

A CELEBRATION OF STORYTELLING ON SCREEN

NYS Writers Institute

ALBANY

FILM FESTIVAL

Saturday,
April 2, 2022

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

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Saturday,
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Mission Statement

Every film begins with a story, and storytelling in the filmmaking process is the essence of the New York State Writers Institute's Albany Film Festival.

This annual spring event is a natural outgrowth of the Writers Institute's mission to be one of the nation's preeminent literary presenting organizations. We host filmmakers and screen films that explore the craft of diverse storytelling in cinema, foster a deeper understanding of social justice and celebrate the human experience in all its dimensions.

Since 1983, the Writers Institute has been the place where readers, writers and filmmakers meet. The Albany Film Festival expands and continues those conversations.

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Ironweed Award Winners for Exemplary Achievement in Film

6 pm Awards Ceremony
Campus Center West Auditorium



Stanley Nelson is an American documentary filmmaker and a MacArthur Fellow known as a director, writer and producer of documentaries examining African-American history and experiences. He is a recipient of the 2013 National Humanities Medal from President Obama. He has won three Primetime Emmy Awards. Nelson and his wife, Marcia A. Smith, formed the nonprofit documentary film production company Firelight Media, whose films include 2021 Oscar-nominated ATTICA and the critically acclaimed 2003 documentary entitled THE MURDER OF EMMETT TILL.

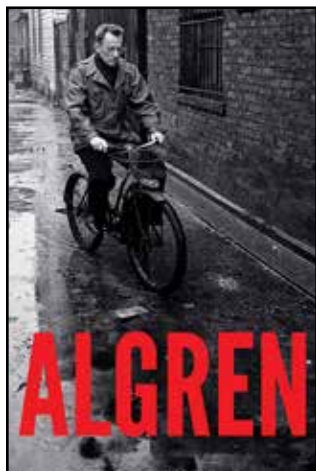


Marcia Smith is president and co-founder of Firelight Media, which produces documentary films, provides artistic and financial support to emerging filmmakers of color, and builds impact campaigns to connect documentaries to audiences and social justice advocates. Under her leadership, Firelight Media was honored with a MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions.



Derek M. Cianfrance is a director, cinematographer, screenwriter, and editor. He is best known for writing and directing the films BLUE VALENTINE, THE PLACE BEYOND THE PINES (filmed in Schenectady and Scotia); and THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS as well as the HBO miniseries I KNOW THIS MUCH IS TRUE, starring Mark Ruffalo. For his contributions to the story of SOUND OF METAL, he received a nomination for the Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay with its director Darius Marder and Abraham Marder.

FEATURED EVENTS



ALGREN

Screening and discussion with
Russell Banks and Michael Caplan

10:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.,
Campus Center West Multi-Purpose Room

Director: Michael Caplan, USA | 2014 |
1 hr 26 min

“Algren” spotlights the hard-knock life and authentic creative legacy of one of the most underrated writers of the twentieth century, Nelson Algren. Algren’s brutally honest portrayal of the American underclass and his hard-nosed lifestyle became his pathway to compassion. Through interviews with Algren’s contemporaries, experts, and “literary soulmates,” as well as

through the photography of Algren’s friends, Art Shay and Stephen Deutch, the film tells his story. It celebrates his tremendous contribution to and influence on American letters, and pushes Algren, champion of the marginalized, out from the margins.



Russell Banks is an American novelist known for his portrayals of the interior lives of characters at odds with economic and social forces. The internationally acclaimed author has published 21 works of fiction and non-fiction, including the novels *Continental Drift*, *Rule of the Bone*, *The Book of Jamaica*, *Cloudsplitter*, *Lost Memory of Skin*, and most recently, *Foregone*.

His work has been translated into more than 20 languages. Two of his novels, *Affliction* and *The Sweet Hereafter*, were made into award-winning feature films.



Michael Caplan is the writer and director of *ALGREN*, a documentary that details the life and legacy of American writer Nelson Algren. An independent film director, producer, and teacher, he is also an associate professor in the Cinema Art + Science Department at Columbia College Chicago.

His previous films include *A MAGICAL VISION*, a feature length documentary that spotlights Eugene Burger, a magician and guru of the magical arts, and *STONES FROM THE SOIL*, a documentary on his father that showed on national PBS in 2005.



A TREE. A ROCK. A CLOUD

**Screening and discussion
with director Karen Allen**

11 a.m. - 12 p.m., Lecture Center 1

Director: Karen Allen, USA | 2017 | 30 min

Based on the short story by groundbreaking southern American writer Carson McCullers, written when she was just 25, the film, A TREE. A ROCK. A CLOUD. is set at a roadside café in the early morning in the spring of 1947. A young boy and an older man meet by chance. The man relates a luminous tale of personal heartbreak and loss, and of his hard-won understanding of the nature of love. The film is the directorial debut of award winning actor/director Karen Allen, who

starred in RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK.



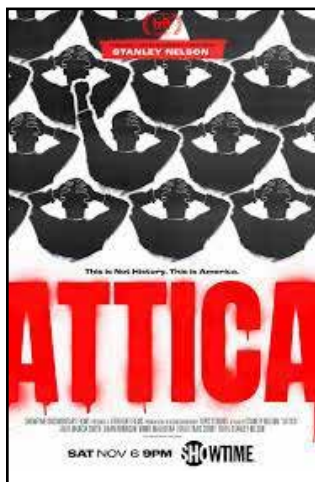
Karen Allen is presenting her directorial debut, the film short A TREE. A ROCK. A CLOUD. at the Albany Film Festival.

