



indie memphis.

film for all



2023 annual report

FILM FOR ALL

vision

A global community of youth and adult filmmakers with loyal supporters and Memphis at its heart.

mission

To foster an intersectional and racially equitable independent film community and nurture the growth of filmmakers.

programs



FILM FESTIVAL



BLACK CREATORS FORUM



SEASONAL SCREENINGS



ARTIST DEVELOPMENT



YOUTH FILM

FILM FOR ALL

filmmaker vertical path

**RESIDENCY &
FELLOWSHIP**



**BLACK
CREATORS
FORUM**



**FILMMAKING
WORKSHOPS**



**YOUTH
MENTORING**



**ARTIST
GRANTS**



PITCHING



**INDIE MEMPHIS
FILM FESTIVAL**



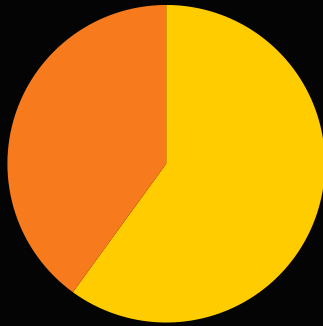
**YOUTH
FILM FEST**



Our combined programs and offerings create a vertical path of support to build a career from youth beginners up to experienced artists receiving education, mentoring, residencies, and funding for production.

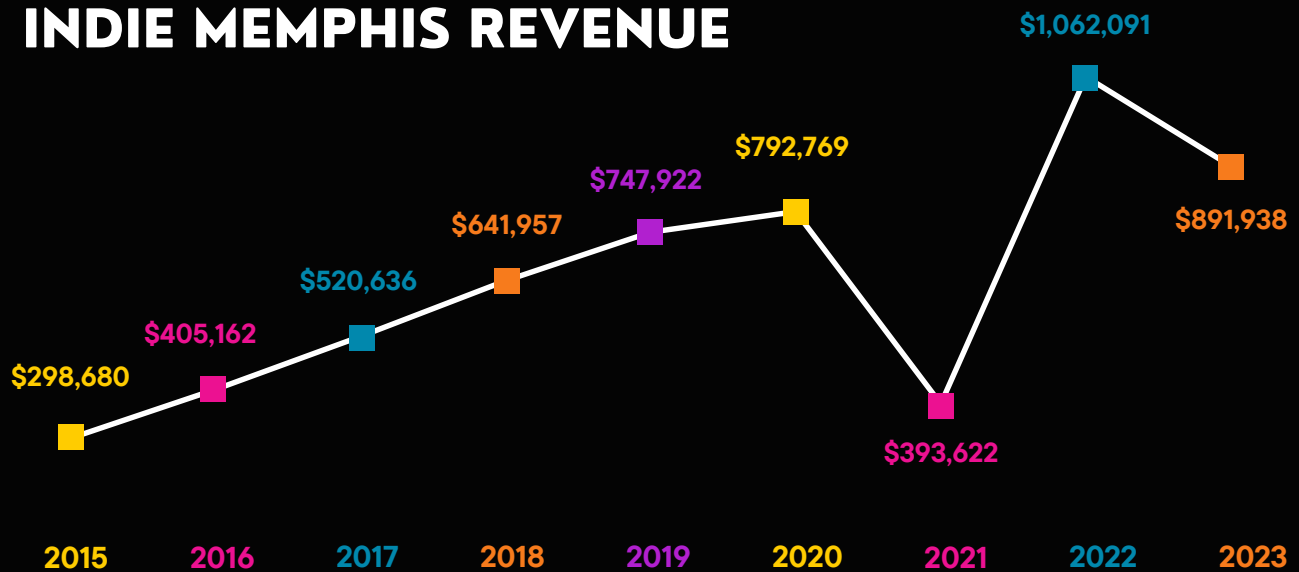
impact & financials

MEMPHIS FILMMAKERS



In 2023, 47 **Memphis Filmmakers** completed new films and music videos, **38% of which were people of color.**

INDIE MEMPHIS REVENUE



2023 BALANCE SHEET

Assets
\$223,800

Liabilities
\$20,488

Net Assets
\$205,187



film festival



173 Films



5 Venues



6 Days

The Indie Memphis Film Festival (IMFF) brings a range of independent features, documentaries, and short films to Memphis from all corners of the world. We highlight films that are artistically and intellectually innovative, eccentric, and fun, while emphasizing diverse voices.

