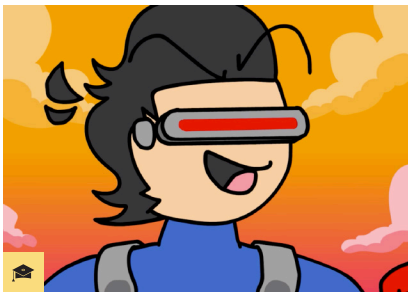
Join Lord Blood-Rah, host of *Lord Blood-Rah's Nerve Wrackin' Theatre* as seen on MyTV, live as he presents hand-picked Halloween and horror shorts followed by the horror classic *White Zombie* (1932) starring Bela Lugosi.

SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 13

FAMILY-FRIENDLY ANIMATIONS

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 10:00 AM

A family-friendly block of five animated shorts with topics ranging from feline dominion, encounters with UFOs, taking time to follow the best cookie recipe, an epic battle for mayor, and a greenhouse disaster.



*Superhero for Mayor*

Incumbent mayor Craig Carlson's big announcement is rudely interrupted by a giant robot attack—and something much worse.

**Director/Writer:** Hank Farr



## **Crunch Time**

*Sponsored by Aunt Millie's Bakeries*

A boy learns the importance of following directions when the experience of baking grandma's cookies becomes more than he bargained for.

**Directors:** Emily Misner, Marisa Gehrig

**Writers:** Marisa Gehrig, Emily Misner, Simeon Hayley, Brenna Denny, McKenna Denny, Kennedy Moore

**Producer:** University of Saint Francis



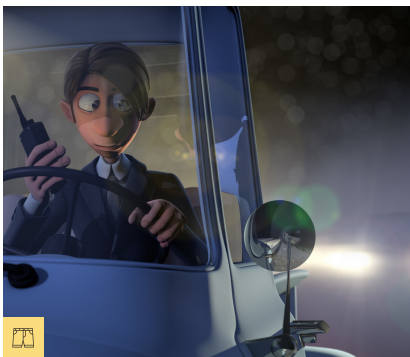
## **Fire Flower**

A nun, four orphans, and a glitchy robot on a quest for beauty—what could possibly go wrong!? On the way to a botanical garden, a group of orphans meets a curious groundskeeper and the fireworks begin, quite literally.

**Director:** Stephan Leeper

**Writers:** Kayla Mitchell, Stephan Leeper, Nikki Leeper

**Producers:** Stephan Leeper, Curtis Wood



## **The Encounter**

Nothing goes as planned when a rookie government agent goes off on his own to hunt down his first UFO and earn the respect of his peers.

**Director/Writer:** Thomas DeCarlo

**Producers:** Thomas DeCarlo, Adam Dietrich



**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 13**



## **FAMILY-FRIENDLY ANIMATIONS (contd.)**

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 10:00 AM

A family-friendly block of five animated shorts with topics ranging from feline dominion, encounters with UFOs, taking time to follow the best cookie recipe, an epic battle for mayor, and a greenhouse disaster.



### ***Feline Paradox***

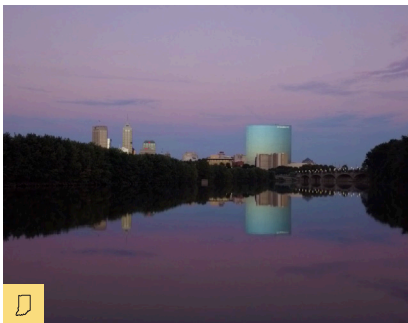
In this horrific animated tale of cats and time travel, a bizarre scientist attempts to right the wrongs of his actions.

**Director:** *Ben Reicher*

## **AMERICAN DREAMING**

MAIN THEATER • 10:15 AM

Two powerful films. *Onward Ever* highlights the benefits of riverfront development in Indiana, while *Owned: A Tale of Two Americas* examines the U.S. housing economy, its history of segregation, and who really benefits from the American Dream.

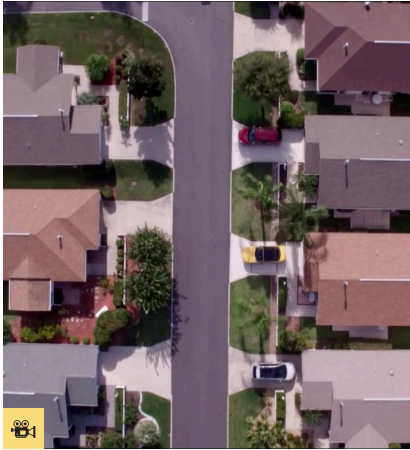


### ***Onward Ever*** ***Sponsored by Hop River*** ***Brewing Company***

This short looks to the future of Indiana's White River, reflecting an image of co-existence with the natural world.