Allen made her major film debut in 1978 in NATIONAL LAMPOON'S ANIMAL HOUSE. Her career-changing role came with the blockbuster movie RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK (1981). She also appeared with Jeff Bridges in STARMAN (1984), and with John Malkovich and Joanne

Woodward in the Paul Newman-directed film version of THE GLASS MENAGERIE in 1987. Allen has a long-standing relationship with the Berkshire Theater Group and sits on the board of the Berkshire International Film Festival.

VIEW A DIRECTORIAL DEBUT

FEATURED EVENTS



ATTICA

Film screening: 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.,
Campus Center West Auditorium

Discussion with Stanley Nelson
and Marcia Smith

4:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.,
Campus Center West Auditorium

Director: Stanley Nelson and Traci Curry, USA |
2021 | 1hr 56 min

This powerful film was made to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1971 uprising at the Attica Correctional Facility in Attica, N.Y. The violent five-day standoff between mostly Black and Latino inmates and law enforcement gripped the American public and resulted in acrimonious recrimination and protracted lawsuits. Drawing upon archival material and interviews with survivors, witnesses, and government officials, the documentary underscores an ongoing need for criminal justice reform and conversations about systemic racism.



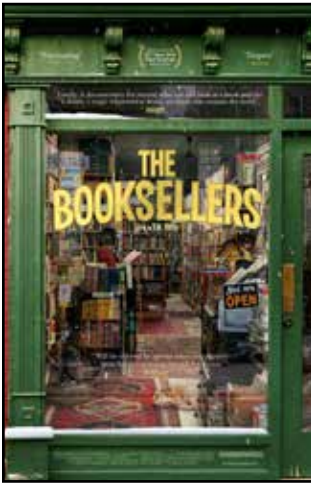
Ironweed Award-winner, Stanley Nelson's newest film

ATTICA was nominated for a 2022 Academy Award for Best Feature Documentary. Other recent films include CRACK: COCAINE, CORRUPTION & CONSPIRACY for Netflix; the Emmy-nominated TULSA BURNING: THE 1921 RACE MASSACRE for the History Channel; and MILES DAVIS: BIRTH OF THE COOL, which became Nelson's 10th Sundance Film Festival premiere and first Grammy nomination for Best Music Film in 2020.

Ironweed Award-winner Marcia Smith (Bio on page 3)

FIGHTING THE POWER

APRECIATE ANTIQUUE BOOKS



THE BOOKSELLERS

Screening and discussion
with director D.W. Young

12:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.,
Lecture Center 1

Director: D.W. Young, USA | 2019 | 1 hr 39min

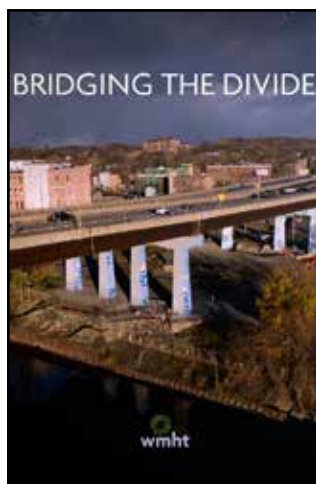
Directed, edited, and produced by D.W. Young, *THE BOOKSELLERS* explores the world of antiquarian and rare book dealers and their bookstores. It focuses primarily on booksellers in New York City, including Adina Cohen, Naomi Hample and Judith Lowry, the three sisters of the Argosy Book Store; Stephen Massey, founder of Christie's NY Book Department; and Nancy Bass Wyden, owner of the Strand Bookstore.

Other prominent people featured in the film include Fran Lebowitz, Gay Talese, Justin Croft, Zack Hample, Susan Orlean, William S. Reese, A. S. W. Rosenbach, Jay S. Walker, and Kevin Young.



D.W. Young has directed 11 documentaries and short films and worked as editor on more than 50 films. His films have screened at festivals around the world including New York Film Festival, SXSW, Vancouver International Film Festival, Maryland Film Festival, and many more. His features include *THE BOOKSELLERS* (2019), *THE HAPPY HOUSE* (2013), *NOT INTERESTED* (2010), and *A HOLE IN A FENCE* (2008).

FEATURED EVENTS



BRIDGING THE DIVIDE (WMHT)

Screening and discussion
with director Catherine Rafferty,
Will Pedigo, Allison Valiquette, & Dana Wright

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.,
Campus Center West Boardroom

Director: Catherine Rafferty, USA | 2021 | 26min

BRIDGING THE DIVIDE documents the work of more than a dozen artists as they beautified Troy's Hoosick Street Bridge pillars with colorful murals. The film outlines the history of the neighborhood and business district that once stood where the bridge is today, while talking with residents who remember that neighborhood prior to the Collar

City Bridge opening in 1980. The documentary piece, Rafferty's debut full-length film as a producer with WMHT, also examines the future of this location in Troy as a public gathering space to unify the communities to the north and south of the bridge.

