

# Artis—Naples

*Home of The Baker Museum  
and the Naples Philharmonic*

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**ARTIS—NAPLES ANNOUNCES CALL FOR ENTRIES  
FOR 15th ANNUAL NAPLES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**

***Festival Takes Place October 26-29, 2023***

**NAPLES, FL (March 20, 2023)**— Artis—Naples announces that the call for entries has begun for the 2023 Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), which is scheduled to take place October 26-29 at Artis—Naples and Silverspot Cinema in Naples.

The 15th edition of the popular regional film festival features the signature NIFF “fun-under-the-sun” style that has made it a favorite destination for filmmakers, industry vets, influencers and film buffs for more than a decade.

Films may be submitted in five categories: Narrative Features, Documentary Features, Short Films, Student Films (K-12) and Student Films (College/University). Cash prizes will be awarded in 12 categories. The deadline for early bird submissions is May 12, the regular deadline is June 16 and the final deadline is July 7.

At the 2023 festival, NIFF will once again bring together the spark and spirit of independent filmmaking with the artistic lineage and resources of the acclaimed multidisciplinary arts organization Artis—Naples. In addition to a weekend full of films screened at the luxurious Silverspot Cinema in Naples, the festival will also feature select films to be screened on a 24-foot outdoor screen in beautiful Norris Garden on Artis—Naples’ Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus.

The closing night of the festival features a screening of *E.T.* with the Naples Philharmonic performing John Williams’ iconic score live, conducted by Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly.

“We’re so excited for the upcoming 15th anniversary of NIFF, and we cannot wait to once again bring to our community an opportunity to gather with visiting independent filmmakers to enjoy and discuss their various works this year,” said Festival Producer Shannon Franklin. “As part of Artis—Naples, NIFF has continued to grow and reach an ever-expanding group of film lovers and filmmakers. One distinct character trait of NIFF that we’re so proud of is the convivial and creative atmosphere we’re able to create, which leads to long-lasting professional and personal relationships among the filmmakers and with members of our community.”

“I’m particularly proud of the way the Naples International Film Festival has become an integral part of the artistic programs Artis—Naples brings to this community,” said David Filner, Artis—Naples executive vice president of artistic operations. “Being able to include screenings of high-quality independent films here not only rounds out our offerings across the performing and visual arts, but also brings a wonderful community of filmmakers, as well as audiences, to Artis—Naples to celebrate this work. We look forward to seeing this year’s entries!”

The 2022 edition of NIFF opened with a red-carpet celebration of *Butterfly in the Sky*, which included appearances by Naples’ own Cecily and Larry Lancit, co-creators and producers of *Reading Rainbow*, as well as the show’s co-creator Twila Liggett. In-person screenings and filmmaker panels followed, including 2022 NIFF award-winning and audience-favorite films making a splash both at other film festivals across the country (*The Big Bend*, *Disfluency* and *Shudderbugs*) or are currently in release (*Acidman*, *I Mordecai*, *MVP* and *The Pez Outlaw*). NIFF wrapped things up in entertaining and multidisciplinary style following the filmmaker awards with a special presentation of *Jurassic Park* in Concert featuring a live performance of John Williams’ classic score from Steven Spielberg’s iconic film by the Naples Philharmonic, conducted by Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly.

Visit [artisnaples.org/naples-international-film-festival/call-for-entries/2023](https://artisnaples.org/naples-international-film-festival/call-for-entries/2023) for more information on NIFF 2023 and instructions for submitting your film via [FilmFreeway](#).

*Generously supported by the Collier County Tourist Development Council.*

### **NIFF 2023 CATEGORIES/REQUIREMENTS**

**Narrative Features:** Any original work of fiction 41 minutes or longer completed any time after January 1, 2022. Narrative feature films may be foreign or domestic.

**Documentary Features:** Any nonfiction feature length film 41 minutes or longer completed any time after January 1, 2022. Documentary feature films may be foreign or domestic.

**Short Films:** Any Narrative or Documentary film 40 minutes or less completed any time after January 1, 2022. Films may be foreign or domestic. NIFF programs short films in themed packages. We may also screen a short film before a Narrative or Documentary feature.

**Student Filmmaker Showcase, K-12 Division:** Student filmmakers in the United States, currently enrolled in grades K-12 (as of March 20, 2023), are invited to submit a short film with a running time of 10 minutes or less (including credits) completed any time after January 1, 2022. Films of all genres are accepted (documentary, narrative and animation). Films submitted in the Student Filmmaker Showcase category must be works written, directed and shot by students. Adult participation is limited to an advisory capacity.

