

Media

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Making Films is Making History: Join the Museum of History at Longleaf Film Festival 2017



RALEIGH, N.C. – Sixty Official Selections for Longleaf Film Festival 2017.

Longleaf Film Festival celebrates year three with two days of film, fun, and community at the North Carolina Museum of History on **Friday, May 12, and Saturday, May 13**. This **free-to-attend festival** explores historical and contemporary stories from around the world and our own backyard through narrative and documentary films. Sixty Official Selection films will screen; other events include workshops, the awards presentation, and an inaugural public “Wrap Party” at the festival’s conclusion on Saturday night. As always, free fresh-popped popcorn will be available, along with other concessions and a selection of festival T-shirts.

Official Selection films demonstrate a range of film genres and topics. Additional information on all Official Selections, as well as a festival schedule that includes workshops and other special events, can be found at LongleafFilmFestival.com.

Documentary films screening at Longleaf 2017 include Christopher Everett’s *Wilmington on Fire*, about the coup d’état that occurred in Wilmington in 1898; Margaret Byrne’s *Raising Bertie*, which follows three young men in Bertie County over six years; Durham filmmaker Kelly Creedon’s *In This World*, about 15-year-old performer Courvosier Cox; Chris Zaluski and Sam Smartt’s *Shipping Home*, which chronicles the building of the first shipping-container home in

North Carolina; and Caviar Dreams, by Wake Forest University documentary film studies graduates Brian Gersten, Liv Dubendorf, and Wei Ying, about the industry around the delicacy.

Narrative films include a variety of stories including Chester, about a shy and possibly in-love furry guy, by UNC School of the Arts student Shaun Swift; Kevin Stocklin's feature film The Harrow, a psychological thriller filmed in several North Carolina locations; Four Pies, by past Longleaf award winner Andrew Huggins, about a family facing grief; and no name Maddox, by senior lecturer Glenn Pack, University of North Carolina–Wilmington film studies program, that introduces us to 14-year-old Charles Manson.

Longleaf fosters younger filmmakers with a category for middle and high school students: this year, six Official Selections are made by high school students. These include Azure Allen's animated From Dogs to Wolves and a documentary, The Airborne Renaissance Man, by Sam Ramsey and Christopher Matthews.

Festival screenings begin Friday, May 12, at 3 p.m., and continue until 7:30 p.m., then resume on Saturday, May 13, with films on three screens throughout the museum from 11 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. The festival's award winners will be announced in a public Awards Ceremony that starts at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday. Winners were selected by a panel of judges who are film critics, filmmakers, and film scholars. The festival concludes at a public "Wrap Party," which is being held at Oak & Dagger Public House in Seaboard Station.

During Q&A sessions held at the end of each two-hour screening block, Longleaf attendees will be able to meet some of the independent filmmakers and actors associated with the festival's 60 Official Selection films.

"Longleaf 2017 features a diversity of imaginative and real-life stories that enrich, entertain, and connect us," says **Sally Bloom, festival co-organizer**. "We enjoy the community of film fans and filmmakers that come together at Longleaf and are thrilled that our event is free, so more people can experience these terrific films."

Winning entries at Longleaf 2017 will be presented in five categories: narrative feature, narrative short, documentary feature, documentary short, and middle and high school student film. Major prizes will be given for a Judges' Choice award, a Made-in-NC award, a Yonder award (new this year, for films not made in North Carolina), and Best Student-Made Film. Longleaf 2017 is sponsored, in part, by the North Carolina Museum of History Associates, the Cary Theatre, Asbury Shorts Film Concerts, Dagtype Films, Oak & Dagger Public House, the TriFilm Society, and Warrior Entertainment.

Although the 60 independent films are not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America, most are in the PG-13 range. Films outside the PG-13 range will be noted in the festival program. All screenings are free to attend, but seating is available on a first-come, first-seated basis.

FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS FOR FILMMAKERS AND FILM FANS

Four workshops for filmmakers and film fans are offered throughout this year's festival. While the workshops are free to attend, space is limited. Registration is required by Monday, May 8, at LongleafFilmFestival.com.

* On Friday, May 12, at 2 p.m., Skip Elsheimer of AV Geeks will lead a workshop, “AV Geeks: From the Dumpster to Your Film in Three EZ Steps!” Skip has been collecting, presenting, and digitizing film and video for nearly 20 years. In fact, the A/V Geeks archive now contains more than 25,000 16-mm films.

* On Saturday, May 13, at 10 a.m., filmmakers are invited to “Directing for the Actor/Acting for the Director,” presented by award-winning actor, director, writer, and producer Estes Tarver. In this interactive workshop, actors and filmmakers will walk a mile in the other’s shoes! Scene work included.

* On Saturday, May 13, at 1 p. m., filmmakers can join a lunch-n-learn discussion on entertainment law and distribution, led by Thomas Varnum of Brooks Pierce law firm in Wilmington and Longleaf alumnus Ted Roach (120 Days).

* On Saturday, May 13, at 3 p.m. a panel of filmmakers—Kim Best, Andrew Martin, and Vernon Rudolph—will tackle getting started, gaining confidence, and brainstorming how to move to the next level in “So You Want to Make a Movie.”

Plan to attend Longleaf Film Festival and see some of the many thought-provoking and moving stories that help us explore the world around and within us. For more event details, visit LongleafFilmFestival.com.

IMAGES

Link: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3ytbher5c39zs1m/AAAigiWikVJP853Evd7oriXSa?dl=0>

File: *After Yesterday*. Movie poster for festival.

File: *Atlas World*. Movie poster for festival.

File: *Broken*. Movie poster for festival.

File: *Longleaf Film Festival 2017*. Banner for festival.

About Longleaf Film Festival

This annual event celebrates storytelling through film—central to our understanding of the world around us—and recognizes that making films is making history. The 2017 Longleaf Film Festival takes place Friday and Saturday, May 12 and 13. Details at LongleafFilmFestival.com.

About the N.C. Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate

The N.C. Museum of History is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 400,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. ncmuseumofhistory.org

About the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

The N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries and nature in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums and Jennette's Pier, 39 state parks and recreation areas, the N.C. Zoo, the nation's first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the N.C. Arts Council, State Preservation Office and the Office of State Archaeology, along with the Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, please call 919-807-7300 or visit www.ncdcr.gov.

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