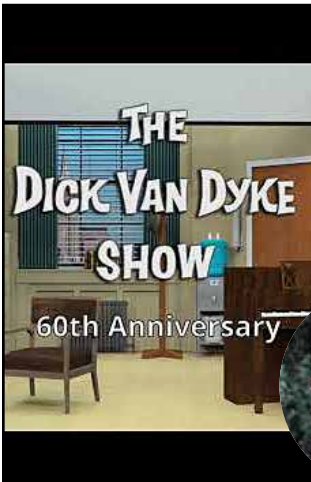
Catherine Rafferty is Education Producer at WMHT. Catherine produces short and long-form stories about the impact of education on students, parents and teachers in the Capital Region. She also shares curriculum developed by local educators on PBS LearningMedia.



She is the producer of BRIDGING THE DIVIDE, a multiplatform documentary project about how public art is bringing together a community divided in Troy, NY.

Catherine has produced segments for the local story of PBS's Future of Work, WMHT's public affairs program New York NOW, and produced season 13 of WMHT's independent short film series, TVFilm. She graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology with a BFA in Photojournalism.

PAY TRIBUTE TO A CLASSIC TV SHOW



CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DICK VAN DYKE SHOW

Clips and discussion with David Van Deusen

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.,
Campus Center West Boardroom



David Van Deusen served 38 years in the NYS Office of the State Comptroller. During that time, he was also the editor and publisher of *The Walnut Times*, *The Dick Van Dyke Show* newsletter for over 20 years. Along the way, he

forged friendships with Carl Reiner, Dick Van Dyke, Rose Marie, and many other from the cast. Known and acknowledged as “the other DVD” by Reiner, Van Deusen’s feature length documentary pays tribute to the cast and crew in a 60th anniversary presentation to commemorate this milestone of the show’s continuing endurance and enjoyment by old and new generations of fans alike.

FEATURED EVENTS



CHOPPED LIVER

**Variety show screening and discussion
with Shannon Plumb**

3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m., Lecture Center 2

CHOPPED LIVER is a series of comic shorts shot on vhs. Following in the tradition of CAROL BURNETT, MONTY PYTHON, and SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Shannon Plumb puts together a timely variety show. In the past Plumb has worked alone performing all her own characters. Now, in this episodic journey she explores the interactions of the comic duo. For the third episode of CHOPPED LIVER, Plumb invites Eva Mendes to play with her in this series of zany, surreal and poignant skits.



Shannon Plumb's cinematic studies of life's various roles and characters explore the complexities embedded in the ordinary and extraordinary. From the humble persona of a new mother to iconic figures from the silver screen, Plumb portrays these characters with zest and humor. Inspired by the curious spirit of slapstick comedy and the physical humor of silent film legends such as Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin, Plumb employs a low-fi aesthetic by using Super-8 film, stationary camera shots, long takes and hand-made props and costumes. Plumb is a one-woman show starring as all characters and acting as the creative force behind her films. The low-quality production of the films and her elastic expressiveness as an actress adds to the charm of her work and pushes it beyond its obvious predecessors and influences.

LOVIN' LOW-FI COMEDY

TALK ABOUT LOCALLY MADE FILMS

FILMS MADE IN THE CAPITAL REGION

Discussion with Jackson Murphy, CJ Lais and Jim Dixon

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Campus Center West Boardroom

Join C.J. Lais, Jackson Murphy and Jim Dixon as they discuss how films are being made in the Capital Region and why this area has become a favorite spot for the film industry.



C.J. Lais Jr., a lifelong Capital Region resident, has been obsessed with movies practically since birth, and has been writing about them for the *Times Union* for more than 20 years. He also compiles the weekly movie quiz in the newspaper's *Preview* section. A Troy native, Lais took film classes as a UAlbany undergrad; counts Meryl Streep and Jack Nicholson among his past co-stars (he worked five days as an extra on *IRONWEED*); and once sat next to Peter Bogdanovich at a local screening. Currently, Lais can be seen boring his two daughters with endless film trivia and trying to get them to watch movies on his "essentials" list.



Jackson Murphy (a.k.a. Lights-Camera-Jackson) began his career as a movie critic at the age of 7 1/2. He made his first national TV appearance in the summer of 2009, interviewed from the audience on "Live with Regis and Kelly." Jackson won his first NY Emmy Award in 2010, becoming the youngest winner in the 53 years of that award. In 2012 he became the youngest member of the Broadcast Film Critics Association and he appeared on the BFCA's "Critics Choice Movie Awards" in Jan. 2013. He is the film critic for 99.5 The River (Albany, NY) and www.cultjer.com, and is the lead writer for AnimationScoop.com.

FEATURED EVENTS

THE GILDED AGE

Panel discussion on production of the hit HBO show, **THE GILDED AGE**, with **Michael Connors**, **Lauri Pitkus**, **Bob Shaw**

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Campus Center West Boardroom

Learn what it's like to be a location manager and production designer for a hit HBO show.



Michael Connors was the assistant location manager for nine episodes of HBO's **THE GILDED AGE**. He previously worked as assistant location manager on **THE UNDOING** starring Nicole Kidman and Hugh Grant, **ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK**, **ELEMENTARY**, **THE BLACKLIST** and several other television series.



Lauri Pitkus is a freelance, NY-based location manager currently working on season 2 of the HBO series, **THE GILDED AGE**. She loves working with directors, production designers, writers and cinematographers, translating their vision and ideas to practical locations. Her TV credits include HBO's **THE UNDOING**, the Netflix series, **ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK** and the Showtime series, **NURSE JACKIE**. Feature Film credits include **THE GOLDFINCH**, **THE POST**, **OCEANS 8**, **DRAFT DAY**, **OBLIVION**, **THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM**, **BURN AFTER READING**, and **GHOST**. After more than 25 years of not sitting behind a desk, she is decidedly feral.