**Director:** *Brandon Walsh (will attend)*





## ***Owned: A Tale of Two Americas***

*Owned* is a fever dream vision into the dark history of the U.S. housing economy. Tracking its overtly racist beginnings to its unbridled commoditization, this documentary exposes a foundational story few Americans understand as their own.

**Director/Writer:** *Giorgio Angelini*

**Producers:** *Giorgio Angelini, Maggie Burns*

## ***Body Swap***

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 11:15 AM

A high-strung business woman switches places with a laid-back slacker. Now, they must contend with each other's lives before finding the true meaning of love: loving yourself, making the other person better, and two people becoming one. Quite literally.

**Director:** *Timothy Morton* **Writer:** *Jimmy Kustes (both will attend)*

**Producers:** *Gill Holland, Benjamin Worth (will attend), Benham Miller (will attend), Jimmy Kustes, Ella Jordan*





**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 13**



## SERVING OTHERS

MAIN THEATER • 12:30 PM

Unheard stories and unique people. The two films in this block serve as powerful reminders of the power of decency and compassion.

***Panel discussion to follow.***



### ***Meet Uncle Paul***

Meet Paul. Sixty-two years young, he's a lover of the Beatles, the Monkees, and *The Terminator*, and he just so happens to be living with Down syndrome.

***Director:*** Jessica Bursi



### ***Finding Home in Boomtown***

This verite documentary follows Briana and John-Mark Echols as they pursue their dream of building a tiny house community for the homeless of Midland, Texas, an oil town that ranks as the nation's second wealthiest city.

***Director:*** Matt Maxwell

***Producers:*** Matt Maxwell,  
Justin Brown, Katie Maxwell



# DEFINE "US"

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 1:00 PM

A delightful block of rom-com and rom-com-adjacent shorts. First-date mishaps, communication barriers, and growing family struggles are all featured in this fun selection of six films.



## *Kim's Big Date*

It takes a small village to prepare for such a big date.

**Director:** Claire McFadden

**Writer:** Claire McFadden



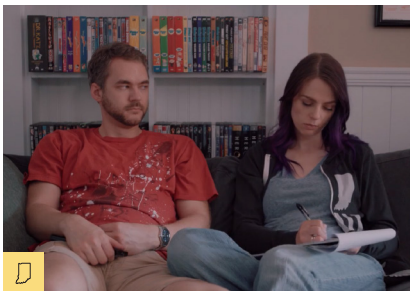
## *Sac de Merde*

Mazel Mankewicz, an unlucky-in-love yet irrationally optimistic New Yorker thinks her luck has changed when she spends the night with the man of her dreams. As it turns out, he might just be full of shit. Literally.

**Director:** Greg Chwerchak

**Writers:** Greg Chwerchak,  
Gabrielle Berberich

**Producer:** Jenny Jump Studios



## *The Last Word*

A couple relearns how to communicate with each other after their argument is interrupted in a startling way.

**Director:** Jake Baker (will attend)

**Producer:** Andrew Zurbrugg  
(will attend)



**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 13**



## **DEFINE "US" (contd.)**

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 1:00 PM

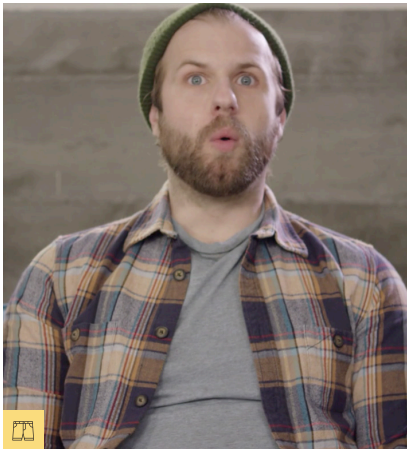
A delightful block of rom-com and rom-com-adjacent shorts. First-date mishaps, communication barriers, and growing family struggles are all featured in this fun selection of six films.



### ***What a Wonderful World***

An unhappily married couple makes a life-changing discovery in their kitchen in this sci-fi short.

**Director:** Mark Cabaroy  
**Writer:** Mark Cabaroy  
**Producer:** Mark Cabaroy



### ***Roommates***

When expectant couple Mark and Rebecca find themselves in need of supplemental income, they decide to rent out their nursery. Finding the right person to be part of their family—that's the tricky part.

**Directors:** Alix Cuadra, Roth Rind  
**Writers:** Roth Rind, Alix Cuadra  
**Producer:** Roth Rind



## **Commando**

While on a blind date, a man becomes trapped in a dire situation.

**Director:** Dom Udell

**Writer:** Dom Udell

**Producers:** Anthony Gibson,  
Bethany Berg

## **Skin: The Movie**

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 2:30 PM

When a socially awkward Midwestern woman inherits a porn studio, she plans to take the money and run—until her dead father and a band of misfits force her to face her fears and learn that misfits are people, too.

