

Yucca Valley Film Festival

8th Edition

Program 2026

TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA
35TH Anniversary
1991 - 2026

EDITORIAL

*Welcome to the 8th edition of the Yucca Valley Film Festival, the **Town of Yucca Valley's signature event**. This year we received over 600 submissions from 34 countries. Over the course of three days, we will present a curated selection of 52 films and scripts, highlighting the work of more than 100 participating artists. Our selection features many local artists from Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, Palm Springs, and the Inland Empire. Don't miss the red carpet, featuring our 20-foot backdrop, and the Kids Program on Saturday 1 PM. And yes—popcorn is complimentary as always!*

- Matt & Auregan, festival founders and organizers -

FRIDAY 6

5 PM - RED CARPET

With official photographer. Dress code: chic or casual chic. 20-foot long red carpet.
With the participation of the **Gunfighters for Hire**!

6 PM - ENTERTAINMENT + MEET & GREET

With performances by **The Gunfighters for Hire.**



6:30 PM - OPENING REMARKS

7 PM - OPENING MOVIES AND Q&A

Followed by a conversation and picture signing session with filmmakers.

To Be Harriet *directed by Robbi Robb*

Veronica *directed by Brett Dos Santos*

Heels *directed by Justin Gaar*

Everything Is Brand *directed by Brett Weiner*

Next In Line *directed by Danny Dolan*

10 PM - AFTER PARTY

At **Snake Bite Roadhouse**, 55405 29 Palms Hwy, Yucca Valley.
Co-hosted by the **Brown Girls Desert Club**. OPEN TO ALL – join us!
Each guest is responsible for their own order.



SATURDAY 7

8:30 AM - COFFEE, DONUTS & ROUNDTABLE

Scriptwriters and composers selected in competition gather on stage for a roundtable to discuss their craft. Complimentary coffee and pastries.

Followed by a conversation and picture signing.

9:45 AM - SCREENINGS AND Q&A

Followed by a conversation and picture signing session with filmmakers.

Our Last Time *directed by Jiayang Liu*

Punk Rock Love Song *directed by Jeremy Christensen*

Eggnog *directed by Heather Hillstrom*

Katie May *directed by Rudy Strukoff*

Signal *directed by Riley Vitale*

Name Tag *directed by Kent Kay*

Ram's Head *directed by Casey Lee Ball*

SATURDAY 7

1 PM - KIDS PROGRAM *presented by Z107.7 Community Radio*

Followed by a conversation and picture signing session with filmmakers.

Guardian's Lament *directed by Phoebe Chou*

A Walk into the Afterlife *directed by Jiyun Jeong*

Prout *directed by Marc-Henri Wajnberg*

The Smurfs - Reaching for the Stars *directed by William Renaud*

A Game of Chance *directed by Gordon LePage*

Cardboard *directed by J.P. Vine*

Legendary *directed by Lucas Silberman*

2:15 PM - SCREENINGS AND Q&A

Followed by a conversation and picture signing session with filmmakers.

Sam & Quinn *directed by Kali Veach*

What The Crows Saw *directed by Gina East*

Hot Hood *directed by Ting-Li Tsai*

Fatale *directed by John-David Minjares*

Vinyl Thief *directed by Azwan Badruzaman*

Feathers *directed by Zach Marks*

Water After Wildfire *directed by Ev Durán*

5 PM - RED CARPET

With official photographer.

6 PM - ENTERTAINMENT + MEET & GREET

With costumed **Renaissance Villagers** from Koroneburg.



SATURDAY 7

6:30 PM - SCREENINGS AND Q&A

Followed by a conversation and picture signing session with filmmakers.