Bob Shaw served as production designer for HBO's **THE GILDED AGE**. He was nominated for an Oscar for Best Achievement in Production Design for his work on **THE IRISHMAN** (2019) and won Primetime Emmy Awards for Outstanding Art Direction for a Single-Camera Series for both **BOARDWALK EMPIRE** (2010), and **MAD MEN** (2007), and nominated for the award three times (2000, 2001, 2004) for his work on **THE SOPRANOS**. His credits also include **THE MANY SAINTS OF NEWARK** (2021), **THE WOLF OF WALL STREET** (2013), **PAN AM** (2011), **DIEHARD WITH A VENGEANCE** (1995), **ROBOCOP 3** (1993).



THE HARD PLACES

An Albany Film Festival Premiere

**Screening and discussion
with director Dan Swinton**

**10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.,
Campus Center West Auditorium**

Director: Dan Swinton, USA | 2014 | 1 hr 35 min

THE HARD PLACES is a documentary profiling the powerful story of Dr. Tom Little, who spent over 30 years providing eye care in Afghanistan. He and his family lived through the Soviet invasion, civil war, Islamic extremism, and the U.S. occupation after 9/11. Despite the constant dangers, Dr. Little refused to leave and as a result

had a profound impact on the lives of thousands of people. On August 5th 2010, as Little and his team were returning to Kabul from a remote eye camp in the Afghan wilderness they were ambushed and killed.

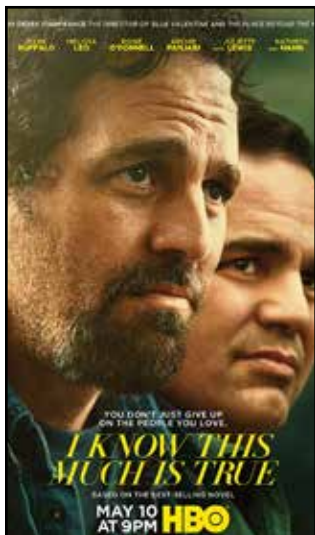


Daniel Swinton is a multiple Emmy award-winning visual communicator and documentary veteran. He formerly served as the Director of Production & Content for Mountain Lake PBS and Vice President, Production at WMHT-PBS in North Greenbush, NY where he produced numerous award-winning documentaries, television series and original multi-platform content including the Emmy-Award winning

SONGS TO KEEP: TREASURES OF AN ADIRONDACK FOLK COLLECTOR and William Kennedy's PROHIBITION STORY. Other recent works include the Emmy-award winning travelogue series BREWED IN NEW YORK, and the short documentary WILLIAM WARFIELD: CAST IN HISTORY. As a filmmaker his work conveys a sensitivity toward subjects whose lives have taken unorthodox paths and invites the viewer to engage with the unknown in ways that may challenge personal preconceptions.

LEARN FROM A LOCAL FILMMAKER

FEATURED EVENTS



I KNOW THIS MUCH IS TRUE

Series clips and discussion with director
Derek M. Cianfrance and author Wally Lamb

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.,
Campus Center West Auditorium

Director: Derek Cianfrance, USA | 2020 | TV series

Based on the bestselling novel by Wally Lamb, written and directed by Derek Cianfrance, and starring Mark Ruffalo, this limited series follows Dominick Birdsey as he struggles to care for his mentally ill twin brother, Thomas, while discovering the truth about his own family history. Ruffalo won a Primetime Emmy Award and a Golden Globe for best actor for his role, aired on HBO and shot partly in Ulster and Dutchess counties.

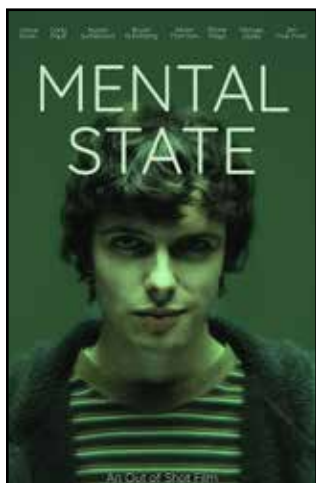
Ironweed Award-winner, Derek M. Cianfrance (Bio on page 3)



Wally Lamb is the author of six *New York Times* best-selling novels: *I'll Take You There*, *We Are Water*, *Wishin' and Hopin'*, *The Hour I First Believed*, *I Know This Much is True*, and *She's Come Undone*, and was twice selected for Oprah's Book Club. Lamb also edited *Couldn't Keep It to Myself* and *I'll Fly Away*, two volumes of essays from students in his writing workshop at York Correctional Institution, a women's prison in Connecticut, where he volunteered for 20 years.

In May of 2020, *I KNOW THIS MUCH IS TRUE* premiered on HBO as a limited series based on the novel.

