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Welcome

Film Venues
Ticket Information
Sponsors and Donors
Opening Night Information
Lea Delaria Performance
Festival Schedule at a Glance
Closing Night Information
Festival Jury

FILM DESCRIPTIONS:
Friday, October 2nd
Saturday, October 3rd
Sunday, October 4th
Monday, October 5th
Tuesday, October 6th
Wednesday, October 7th
Thursday, October 8th
Friday, October 9th
Saturday, October 10th

2015 Distinguished Friend of the Festival Award: Ed Lally

Dubbed “The Constant Fundraiser” by Watermark in 2009, Ed counts TIGLFF as his favorite non-profit to support. Ed has recently served as Vice President of the TIGLFF board and has chaired or co-chaired the TIGLFF Launch Party for the last 10 years. Under his leadership the Launch Party has grown from a small fundraising party to a “must attend” event with more than 300 film festival supporters, netting thousands of dollars. Ed says it’s easy to support the film festival as he and his husband Phil have been attending and supporting the festival for 25 years and considers it one of Tampa Bay’s treasures and a real jewel for the LGBTQ community.

Previous Recipients:
2012 - The Knights of The Krewe of Cavaliers
2013 - Eunice Fisher
2014 - Sam Salmons

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Special Thanks:
Sam Salmons and her Crown Circle Crew
Friends of the Festival, Inc.
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September 4, 2015 • VOL 26 • NO. 1
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OUT IS THE NEW IN

GET OUT AND KEEP WORKING TOWARDS FULL EQUALITY.
FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP AT WWW.EQFL.ORG
Welcome to the 26th Annual Tampa Bay International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. As we celebrate the positive changes and milestones in equality of 2015, we reflect upon how influential TIGLFF and other LGBTQ festivals across the globe have been in progressing human rights, equality and social change.

It is often the arts — performing and visual, including cinema — that are the catalyst for social change. The unknown is often scary and a divergence from what is considered “normal” is uncomfortable for many. The arts allow each of us to face our internal issues in small increments while continuing to hear the drum beat for change. This change provided a strong presence this year as we celebrate some major human rights milestones in marriage equality, trans visibility and LGBT legal concerns.

As we continue to move forward with the pulse of the times in terms of gender identity, workplace equality and resolution to other injustices, we once again see these issues take the forefront in our 2015 programing.

We will be watching 87 films from more than 25 countries over the course of these nine days, including laugh-out-loud comedies, heart-wrenching dramas, eye-opening documentaries, nail-digging thrillers…and a little something for everyone. More and more, these stories are reflections of our lives and the festival is our opportunity to come together and celebrate as a community. Our eleven venues, many of them new, are spread throughout the Tampa Bay area with screenings bound to be close to you.

Thank you to our sponsors, advertisers, filmmakers, volunteers, board, staff, individual and community alliances, and most importantly YOU for making this possible. We are a strong community spread across the entire Bay. The energy, support and economic resources you put forth make this festival — so very important to so many of us — a cornerstone of our community and a vital thread within the fabric of a larger global independent film industry.

We look forward to seeing you on the orange carpet as we celebrate the 26th Annual Tampa Bay International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.
Dear Friends,

This 26th year of the Tampa Bay International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival is a very special one for us here in the Sunshine City. We are honored to be the festival’s hosting city, and we welcome the festival and its organization to St. Petersburg.

Our city has emerged as a city of the arts, and welcoming the film festival here is an honor. You join an esteemed group of cultural organizations that excel in presenting the visual and performing arts, and we welcome the addition of TIGLFF to our community.

As you enjoy this year’s festival, we invite you to explore our city, and discover one of America’s most gay-friendly destinations, having earned a perfect 100 in HRC’s Municipal Equality Index. Whether it’s dinner on Beach Drive or at Sundial, shopping in the eclectic Grand Central District, browsing through one of our fine museums, or enjoying a day at the beach, please sample the hospitality for which the Sunshine City is world famous.

Thank you again for choosing to come to St. Petersburg, and enjoy the festival.

We look forward to seeing you next year.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mayor Rick Kriseman
Greetings:

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 26th Annual Tampa Bay International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival to be held October 2-10, 2015. As a city that prides itself on its inclusiveness, the City of Tampa is proud of the association we have had with this festival through the years, and commend the many sponsors for their continued support. Last year’s event was tremendously successful and helped highlight how our community has evolved into a dynamic location for all those involved in the filmmaking industry.