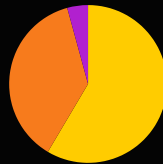
OUR AUDIENCE

TOTAL ATTENDANCE



10,704+
In-person and virtual

GENDER

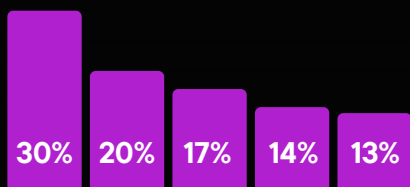


58% She/Her
35% He/Him
4% They/Them

TRAVEL

26% 
Traveled to attend

AGE



25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74

47%

Attended for the first time

95%

Would recommend festival to their friends

28%

Attended 4 or more previous Indie Memphis Film festivals

film festival highlights

AWARD SHOW FAVORITES



MAY DECEMBER

Academy Award, Golden Globes, Independent Spirit Awards Nominated



ANATOMY OF A FALL

Golden Globes, BAFTA, Independent Spirit Awards, Academy Award Winner



FALLEN LEAVES

Golden Globes Nomination



AMERICAN FICTION

Independent Spirit Awards, BAFTA, Academy Award Winner



GOING TO MARS: THE NIKKI GIOVANNI PROJECT

Independent Spirit Awards Nomination



ALL DIRT ROADS TASTE OF SALT

Opening Night Film

Followed by conversation with Director Raven Jackson, Cinematographer Jomo Fray, and Producer Maria Altamirano)



Raven Jackson's ALL DIRT ROADS TASTE OF SALT was our 2019 BCF Residency for Screenwriting project, and went on to be produced by produced by Barry Jenkins' Pastel and A24



DREAM SCENARIO

Narrative Spotlight



THE BLUES SOCIETY

World Premiere Screening & Concert



BLACK BARBIE

Documentary Spotlight

film festival hometowners

Hometowners:
IMFF features and shorts showcasing the stories and talent **produced and created in Memphis, TN.**



8 FEATURES
(3 World Premieres)



41 SHORTS
(11 World Premieres)

INDIE MEMPHIS SUPPORTED PROJECTS AT IMFF23

7 Hometowners were supported by an Indie Memphis grant including:



BEWARE OF GOAT
2020 IndieGrant Recipient



ETTO
2022 Women's Short Film Grant Recipient



I AM
2021 IndieGrant Recipient



INTERSECTIONALITY
2022 LGBTQ+ Short Film Grant Recipient



KISSING ME SOFTLY
2022 BCF Short Film Grant Recipient



R.E.G.G.I.N
2021 IndieGrant Recipient



SLICE
2020 BCF Short Film Grant Recipient

seasonal screenings

Our curated seasonal screenings keep the cinematic magic alive throughout the year with **critically acclaimed films**, **indie gems from other festivals**, and **timeless retrospective titles** -- as well as screenings in collaboration with our valued **community partners**, including our ongoing **pay-what-you-can short film showcase** in partnership with Crosstown Arts: **MicroCinema**.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS



**ALL THE BEAUTY AND
THE BLOODSHED**
(Oscar Nominated)



**ALL THAT
BREATHES**
(Oscar Nominated)



B.A.P.S.
(Free Screening in
Partnership with TONE)



SANSÓN AND ME



RYE LANE
(Free Preview
Screening)



MICROCINEMA
Shifting Lines: New
Queer Animation



black creators forum

The Black Creators Forum is a program of Indie Memphis that seeks to share strategies, foster collaborations and build sustainable networks to ease the barrier to entry for Black visionaries in multiple disciplines who want to work in film. The Forum does this in many ways: **year-round screenings and events**, the annual **BCF Symposium**, a **Pitch Rally**, and **grant opportunities** for emerging Black filmmakers

2023 BCF SYMPOSIUM

The heart of BCF is the annual BCF Symposium, which provides a space, **virtually and in-person**, during the festival for Black artists to ask questions, celebrate, and participate in workshops, panels, and conversations to guide their own filmmaking practices and goals.



***168**
Total Attendance

*In-person and virtual

The BCF Symposium is free to attend, and all attendees receive complimentary passes to IMFF.



“BCF has really been transformative to my artistic practice and my social life. I never thought as a southerner, I could interact with other artists especially Black artists so intimately.”