ENJOY A BEST-SELLING
BOOK ON FILM



THE MENTAL STATE

Screening and discussion with director James Camali and producer Glen Trotiner

10:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Lecture Center 2

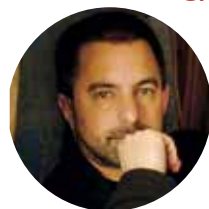
Director: James Camali, USA | 2021 | 1 hr 46 min

Upstate New York Premiere. Based on the play of the same name by Josh Adell, **THE MENTAL STATE** tells the story of a working class mother (Carly Pope) struggling to save her troubled teenage son (Jance Enslin) who continues to cope with the suicide of his veteran father (Bryan Greenberg). The film explores the human story behind the news reports and asks how we as a national community can address the urgent issues

of teenage mental illness and school shootings. "It is our sincere hope that the film will spur an open national dialogue regarding the stigma surrounding mental health and gun violence in schools," said director James Camali. **THE MENTAL STATE** was produced by Matt Einstein, Ronnee Swenton, and UAlbany alumnus Glen Trotiner.



James Camali is a director, editor, and photographer. He was an architecture student at Roger Williams University, but after a year he transferred to the School of Visual Arts to pursue his childhood dream of becoming a filmmaker. His shorts and films include **GARY** (2015), **A FATAL OBSESSION** (2015), **THE LENNON REPORT** (2016) and his new feature film **THE MENTAL STATE** set to enter the 2021-22 festival circuit.



Glen Trotiner, film producer, writer, and director, holds bachelor's and master's degrees from UAlbany. His film career began as a Directors Guild of America trainee on Sidney Lumet's **POWER** and shortly thereafter as second assistant director on Brian De Palma's **THE UNTOUCHABLES**. Trotiner serves on the board of trustees of the Directors Guild of America Training Program, the very apprenticeship program which launched his career in the motion picture

industry. He has helped produce dozens of movies, including **THE GIANT MECHANICAL MAN**, **BELLA**, **BERNARD AND DORIS**, **FAM-I-LY**, which premiered at South by Southwest; and **BIG TIME ADOLESCENCE** (which premiered in competition at this year's Sundance Film Festival).

FEATURED EVENTS



OMARA


Screening and discussion
with director Hugo Perez

1:30 p.m. -3:15 p.m., Lecture Center 2

Director: Hugo Perez, USA | 2021| 1 hr
16 min

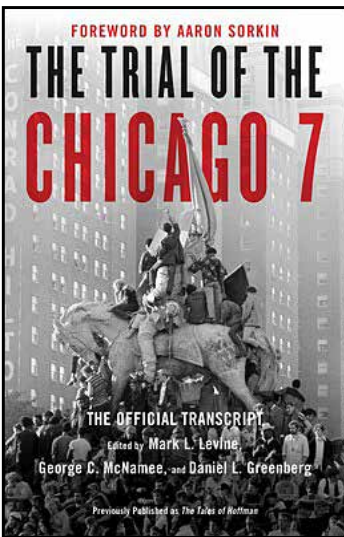
The Cuban-American writer and director Hugo Pérez's documentary OMARA looks at the life of Cuban singer Omara Portuondo. It tells the story of Omara's seven decades-long career for the first time, and how she became a trailblazing single mother and advocate for Afro-Cuban women, already an icon before ever joining the

highly successful Buena Vista Social Club.

 **Hugo Pérez** is an award-winning documentary filmmaker, whose films often focus on his Cuban-American heritage and the systematic oppression of marginalized people. He was the recipient of the 2009 Estela Award for Documentary Filmmaking presented by the National Association of Latino Independent Producers, and his work has frequently appeared on PBS and in film festivals. His writing has been featured in the *New York Times Magazine* and *Salon*, and his films have screened at venues such as MoMA and the Smithsonian. Pérez is the founder of M30A Films. Earlier in his career, Pérez was the NYS Writers Institute videographer and director of its WMHT television series, "The Writer."

FOCUSING ON
CUBAN-AMERICAN
HERITAGE

TURNING A PROTEST INTO A BOOK & FILM



THE TRIAL OF THE CHICAGO 7

Film clips and discussion
with George McNamee

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.,
Campus Center West Multi-Purpose Room

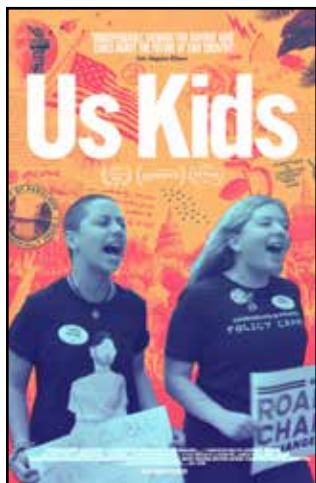
Based on *The Trial of the Chicago 7: The Official Transcript*, co-edited by George McNamee, the film, written and directed by Aaron Sorkin, follows the notorious court case of the Chicago 7, a group of anti-Vietnam War protesters charged with conspiracy and crossing state lines with the intention of inciting riots at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago. It features an ensemble cast including Yahya Abdul-Mateen II, Sacha Baron Cohen, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Michael Keaton, Frank Langella, John Carroll Lynch, Eddie Redmayne, Mark

Rylance, Jeremy Strong, and Ben Shenkman.

George McNamee conceived and co-authored the *Tales of Hoffman*, recently reissued as the *Trial of the Chicago 7*, which sold over 200,000 copies, and served as the basis for the 2020 film written and directed by Aaron Sorkin. He is chairman of Plug Power, the leading producer of hydrogen fuel cells supplying early adopters including Amazon, Walmart and Home Depot.