Since its founding in 1989, this Film Festival is known as an event that entertains, enlightens, and celebrates its audience. In achieving this success, it has become one of the largest Gay and Lesbian film festivals in the United States and one of our premier cultural events. This is a notable distinction and has contributed significantly to our efforts in promoting Tampa as a “City of the Arts.”

We are proud of Tampa’s reputation as a city with a wealth of cultural richness and diversity, and are honored to host this Festival in the Tampa Bay area, an event that showcases how our region is enriched by all those who call our community home. Again, on behalf of our citizens, a warm welcome and best wishes for another successful event.

Sincerely,

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film venues

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ticket information

SIMPLY FABULOUS PASS: $500
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CROWN CIRCLE PASS: $135
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TIGLFF SIX PACK OF TICKETS: $60
Buy five tickets and get the sixth for free.

SINGLE FILM TICKET:
General Admission: $12.00
Student Price: $10.00 (available at the theatre box office with valid student ID)

18 AND UNDER: Anyone 18 and under is admitted free to age-appropriate films, workshops, and lectures. Tickets available daily at box office. Limit 1 free ticket per person per film.

Tickets may be purchased at www.tiglff.com or 813.879.4220
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2. Winner: "Audra McDonald"
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3. Winner: "Kinky Boots"
   - December 1-6, 2015

4. Rodgers & Hammerstein's "The Sound of Music"
   - December 22-27, 2015

5. Time Magazine's #1 Show of the Year: "Matilda"

6. "Murder for Two"
   - March 1 - April 24, 2016

7. "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical"
   - April 26 - May 1, 2016

8. "If/Then"
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The Friends of the Festival Fund was established in 2009 through the estate of Alan Ira Dusowitz. This endowment trust helps fund film programming content for TIGLFF. In honor of Alan, TIGLFF will give annual awards for best emerging filmmaker in the categories of Full Length Feature film and Short film. You can also help ensure a bright future for GLBT film screenings here in Tampa Bay by including TIGLFF in your estate planning. To find out more please contact Friends of the Festival and ask about The Friends of the Festival Fund. Thank you.

Thank you to all who participated in last year’s 25th Anniversary Campaign!
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An innocent man wrongly accused of a murder of passion? Or conniving killer exacting revenge on an unfaithful lover? This tale of intrigue, mystery and drama unfolds in classic noir form from writer/director and TIGLFF alum, Casper Andreas. Dusty (the delicious Van Hansis) is madly in love with Stephen (a dapper Gale Harold) on the night of Stephen’s birthday party at their fabulous L.A. home. In the blink of an eye, Dusty’s life is turned upside down through a terrifying event that will forever change his life. Nothing is as it seems as Dusty fights to remember the murderous details of that fateful night. Dark secrets hiding behind beautiful smiles turn a perfect life into the ultimate nightmare. Appearing here in one of its premiere screenings, Kiss Me, Kill Me has what the best movies are made of, and it is a perfect start to another year of fabulous queer cinema. - Sunny Hall

Director Casper Andreas, writer/producer David Michael Barrett and actor Van Hansis are scheduled to attend.

Join us downstairs in the Palladium Cabaret for an Opening Night Party after the screening, till midnight. Let’s celebrate kicking off the 26th year of festivities of LBGTQ film and community in Tampa Bay!
The Tampa Bay International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival welcomes
Lea DeLaria of “Orange is the New Black”

Lea DeLaria
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DEEP RUN
Hillevi Loven, 2015, USA, 70 min

In the Christian locked rural town of Deep Run, North Carolina, a brave queer teen faces the daunting conflict of faith and family as he embraces his authentic self. Called Jasmine at birth, Cole Ray Davis falls in love and fights for his soul as he confronts the weight of the world while refusing to abandon the place he calls home. Fiercely determined, Cole and his girlfriend Ashley face the fear and the hypocrisy of the Deep South while holding hard to their steadfast Christian faith and their ties to family. Director Hillevi Loven lets Cole’s voice ring true in an intimate film that is both raw with emotion and covered in grace. Executive Producer Susan Sarandon worked for six years to bring Cole’s story to light. Cole has worked his entire life to stand in his own light, in his own place. – SH

Preceded by Stealth (Bennett Lasseter, 2014, USA, 22 min) Everybody just wants to fit in, especially eleven year old girls. Lunch & Celebration to follow!