- BCF Participant

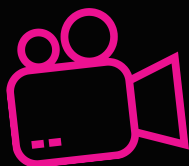
BLACK CREATORS FORUM SYMPOSIUM SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



Music Supervision for Film with music supervisor, Morgan Rhodes (THE COLOR PURPLE, SELMA, QUEEN SUGAR)



Navigating Intimacy with Confidence: Collaborating with Intimacy Coordinators

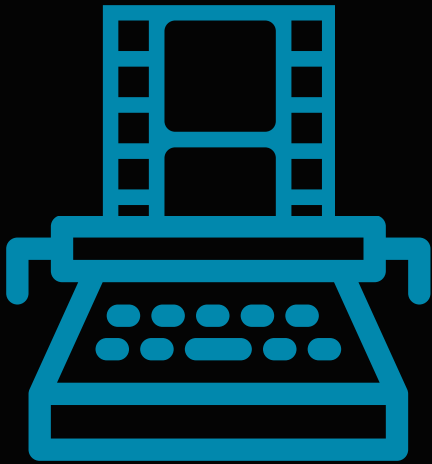


Southern Filmmaking and Craft



Festival Strategy with Robyn Citizen (TIFF Director of Festival Programming and Cinematheque)

BCF screenwriting residency & fellowship



The **Indie Memphis Black Filmmaker National Residency and Memphis Fellowship in Screenwriting** are supported by the Remembering George Riley Fund. They both provide opportunities for national and Memphis filmmakers to develop bold storytelling, explore their own professional development, and connect with fellow writers, artists, and other industry professionals in Memphis.

2023 RECIPIENTS



NATIONAL RESIDENT
(\$7,500 + HOUSING + TRAVEL + MENTORING)
Bethaiel Alemayoh



MEMPHIS FELLOW
(\$7,500 + MENTORING)
Brittney Williams

artist development

INDIEGRANTS

Two IndieGrants in 2023 supported Memphis filmmakers with \$30,000 of cash and in-kind services.

2023 RECIPIENTS



ALICIA ESTER

\$7.5K Grant + \$7.5K In-Kind
Filmmaking Services



LO NORMAN

\$7.5K Grant + \$7.5K In-Kind
Filmmaking Services



SHOOT & SPLICE

The **monthly filmmaking forum** in partnership with **Crosstown Arts** provides networking and professional development for the film community.

**2023 OVERALL
ATTENDANCE: 407**

youth film

FREE YOUTH FILM WORKSHOPS

The Indie Memphis Youth program offers **free year-round workshops** designed to teach and encourage young filmmakers (in grades 7-12) about all aspects of the movie-making process. In 2023, Indie Memphis partnered with **Cloud901** to host the following workshops:



Screenwriting with
Melissa Sweazy



Camera & Sound with
David Roseberry



Directing with
Noah Glenn

YOUTH PRODUCTION GRANT



This grant provides professional filmmaking services to one student between grades 7-12 to direct their next short film! The package is good for a **1 day short film shoot with support and crew** positions filled by working professionals from Memphis-based production company, VIA Productions.

The **2023 recipient, Andrew Green**, completed his film, **CHRISTMAS TREATS** in December of 2023. It will premiere at the 2024 Indie Memphis Youth Film Fest.

youth film

CREWUP YOUTH FILMMAKING MENTORSHIP **27 STUDENTS TOTAL**



- **9 teams** each comprised of **3 students** + **1 filmmaker mentor**

- Each team writes and produces an **original short film**



- **\$500** is provided as a budget to each team

- **9 completed short films** premiered at the Youth Film Fest

"Through CrewUp, I have had the privilege to collaborate with exceptionally talented individuals, acquire new skills, and transform my creative visions into reality. I genuinely believe that without CrewUp, I wouldn't have reached my current level of creativity."