FEATURED EVENTS



US KIDS

Screening and discussion

with **Samantha Fuentes** and director **Kim Snyder**

1:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.,

Campus Center West Multi-Purpose Room

Director: Kim Snyder, USA | 2020 | 1 hr 38 min

From Kim A. Snyder, director of the Peabody Award-winning documentary **NEWTOWN**, **US KIDS** is a 2020 American documentary film following members of the March for Our Lives movement after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on February 14, 2018. The film had its world premiere at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival on January 25, 2020. **Samantha Fuentes**

is a survivor of the Parkland shooting.



Samantha Fuentes was wounded during a school shooting at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on February 14, 2018. Seventeen people were killed during that senseless act of gun violence. She has bullet shrapnel permanently embedded in her legs and behind her right eye, and currently manages symptoms of Post-Traumatic

Stress Disorder (PTSD). She frequently speaks about her life

experiences and works closely with Angel Faces, an organization that serves girls who have endured all types of trauma.



Kim A. Snyder's most recent feature documentary, **US KIDS**, premiered in the U.S. Documentary Competition at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival. Prior, she directed the Peabody award-winning documentary **NEWTOWN**, which premiered in the US Competition at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival. Her most recent short, **LESSONS FROM A SCHOOL SHOOTING: NOTES FROM DUNBLANE**, premiered at the

2018 Tribeca Film Festival and was awarded Best Documentary

Short. Snyder's prior works include the feature documentary, **WELCOME TO SHELBYVILLE**, and over a dozen short documentaries. Her award-winning directorial debut feature documentary, **I REMEMBER ME**, was theatrically distributed by Zeitgeist Films. In 1994, she associate-produced the Academy Award-winning short film **TREVOR**.



WHITEWASHED: THE RACISM PROJECT

Screening and discussion with director
Michael Kennedy, moderated by D. Colin

3:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m., Lecture Center 1

Director: Michael Kennedy, USA | 2021 |
1 hr 15 min

Directed by Michael Kennedy, **WHITEWASHED: THE RACISM PROJECT**, is an original documentary theater performance based on Black history, current events, and the personal experiences of the cast. The cast includes Shirey Archie, Royal Brown, Danielle Colin, Diaka Kaba Hill, Aaron Moore, Tim Martin, and Sakea Martin.



Michael Kennedy is a playwright, director, and founder and artistic director of Creative Action Unlimited. The production of **WHITEWASHED: THE RACISM PROJECT** made its debut in 2019. Kennedy holds a Bachelor's degree in Human Development, a Master's in Community Psychology and has completed extensive specialized training in creative action methods with individuals and groups.



D. Colin (**WHITEWASHED: THE RACISM PROJECT**) is a poet, performer, visual artist, and educator living in Troy, NY. She is the author of two poetry collections, *Dreaming in Kreyol* and *Said the Swing to the Hoop*. She is also a Cave Canem, VONA and New York State Writers Institute fellow.

TELLING THE HISTORY OF RACISM IN AMERICA

Comedic Short Films

Lecture Center 19 – 11am-11:45am • Lecture Center 20 – 4:15pm-5pm



KING ON THE AIR

Directed by: Tucker Oberting

A bored radio host receives an irresistible caller request while working alone at the station one night.



THE ARMY OF ONE

Directed by: Ricarlo-Luis

At its core THE ARMY OF ONE is a story about a good Samaritan with a more complex past than we originally think.



WELCOME TO PARTY MOUNTAIN

Directed by: Cooper Wright

Coronavirus has got ski resorts closing up shop for the season but nothing will stop Party Mountain Parker and Party Mountain Tom from getting in some turns (even if it means hiking in the woods behind Mom and Dad's...)



WHY NOT THE EGG?

Directed by: Paul Camarata

If we're not counting The Egg among the Great Wonders of the World, what are we doing?!? That's the question explored in this Tweed Typewriter short film.

Documentary Short Films

Lecture Center 19 – 3pm-3:45pm • Lecture Center 20 – 12:15pm-1pm



CELEBRATING CAREN: A RARE DISEASE DIAGNOSIS 64 YEARS IN THE MAKING

Directed by: Daniel DeFabio

In 2020, after recovering from COVID, Caren was given genetic testing. She was 64. She received an unexpected SYNGAP1 diagnosis.



IMPERFECT

Directed by: Alexandra Mulligan

Danielle leaves her desk job to follow her passion for creativity as a mother, framer, and multimedia artist.



THE SHAKER LEGACY

Directed by:

David Gibson, David J. Goodwin

Who were the Shakers? This short documentary explores the design, cultural, and spiritual legacies of this utopian religious sect and its impact on New York State and American history.



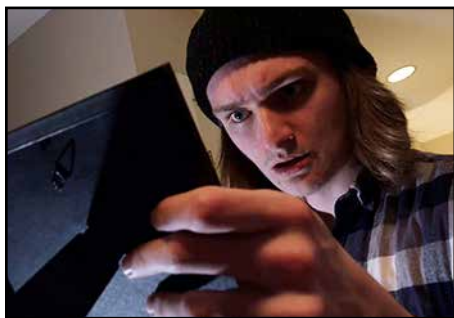
WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK

Directed by: Michael Aron

An observational documentary highlighting the vibrant culture of Washington Square Park in the fall of 2021.