DESSERT MIGRATION
Sponsored by AIDS Service Association of Pinellas and Metro Wellness and Community Centers
Daniel Cardone, 2015, USA, 82 min

This compelling and contemplative documentary follows a dozen men who have survived HIV, emerging startled from a past littered with the deaths of the many who passed. These marginalized gay men flock to Palm Springs to die surrounded by the stark beauty of this desert oasis...only to find themselves very much alive. The mundane motions of their days become triumphant as they expose the hidden battles that allow them to persist. - Samantha Mitchell

Preceded by When the Party Ends (KT Curran, 2014, USA, 17 min) Against the backdrop of a Sarasota nightclub, a group of young friends explore life, passion and relationships in a world where being in love can mean risking it all.

Director KT Curran, cast and crew from When the Party Ends are scheduled to attend.

THAT’S NOT US
William Sullivan, 2015, USA, 98 min

A weekend trip to Fire Island at the end of the summer season brings three couples together at different phases of their relationships. Alex and Jackie are long-term girlfriends currently going through a dry spell. Alex’s sister Liz is there with her new boyfriend Dougie, in the sex-crazed honeymoon phase of their relationship. James and Spencer recently moved in together, but Spencer’s acceptance to a prestigious education program in Chicago puts a wrinkle in their plans. Bike riding lessons, a rainbow dildo, and lots of alcohol all force the couples to reexamine their life choices. – David Gonzalez

BEAUTIFUL SOMETHING
Sponsored by Sylvia Rusche of State Farm Insurance
Joseph Graham, 2015, USA, 92 min

In downtown Philadelphia, four men wrestle with desire as they cross paths through the chill of the night. Brian is a poet looking for inspiration in all the wrong places. Alex’s sister Liz is there with her new boyfriend Dougie, in the sex-crazed honeymoon phase of their relationship. James and Spencer recently moved in together, but Spencer’s acceptance to a prestigious education program in Chicago puts a wrinkle in their plans. Bike riding lessons, a rainbow dildo, and lots of alcohol all force the couples to reexamine their life choices. – David Gonzalez

Director Joe Graham and actor Brian Sheppard are scheduled to attend.
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Saturday, October 3 • 10:30pm • Palladium

SEED MONEY: THE CHUCK HOLMES STORY
Michael Stabile, 2014, USA, 70 min

Legendary Falcon Studios founder Chuck Holmes had a vision of what gay porn should be and it was blond, clean-cut, and all-American. He almost singlehandedly took gay porn from the back alleys to the mainstream building a worldwide empire of flesh and fantasy. However, the AIDS epidemic changed everything that mattered to him, his passion, and even his own life. Seed Money takes the veil off the industry through vintage film clips and thoughtful interviews from Jeff Stryker, John Waters, and Chi Chi LaRue, among others. – DG

Preceded by Been Too Long at the Fair (Charles Lum & Todd Verow, 2014, USA, 6 min) A man’s neighborhood porno theater is his best friend.

Sunday, October 4 • 12:00pm • Palladium

DRAG BECOMES HIM
Alex Berry, 2015, USA, 90 min

Jinkx Monsoon is the hardest-working woman in show business. The winner of Season 5 of Ru Paul’s Drag Race is an incredibly talented and driven performer in the art form that is drag. Jerick Hoffer discovered theater as a young teen, channeled his talent into Jinkx, and built a critically acclaimed reputation as a singer/performer. Chosen as one of the Artists of the Year by City Arts Magazine, Jerick is constantly in demand across the country. This intimate documentary evolved from a YouTube docu-series since 2011 and as a feature film, it entertainingly highlights a deeply committed master of his craft. – SH

Sunday, October 4 • 10:00am • Hollander Hotel

FILMMAKERS’ BRUNCH

Join visiting filmmakers and your fellow TIGLFF enthusiasts for an Opening Weekend Sunday brunch at the Hollander Hotel! Director Casper Andreas, Writer/Producer David Michael Barrett and lead actor Van Hansis will be here from our Opening Night film, Kiss Me, Kill Me, as well as Beautiful Something Director Joe Graham and lead actor Brian Sheppard. Come welcome them to Tampa Bay and lend your hospitality as we enjoy an award-winning brunch in the exquisite Hollander Hotel’s Tap Room Restaurant.

Price is $15.75, includes brunch, non-alcoholic beverages, and gratuity. Everyone is welcome!
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Sunday, October 4 • 2:00pm • Palladium

**MEN’S SHORTS** Sponsored by The Vinoy Renaissance Resort

*Tradesman’s Exit* (Tom E. Brown, 2015, USA, 12 min) Breaking up is hard to do.