**Director/Writer:** Ronn Kilby

**Writer:** Ronn Kilby

**Producers:** Ronn Kilby, Marti Kilby





**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 13**



## ***Day of the Western Sunrise***

MAIN THEATER • 3:15 PM

In June 1955, the Japanese tuna trawler Daigo Fukuryu Maru (Lucky Dragon No. 5) accidentally encountered an early hydrogen bomb test conducted by the U.S. *Day of the Western Sunrise* is a beautifully animated documentary that follows three survivors of this encounter. Their story is a reminder that people have the ability to make decisions for both good and ill, and those decisions can affect generations.

**Director:** Keith Reimink

## **WHORES ON FILM**

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 4:00 PM

*Panel discussion to follow.*



## ***Unsolicited***

A woman's initial excitement at getting a text message quickly turns sour. Based on the all too common experience of receiving an unsolicited "dick pic."

**Director:** Meg Cook



## **Whores on Film**

*Whores on Film* explores depictions of sex workers in cinema through the gaze of sex workers themselves.

**Director:** Juliana Piccillo

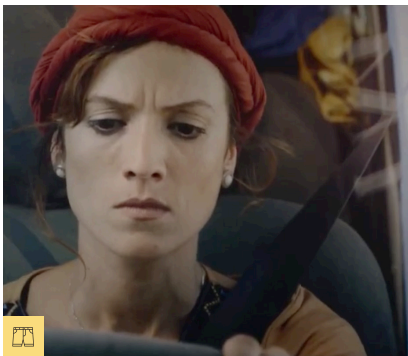
**Writer:** Juliana Piccillo

## **CONFRONTING BORDERS**

MAIN THEATER • 5:00 PM

*Sponsored by 2nd St. Artist Lofts*

Borders may separate us, but humanity and kindness connect us all in these three compelling short films. **Panel discussion to follow.**



## **Coming Home**

Before spending the last Shabbat (Saturday—the holy day) in the Gaza Strip with their family, Emunah and Naor will go through barriers that will test their relationship.

**Director:** Ahinoam Nahum

**Writer:** Ahinoam Nahum

**Producer:** Shahar Golan



## **The Passport**

A young photographer takes passport photos of others who want to leave Iran, while he must stay.

**Director:** Hanieh Bavali

**Writer:** Hanieh Bavali

**Producer:** Ali Ramezani



**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 13**



## **CONFRONTING BORDERS (contd.)**

MAIN THEATER • 5:00 PM

*Sponsored by 2nd St. Artist Lofts*

Borders may separate us, but humanity and kindness connect us all in these three compelling short films. **Panel discussion to follow.**



### ***Tin Can***

J.C. came to America, undocumented, when he was just a child. As an adult, he still lacks citizenship but has persevered and prospered working as a rodeo clown. When he finds himself down on his luck, he ends up near the Mexican border where he risks getting kicked out of the only country he knows.

**Director:** Pat Battistini (will attend)

**Writer:** Pat Battistini

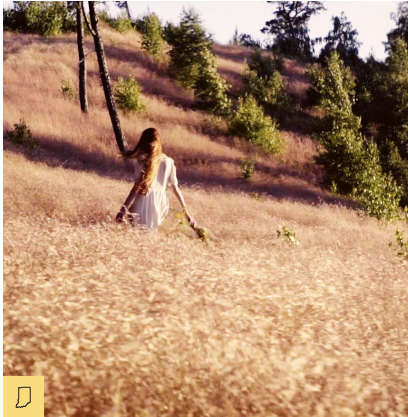
**Producers:** Pat Battistini,  
Robert Francke, Carlos Ragas

## **SOMETIMES YOU GOTTA SLAY**

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 6:30 PM

Desperate situations can lead to extreme measures. This quartet of shorts showcases women who refuse to relinquish control of their lives. Bullies, abusers and abductors, beware...





## ***Broken Branches***

Chelsey, the foster mother of six-year-old Jayda, struggles to keep her with the only family she has ever known, when Amanda, Jayda's biological mother, seeks to regain custody.

**Directors:** Lisa Maydwell, Artūrs Zeps

**Writer:** Lisa Maydwell

**Producers:** Inesa Kurklietytė,  
Paul Nethercott, Viktoria Buika



## ***The Road Less Traveled***

On a lonely country road, a young woman trapped in the trunk of a muscle car must wait to make her escape. This horror/thriller short turns conventional horror tropes on their heads.

**Director:** Lindsay Barrasse

**Writer:** Bridget LaMonica

**Producers:** Lindsay Barrasse,  
David Corigliano, Ronald  
Augelli, Ben Palombi



## ***La Chrysalide***

Esther torments her sister Lucie as they prepare for the ice ballet while competing for spots on the same figure skating team. Will the days of mental and physical exhaustion force Lucie to break?