Dramatic Short Films (Part 1)

Lecture Center 19 – 1:30pm-2:30pm • Lecture Center 20 – 10:45am-11:45am



FRAMED

Directed by: John Peter Shea, Duke McCauley, Liam Donald Salls

John comes home from the grocery store to find a family photograph missing from its frame. Confused, he thinks to ask his father where it's gone, but to his surprise, he is alone.



BURN, BABY, BURN

Directed by: Janthony Roman

A chef is asked to cater his ex's wedding. Let the good times roll. BURN, BABY, BURN is a romantic dark comedy about not letting go.



DECADENCE

Directed by: Daniel Shillinglaw

A young man's anxiety towards the future begins to physically manifest into a mysterious doppelgänger.



DEVOUR

Directed by: Victoria Diana

A struggling chef confronts an old flame, after she shows up unannounced, in search of a familiar meal.

Dramatic Short Films (Part 2)

Lecture Center 19 – 4:15pm-5:15pm • Lecture Center 20 – 1:30pm-2:30pm



AERANGER

Directed by: Anthony Ferraro

A space traveler crash lands into Earth while desperately searching for a surrogate planet with the proper resources to save her people & home planet.



HAJUR

Directed by: LSM, Pinki Sris Rana

Sarita, a young mother working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic, tries to balance her work and family.



HOMECOMING

Directed by:

Max Schuster, Reid Carrescia

Paul searches for something beautiful, real, and lasting by reminiscing about his past.



THE SPOILED

Directed by: James Morley, III

THE SPOILED is a short film that blends western visuals with slow burn thriller tension.

Experimental Short Films

Lecture Center 19 – 12:15pm-1pm • Lecture Center 20 – 3pm-3:45pm



ALL I COULD HEAR WAS WIND

Directed by: Marilyn McCabe

A video essay on isolation and communication.



HUMAN

Directed by: Gabriela Clarke

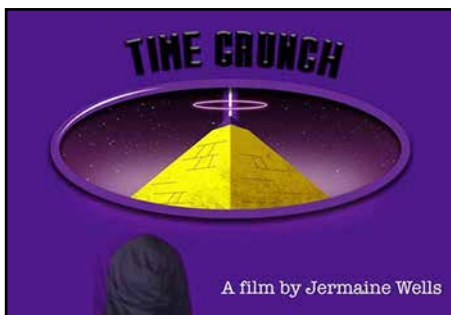
A poetic film about living with a disability.



SINK

Directed by: Zaghnam A. Shah

The intersection of identity and culture is not an impasse; it is an opportunity.



TIME CRUNCH

Directed by: Jermaine Wells

TIME CRUNCH is a science fiction concept in which The TIME CRUNCHER is on a mission from the Supreme Being to right the balance of the universe.

Experimental Short Films continued on page 24

Experimental Short Films

Lecture Center 19 – 12:15pm-1pm • Lecture Center 20 – 3pm-3:45pm



WHAT IT MEANS TO BE HUMAN

Directed by: Mikayla Hope Pabon

The construction of life through the focal lens of time, element, and space.

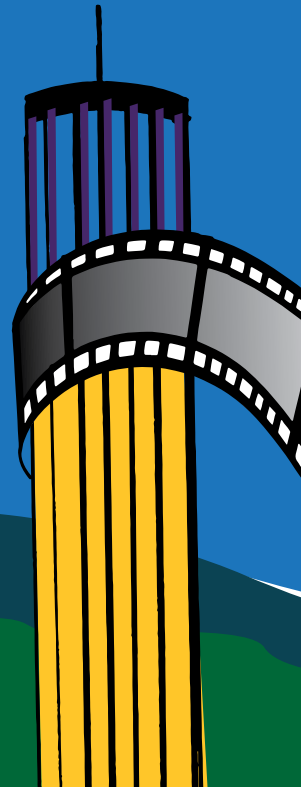
Short Films Contest

Each of these shorts films are required to have a connection to New York State.

Awards and monetary prizes will be given out for the following categories:

- Best Overall Short Film
- Best Overall Student Short Film
- Best Comedic Short Film
- Best Dramatic Short Film
- Best Experimental Short Film
- Best Documentary Short Film