*Open Relationship* (Carlos Ocho, 2014, Spain, 14 min) Serious negotiations are so complicated!

*The Future Perfect* (Nicolas Citton, 2014, USA, 13 min) Zachary Quinto comes from the future.

*Health Class* (Brad McDermott, 2015, Canada, 9 min) How was your sex ed class?

*Tom in America* (Flávio Alves, 2014, USA/Brazil, 17 min) Tom of Finland stirs up old urges.

*The Age of Insecurity: Bed Buds* (Adriano Velentini, 2014, Canada, 6 min) Bros in bed.

*The Next Stop* (Andy Biscontini, 2015, USA, 17 min) Internet dating can satisfy young and old.

Sunday, October 4 • 4:00pm • Palladium

**GUIDANCE**

Pat Mills, 2015, Canada, 81 min

While buying tequila for some teenagers one afternoon, it strikes actor David Gold that he has a passion for helping today’s youth. On the precipice of eviction and with only his raging alcoholism as support, David decides to reinvigorate his acting career by committing identity theft to land a gig as a guidance counselor. Teetering “between caring too much and not giving a fuck,” he almost starts to help these kids—until things get out of control. - SM

*Preceded by* *Three* (Lucas Omar, 2014, USA, 22 min) Online dating leads to misunderstandings and misadventures with hilarious consequences and an attractive cast.

*Director Lucas Omar, cast and crew from Three are scheduled to attend.*

Sunday, October 4 • 6:15pm • Palladium

**MARGARITA WITH A STRAW** Sponsored by Sandra Palmer and Julie Rochman

Shonali Bose, 2014, India, 98 min; in English & Hindi with subtitles

Beautiful Laila has a loving, devoted family and she attends the University of Delhi where she writes lyrics for a rock and roll band. She falls in love with the lead singer who, as lead singers do, breaks her heart. Not to worry, Laila has another suitor. Ah, but she breaks his heart. She moves to New York and finds herself involved with a woman she meets at an Occupy protest. Just another story of budding adulthood, right? But Laila has cerebral palsy and is wheelchair bound. Does that change the story? Surprisingly, not much. Indian superstar, Kalki Koechlin embraces the role of Laila and delivers a vibrant, yet intimate, performance that makes a lasting impression. Film-maker Shonali Bose’s (Amu) second film is certainly a consciousness raiser, but it is not sermon. Rather, it is a delicious sip of something new and immensely satisfying. - SH

Sunday, October 4 • 8:15pm • Palladium

**NASTY BABY** Sponsored by Creative Loafing

Sebastián Silva, 2015, USA/Chile, 100 min

Sebastián Silva directs and stars as Freddy, a performance artist preparing for his next installation at the local gallery. He and partner Mo (TV on the Radio’s Tunde Adebimpe) are trying to have a baby with the help of their best friend Polly (SNL alum Kristen Wiig). After Freddy’s sperm count comes back as less than desirable, they turn to Mo, but he has some hesitations and family pressure. Further complicating matters is a neighborhood squatter who calls himself The Bishop. As the trio progress to bringing a new life into the world, The Bishop escalates his harassment with dangerous consequences. - DG
26th Annual
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October 2-10, 2015