**Director:** Lily Landecy

**Writer:** Lily Landecy

**Producers:** ESRA



**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 13**



## **SOMETIMES YOU GOTTA SLAY (contd.)**

SPECTATOR LOUNGE • 6:30 PM

Desperate situations can lead to extreme measures. This quartet of shorts showcases women who refuse to relinquish control of their lives. Bullies, abusers and abductors, beware...



### ***My Florida Home***

An estranged daughter returns home to confront her elderly mother's caregiver.

**Director:** *Matthew Herbertz*

**Writer:** *Matthew Herbertz*

**Producers:** *William Allen, Ross Morin*



### ***Last Call***

MAIN THEATER • 7:15 PM

**Panel discussion to follow.**

Last Call follows a suicidal alcoholic on the anniversary of his son's death. When he attempts to call a crisis hotline, a misdial connects him with a single mother working as the night janitor at a local community college. The split screen showcases a life-changing conversation.

**Director:** *Gavin Michael Booth*

**Writers:** *Gavin Michael Booth, Daved Wilkins*

**Producers:** *Daved Wilkins, Gavin Michael Booth*

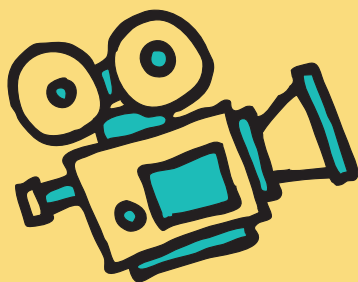
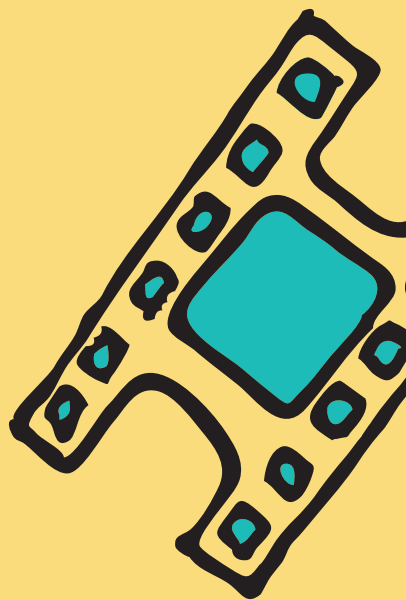


# GIVE TO A GOOD CAUSE



If you like what you see on the screen, help us do more. Your 100% tax-deductible contribution to Cinema Center supports great film programming, the Hobnobben Film Festival, family films, panel discussions, and more! We can't make this happen without you.

Please, give in whatever way you can—by sponsoring a film or event at Cinema Center, donating online, becoming a sustaining member, or just dropping a few bucks in our donation box every time you see a film. We thank you, and we need your support! [cinemacenter.org/donate](http://cinemacenter.org/donate)





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**Amanda Hille**

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# THANK YOU



Thank you for attending the Hobnobben Film Festival! The 2019 festival boasts a number of exciting features such as workshops, panels, and Q&A sessions with subject matter experts outside of just those who created the films. We're excited to bring you programming that both entertains and challenges. As Fort Wayne's premiere art house cinema theater, it is our mission to bring you new and unique experiences.

This year, we created a film selection committee to help choose our films, and they had some very difficult decisions to make. Each film was carefully selected with a 60% rejection rate while still yielding nearly 29 hours of total runtime. Among the many filmmakers in the festival this year, Hobnobben 2019 proudly features filmmakers from 12 different countries and 13 Indiana natives. Special thanks to all the filmmakers who are attending this year's festival as well as to everyone who submitted.

To all the filmgoers, we look forward to seeing you roaming our halls this weekend. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask a volunteer or a staff member. We're here to be a part of the experience. As part of that goal, I would like to thank both the staff and volunteers for their year-round support. Moments such as this are wonderful reminders of what a great film community we have assembled.

Special thanks go out to: Hobnobben Presenting Sponsors PUNCH Films and the Purdue Fort Wayne Center for Collaborative Media, and Featured Sponsors Sweetwater and Parkview Health for making the 2019 Hobnobben Film Festival possible. Without these sponsors and all of our contributors, supporters, and members, we cannot do the things we do. Thank you also to our Board of Directors. We appreciate everyone who has made a contribution.

All in all, please enjoy your time here at Cinema Center. And remember, we screen independent films and facilitate great conversations about film all year long. If you've enjoyed this year's festival, make sure to become a member! We could not achieve our mission without people like you.

*Sincerely,*  
**Art Herbig**  
*Interim Executive Director*

A  CinemaCenter Experience

# Hobnobben

FILM FESTIVAL

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