**Student Filmmaker Showcase, College/University Division:** College and university students currently studying in undergraduate or graduate degree programs in the United States (as of the time the film was completed) are invited to submit narrative, documentary or animated films with a running time of 40 minutes or less (including credits) completed any time after January 1, 2022. Films of all genres are accepted (documentary, narrative and animation). Films submitted in the Student Filmmaker Showcase category must be works written, directed and shot by students. Adult participation is limited to an advisory capacity.

### **AWARD CATEGORIES AND PRIZES**

Jury Award for Best Narrative Feature - \$2,500

Jury Award for Best Documentary Feature - \$2,500

Focus on the Arts Award - \$1,500

Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature - \$1,000

Audience Award for Best Documentary Feature - \$1,000

Audience Award for Best Short Film - \$500

Best Florida Film Award (Narrative, Documentary or Short) - \$500

Indie Spirit Award - \$250

Rising Star Award - \$250

Best First Feature Award - \$250  
Programmers' Choice Award - \$250  
Impact Award - \$250

### **SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

- Early Bird: May 12, 2023
- Regular: June 16, 2023
- Late: July 7, 2023

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### **ARTIS—NAPLES**

Home of The Baker Museum and the Naples Philharmonic, Artis—Naples is unique among cultural institutions nationwide, equally dedicated to both the visual and performing arts featuring artists of global distinction.

### **KIMBERLY K. QUERREY and LOUIS A. SIMPSON CULTURAL CAMPUS**

Led by CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen, we offer audiences more than 800 paid and free events annually within a variety of venues and settings situated throughout the 8.5-acre Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus. Artis—Naples welcomes thousands of visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities perfect for audiences of all backgrounds and interests. The cultural campus is home to five buildings, including two performance halls (Frances Pew Hayes Hall and Myra J. Daniels Pavilion), The Baker Museum, the Toni Stabile Education Building and the Kohan Administration Building.

### **NAPLES PHILHARMONIC**

The Naples Philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the cornerstones of Southwest Florida's arts community. As part of Artis—Naples, the Naples Philharmonic performs more than 140 orchestral and chamber music concerts, as well as opera and ballet, education, community and special event concerts annually between September and June in the 1,477-seat Hayes Hall, the 283-seat Daniels Pavilion and around the Southwest Florida region. The Naples Philharmonic has enjoyed a history of working with world-class music directors, with Andrey Boreyko being the fourth and most recent. Following the completion of Boreyko's eighth and final season in 2022, a search is underway for the Sharon and Timothy Ubben Music Director position. As the search continues, Artis—Naples has appointed violinist James Ehnes as an artistic partner through the 2023-24 season, working with Naples Philharmonic musicians in a variety of settings with a focus on inspiring and embodying a high level of artistry. Podium leadership includes Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly, celebrating 13 years in this role in the 2022-23 season and bringing pops performances that celebrate music in its many forms. In 2017, conductor Radu Paponiu was named assistant conductor of the Naples Philharmonic and director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, and in 2019 he was promoted to associate conductor. Starting with the 2022-23 season, Alvin Ho has joined the artistic team as assistant conductor of the Naples Philharmonic.

### **THE BAKER MUSEUM**

The Baker Museum is one of the foremost fine art museums in Southwest Florida. The museum hosts several traveling exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collection. Comprising more than 4,000 objects, the museum's broad holdings of 20th- and 21st-century art reflect the generosity and commitment of area collectors. Of particular strength are The Baker Museum's collections of American and Mexican modern art, including significant gifts from the collection of Olga Hirshhorn.

With more than two decades of collecting and exhibiting, the museum is dedicated to stewardship and scholarship from both its growing permanent collection and outside sources. At the same time, The Baker Museum seeks out the best traveling exhibitions from the leading arts institutions in the world—including recently the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and the Smithsonian Institutions—to enrich the Southwest Florida community. In fall 2020,

Artis—Naples celebrated the opening of an 18,000-square-foot expansion of The Baker Museum, designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architecture/Landscape/Urbanism, that created new spaces for multidisciplinary exploration and social interaction.

#### **EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY**

In addition to creating and presenting visual and performing arts, Artis—Naples provides robust education and community activities for students of all ages. Each season thousands of Collier County Public Schools interact with Artis—Naples education programming both on its cultural campus and in classrooms. The Lifelong Learning program provides engaging lectures and study opportunities for adults seeking to engage more deeply with the arts.

The Friends of Artis—Naples, with more than 3,400 households who give \$75 or more, offers activities, travel experiences and events geared toward creating a deeper relationship between patrons and the arts.

In 2017, Artis—Naples acquired the Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), expanding its film offerings and providing a platform for the festival’s continued excellence and growth. In 2019, NIFF was named one of *MovieMaker* Magazine’s “Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World,” and in 2022 celebrated its 14th year in the community.

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