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VENUE KEY

film festival

Kiss Me, Kill Me
Friday, October 2nd
8:00PM • Palladium

Deep Run
Saturday, October 3rd
11:00AM • MFA

Desert Migration
Saturday, October 3rd
1:00PM • Palladium

That's Not Us
Saturday, October 3rd
3:15PM • Palladium

Lea DeLaria
Saturday, October 3rd
6:00PM • Palladium

Beautiful Something
Saturday, October 3rd
8:15PM • Palladium

Seed Money
Saturday, October 3rd
10:30PM • Palladium

Filmmaker’s Brunch
Sunday, October 4th
10:00AM • Hollander

Drag Becomes Her
Sunday, October 4th
12:00PM • Palladium

Men’s Shorts
Sunday, October 4th
2:00PM • Palladium

Guidance
Sunday, October 4th
4:00PM • Palladium

Margarita with a Straw
Sunday, October 4th
6:15PM • Palladium

Nasty Baby
Sunday, October 4th
8:15PM • Palladium

Sworn Virgin
Sunday, October 4th
4:00PM • MCC

Out to Win
Sunday, October 4th
6:00PM • MCC

Those People
Sunday, October 4th
8:15PM • MCC

Portrait of a Serial Monogomist
Monday, October 5th
7:30PM • freeFall

In the Grayscale
Monday, October 5th
7:30PM • Studio Movie Grill

Summer of Sangaile
Tuesday, October 6th
7:00PM • freeFall

Naz & Malik
Tuesday, October 6th
9:00PM • freeFall
schedule of events

**The New Girlfriend**  
Tuesday, October 6th  
7:30PM • Studio Movie Grill

**From this Day Forward**  
Wednesday, October 7th  
7:00PM • freeFall

**While You Weren’t Looking**  
Wednesday, October 7th  
9:00PM • freeFall

**Love Island**  
Wednesday, October 7th  
7:00PM • Studio Movie Grill

**Baby Steps**  
Wednesday, October 7th  
9:00PM • Studio Movie Grill

**Women’s Shorts**  
Thursday, October 8th  
7:00PM • Hickman

**How to Win at Checkers**  
Thursday, October 8th  
9:00PM • Hickman

**The Wiz**  
Thursday, October 8th  
9:00PM • Woodson Museum

**Eisenstein in Guanajuato**  
Thursday, October 8th  
7:00PM • Villagio

**Darkness by Day**  
Thursday, October 8th  
9:00PM • Villagio

**Liz in September**  
Friday, October 9th  
7:00PM • Hickman

**S&M Sally**  
Friday, October 9th  
9:00PM • Hickman

**54 - The Director’s Cut**  
Friday, October 9th  
8:00PM • Muvico Sundial

**Rooftop Shorts Party**  
Friday, October 9th  
10:30PM • Hotel Zamora

**The New Man**  
Friday, October 9th  
7:00PM • MCC

**Henry Gamble’s Birthday Party**  
Friday, October 9th  
9:00PM • MCC

**Reel in the Closet**  
Saturday, October 10th  
12:00PM • Hickman

**Akron**  
Saturday, October 10th  
2:00PM • Hickman

**Best of Fest Shorts**  
Saturday, October 10th  
4:15PM • Hickman

**Two 4 One**  
Saturday, October 10th  
6:15PM • Hickman

**Fourth Man Out**  
Saturday, October 10th  
8:00PM • Palladium

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Sunday, October 4 • 4:00pm • MCC
**SWORN VIRGIN**  
Laura Bispu, 2015, Italy/Switzerland/Germany/Albania/Republic of Kosovo, 90 min; in Albanian and Italian with subtitles

In a remote Albanian village, the ancient laws of the Kanun allow a woman to eschew the burdens of her gender if she swears an oath to remain a virgin, forever. She takes a male name and is allowed to live her life as a man with all of the privileges and responsibilities of being male. Mark used to be a butchy girl called Hana, and he has been living as a sworn virgin since his youth. After his mother dies, he leaves his rural Albanian home for the first time to live with his sister in Italy, where he begins to contemplate the oath of his youth. Italian superstar and multiple award-winner Alba Rohrwacher delivers a powerfully subtle performance in a captivating exploration of gender and sexuality. - SH

Sunday, October 4 • 6:00pm • MCC
**OUT TO WIN**  
Malcolm Ingram, 2015, Canada, 104 min

There was a time that it would have been unheard of for active professional athletes to come out publicly. Any athletes who did came out well after their playing days were over. With Jason Collins and Michael Sam, we are in the middle of an exciting wave of young players willing to be true to who they are and who they love. Featuring interviews with Martina Navratilova, Billie Jean King, Brittney Griner, Billy Bean and more, Out to Win is a skillfully crafted and wonderfully uplifting documentary that serves as an examination of the progress that’s been made and the athletes who have paved the way. - DG

Sunday, October 4 • 8:15pm • MCC
**THOSE PEOPLE**  
Joey Kuhn, 2015, USA, 95 min

We all know those people, the beautiful ones who seem to have it all. On Manhattan’s Upper East Side, art school student Charlie is so smitten with his manipulative best friend that his self-portrait assignment becomes yet another depiction of the handsome Sebastian. They, along with friends Ursula, London, and Wyatt live without a care in the world. Social and financial pressures begin to fragment the group, and Sebastian is threatened when Charlie finds the man of his dreams in a charming older pianist (The Visitor’s handsome Haaz Sleiman) who wants to take him away from the chaos. - DG