6 pm Awards Ceremony
Campus Center West Auditorium

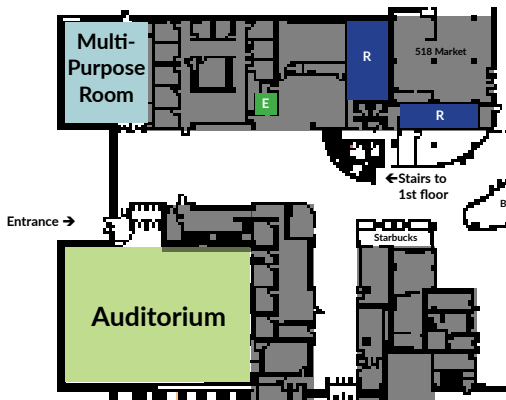


	CAMPUS CENTER WEST AUDITORIUM	CAMPUS CENTER WEST BOARD ROOM	CAMPUS CENTER WEST MULTI- PURPOSE ROOM
10 AM			
11 AM	THE HARD PLACES Film screening & discussion with Dan Swinton 10:30am - 12:30pm	FILMS MADE IN THE CAPITAL REGION Jackson Murphy & CJ Lais 10:30am - 11:30am	ALGREN Film screening & discussion with Michael Caplan & Russell Banks 10:45am - 12:45pm
12 PM		THE GILDED AGE Panel discussion with Bob Shaw, Lauri Pitkus, Michael Connors 12pm - 1pm	
1 PM	I KNOW THIS MUCH IS TRUE Clips & discussion with Derek Cianfrance & Wally Lamb 1pm - 2pm	BRIDGING THE DIVIDE Film screening & discussion with Catherine Rafferty 1:30pm - 2:30pm	US KIDS Film screening & discussion with Samantha Fuentes & Kim Synder 1:15pm - 3:30pm
2 PM			
3 PM	ATTICA Film screening 2:30pm - 4:30pm		
4 PM		60TH CELEBRATION OF THE DICK VAN DYKE SHOW Clips & discussion with David Van Deusen 4:30pm - 5:30pm	THE TRIAL OF THE CHICAGO 7 Clips & discussion with George McNamee 4pm - 5pm
5 PM	Discussion with Stanley Nelson & Marcia Smith 4:45pm - 5:30pm		
6 PM	IRONWEED & SHORT FILMS Awards Ceremony 6 pm - 7 pm		
7 PM			

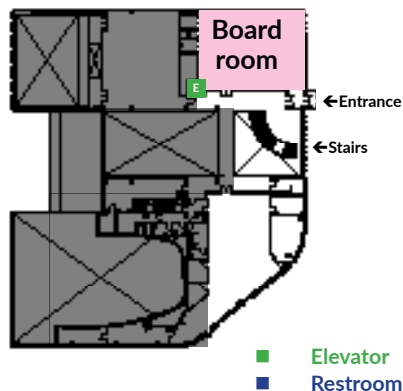
	LECTURE CENTER 1	LECTURE CENTER 2	LECTURE CENTERS 19 & 20
	A TREE. A ROCK. A CLOUD Film screening & discussion with Karen Allen 11am - 12pm	THE MENTAL STATE Film screening & discussion with James Camali & Glen Trotiner 10:45am - 1pm	SHORT FILMS Refer to pages 19-24 for more information
			Comedic Short Films LC 19 - 11:00am-11:45am LC 20 - 4:15pm-5:00pm
	THE BOOKSELLERS Film screening & discussion with DW Young 12:30pm - 2:45pm		Documentary Short Films LC 19 - 3:00pm-3:45pm LC 20 - 12:15pm-1:00pm
		OMARA Film screening & discussion with Hugo Perez 1:30pm - 3:15pm	Dramatic Short Films PART 1 LC 19 - 1:30pm-2:30pm C 20 - 10:45am-11:45am
			Dramatic Short Films PART 2 LC 19 - 4:15pm-5:15pm LC 20 - 1:30pm-2:30pm
	WHITEWASHED Film screening & discussion with Michael Kennedy 3:15pm - 5:15pm	CHOPPED LIVER Variety show screening with Shannon Plumb 3:45pm - 4:45pm	Experimental Short Films LC 19 - 12:15pm-1:00pm LC 20 - 3:00pm-3:45pm

Campus Maps

Campus Center West Ground Floor

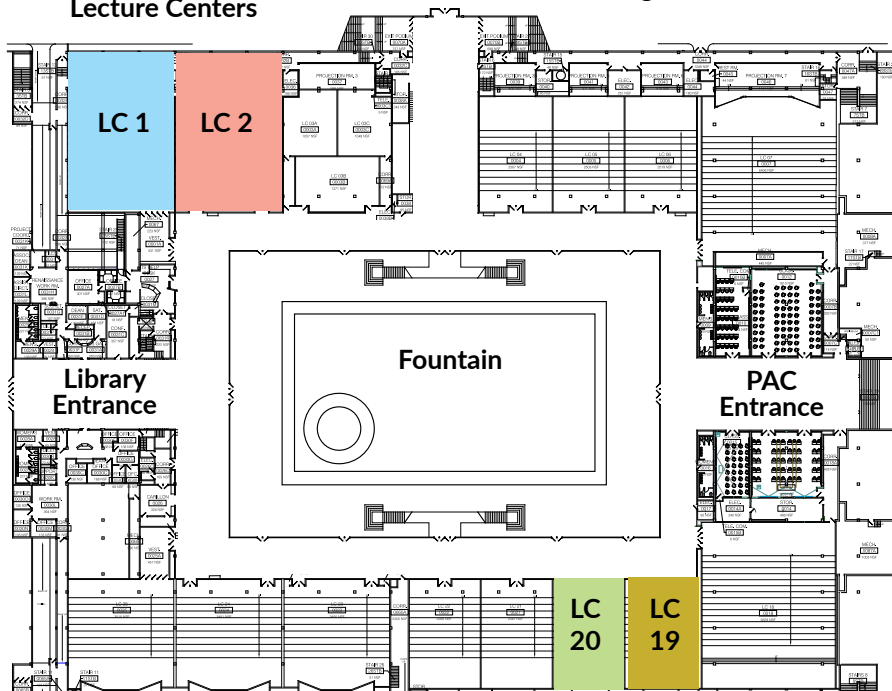


Campus Center West 1st Floor



Lecture Centers

Washington Ave Entrance



On Campus Parking:

Courtesy parking for the Albany Film Festival is available in the Dutch Quad Faculty/Staff, Dutch Quad Student, Podium West, and Colonial Commuter parking lots.

For a map of the campus including parking lots go to:

www.albany.edu/map