The Last Eight *directed by Bryanna Reynolds*
Hello Universe *directed by Tommy Slack, Ross Addy*
Life is (a) Short *directed by Brooke Dooley*
Golden Hour *directed by Patrick Thies*
Long Live Koroneburg *directed by Jake Villadolid*
Run, Jamie *directed by Tyler Baker*
H.A.G.S. *directed by Matt Mazany*
The Long Con *directed by Aitch Alberto*

10 PM - YVFF NIGHT CALL

At the **Tiny Pony Tavern**, 57205 29 Palms Hwy, Yucca Valley.
OPEN TO ALL – join us! *Each guest is responsible for their own order.*



SUNDAY 8

8 AM - MOVIE SET VISIT

The Yucca Valley Film Festival is opening its main Industry Events to the public!
Limited spaces available: contact us by email through our website to reserve your spot.
Enjoy exclusive access to a private fully functioning Western town and studio city.
Departure: 8:00 AM sharp.

11:30 AM - FILMMAKER MEETUP

YVFF Alumni Roll Call. Guest speakers: Rebecca Jo Huston for a lookbook presentation of American Sweetheart, and 5x Emmy Award Winner Ev Durán.

Open debate, questions and discussions. Open to all!

Complimentary pizza lunch for filmmakers with a badge and confirmed reservation.
No food for visitors: bring your own lunch.



1 PM - SCREENINGS AND Q&A

Followed by a conversation and picture signing session with filmmakers.

Soup's On! *directed by Joseph Davies*
Gala *directed by Kevin Clayette*
The Good Writer? *directed by Caroline O'Meara*
Harold *directed by Harrison Glantz*
Detach *directed by Frankie Ingrassia*
Sunshine *directed by Tyler French*
Audio Description *directed by Luke J. Salewski*
Shift *directed by Sisi Liu*
Stay Hydrated *directed by Nate Michaels*
High Beam *directed by Kaila Gutierrez*
500 Nuova *directed by J. Santos*
The Session *directed by Ryan Moulton*
Kind Mother *directed by Clare O'Connor*

SUNDAY 8

4 PM - SPEED MENTORSHIP SESSION

Open to the public to observe. Filmmakers will be paired with producers, jury members and community stakeholders for a brief pick your brain session. The session follows a rotating format. Filmmakers will have just a few minutes with each mentor to ask questions, get advice and make connections before moving on to the next.

5 PM - DRINKS, MIXER & FINAL RED CARPET

Final chance to meet the artists, the jury and those who made the festival happen.
With official photographer. With the participation of **Spike, the CMC mascot**!
Dress code: chic.

6 PM - AWARDS

Closing Remarks & Award Ceremony.
Join us to discover the 2026 winners and to celebrate filmmaking with our community!



Trophy by Linda Shrader





FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 6

5 PM RED CARPET COURTYARD DRINKS BY THE WELCOME CENTER

6 PM ENTERTAINMENT + MEET & GREET
WITH THE GUNFIGHTERS FOR HIRE

6:30 PM OPENING REMARKS

7 PM OPENING MOVIES AND Q&A

10 PM AFTER PARTY AT THE STALLION STEAKHOUSE AND LOUNGE
CO-HOSTED BY THE BROWN GIRLS DESERT CLUB

SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 7

8 AM COFFEE, DONUTS & ROUNDTABLE

9:45 AM SCREENINGS AND Q&A

1 PM KIDS PROGRAM ANIMATED FILMS

2:15 PM SCREENINGS AND Q&A

5 PM RED CARPET

6 PM ENTERTAINMENT + MEET & GREET
WITH THE RENAISSANCE VILLAGERS OF KORONEBURG

6:30 PM SCREENINGS AND Q&A

10 PM YVFF NIGHT CALL AT THE TINY PONY TAVERN

Yucca Valley Film Festival

SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 8

8 AM MOVIE SET VISIT RESERVATION REQUIRED, LIMITED SPACE

11:30 AM FILMMAKERS MEETUP

1 PM SCREENINGS AND Q&A

4 PM SPEED MENTORSHIP SESSION

5 PM DRINKS, MIXER CO-HOSTED BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& FINAL RED CARPET

6 PM AWARDS

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