- Anaya Murray, 2023 Mentee



youth film fest

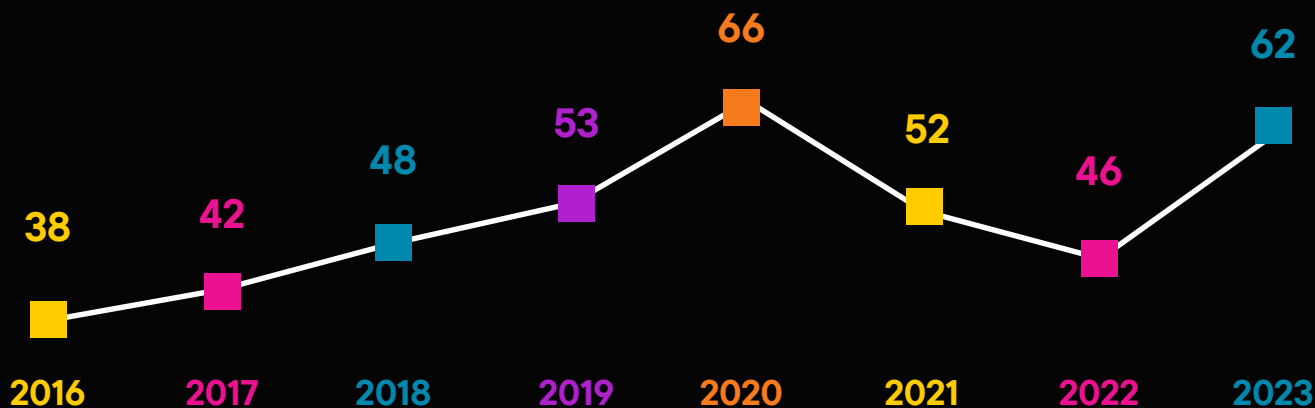


The **Indie Memphis Youth Film Fest** is an all-day event featuring filmmaking workshops and screenings of short films made by students from Memphis and around the world.

Students from 47 schools received Youth Film Fest passes
100% of Youth Film Fest passes were **FREE** for all students



SUBMISSIONS



54 students from **34 schools** completed films
65% of films were directed by **people of color**

thank you sponsors

FESTIVAL



MARK JONES



eventive



ARTSmemphis



MOLLY & JASON WEXLER

BARBARA & BRUCE NEWMAN

BRETT ROBBS



SEED & SPARK



FOREVER READY PRODUCTIONS



EMILY TRENHOLM & LES EDWARDS

JANE VAN DEREN & LUCIAN PERA

ANONYMOUS



LIKE YOU mindfulness for kids



WKNO

Disbalef Events

Memphis Flyer



OXFORD AMERICAN

thank you sponsors

BLACK CREATORS FORUM

ARTSmemphis



REMEMBERING
GEORGE RILEY FUND



STACEY &
ROBERT ZYRIEK

YOUTH FILM FEST



ARTSmemphis



BRETT
ROBBS

MARK
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LICHTERMAN-LOEWENBERG
FOUNDATION



thank you sponsors

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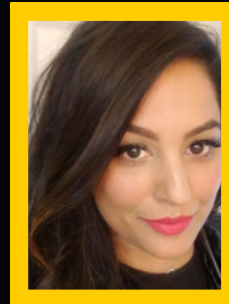
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full-time staff



KIMEL FRYER
Executive
Director



MIRIAM BALE
Artistic
Director



JOSEPH CARR
Managing
Director



MACON WILSON
Marketing
Director



KAYLA MYERS
Programmer &
Black Creators
Forum Manager

YEAR-ROUND CONTRACT STAFF

AMANZI ARNETT
Artist Support Coordinator

AMANDA WILLOUGHBY
Mentor Program Coordinator
& Black Creators Forum Producer

MATT ZIEBARTH
Special Projects Manager

"We're doing things to ultimately help the film ecosystem here in Memphis grow so that we can continue to build an industry that will allow us to retain our talent and let our stories be told in this city."

**- Kimel Fryer,
Executive Director**



"I probably wouldn't still be living in Memphis if it wasn't for Indie Memphis. It's really such a big part of my life and a part of this city."

**- Laura Jean Hocking,
Director & Editor**



MICROCINEMA

1st Wednesdays
each month*

SHOOT & SPLICE

2nd Tuesdays of
each month*

SEASONAL SCREENINGS

Last two Wednesdays
of each month*

BLACK CREATORS FORUM PITCH RALLY

Apr. 2

9TH ANNUAL INDIE MEMPHIS YOUTH FILM FEST

Aug. 24

27TH ANNUAL INDIE MEMPHIS FILM FESTIVAL

Nov. 14 - 17

Encore Dates Nov. 18 - 19

BLACK CREATORS FORUM SYMPOSIUM

In-Person Nov. 15

Virtual Symposium October (TBD)

*Excluding Summer and Fall

2024 KEY DATES



**connect
with us.**

www.indiememphis.org

Indie Memphis is a 501c3 non-profit organization.