Monday, October 5 • 7:30pm • freeFall
**PORTRAIT OF A SERIAL MONOGAMIST**  
Sponsored by JPMorgan Chase  
Christina Zeidler & John Mitchell, 2014, Canada, 84 min

Breaking up is hard to do, but it is not impossible. So says Elsie, a “not so square” Toronto lesbian on the next big cusp of her life. Leaving her girlfriend and facing a corporate takeover at work, Elsie navigates the uncertainty of her future in the shadow of her disapproving mother; disapproving not because Elsie is a lesbian, but because she is in her forties and still single! Bad advice, a plethora of former girlfriends and awkward attempts at dating send Elsie spinning as she seeks the next big love of her life. Canadians John Mitchell and Christina Zeidler write and direct an amicable story of middle-age drama and the constant coming of age that is life. – SH

Preceded by **Whatever We Want to Be** (Stephanie Williams, 2014, USA, 14 min) Two free spirits have met their match in this love story for modern times.
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Monday, October 5 • 7:30pm • Studio Movie Grill

**IN THE GRAYSCALE**  Sponsored by Hillsborough Film Commission
Claudio Marcone, 2015, Chile, 101 min; in Spanish with subtitles

Handsome architect Bruno finds himself living alone after a recent separation from his wife. Their problems stem from Bruno’s description of marriage in transitional terms instead of finite. A new monument project for the Chilean capital city of Santiago connects Bruno to history teacher Fer who is gay and out and sees sexuality as either black or white. Fer quickly senses Bruno’s curiosity and helps him explore the possibilities after a few bike trips around the city. Afterward, Fer is frustrated with Bruno’s inability to define their relationship and his own sexuality, preferring to live in the grayscale. – DG

Preceded by **Lazarus Comes Out**  (Lorenzo Caproni, 2015, Italy, 14 min) Amiable priest Don Valter is challenged when an attractive out man comes to town to portray Lazarus in an annual parish play.

Tuesday, October 6 • 7:00pm • freeFall

**SUMMER OF SANGAILE**  Sponsored by The Hollander Hotel
Alanté Kavaïté, 2015, Lithuania/France/Netherlands, 87 min; in Lithuanian with subtitles

Sangaile is seventeen and locked away in teenage rebellion, miserably vacationing with her parents at their gorgeous modern lake house. The summer is long and introspective until she meets Auste, who is beautiful, transparent and completely smitten with the brooding Sangaile. Their romance simmers and then burns through the final days of growing up. Award-winning Lithuanian filmmaker, Alante Kevaite captures the smoldering, encompassing grip of adolescent emotions with gorgeous scenery and captivating performances by Julija Steponaityte and Aiste Dirziute that make for a hypnotic film beyond the simple premise of young love. – SH

Preceded by **Notes From There**  (Ann Prim, 2015, USA, 13 min) Pepca and Martine are lovers and dance collaborators torn apart by the immigration arrest of Martine. They must learn to be there, no matter where there is.

Tuesday, October 6 • 9:00pm • freeFall

**NAZ & MAALIK**  Sponsored by The UPS Store
Jay Dockendorf, 2015, USA, 85 min

Two Muslim teens living in post 9/11 Brooklyn balance their mutual romantic attraction with their small-time scheming operation. Reserved Naz and outgoing Maalik have recently taken their relationship to a new level, though the teens have not declared their sexuality to family or friends. After a run-in with an undercover cop selling guns, they are put under surveillance by an FBI agent new to the Bedford-Stuyvesant area. This gripping and original story is inspired by writer and director Jay Dockendorf’s interviews with Muslims - some closeted gays – who were placed under FBI surveillance after 9/11. – DG

Preceded by **Caged**  (Lazlo & Dylan Tonk, 2013, Netherlands, 14 min) David is torn when he discovers his best friend Niels is gay.

Tuesday, October 6 • 7:30pm • Studio Movie Grill

**THE NEw GIRLFRIEND**
François Ozon, 2014, France, 109 min; in French with subtitles

Claire and David bond over the loss of Laura, Claire’s best friend and David’s wife. As they grieve together, they help each other become their more authentic selves. Like a French perfume, this psychological bender of a romantic comedy has crisp, floral head notes, heavy heart notes, and dramatic base notes. Prolific French director Ozon’s latest masterpiece wafts through the complexity of human sexuality from the intimacy and aching longing of female friendships, to transvestism, transsexuality, lesbianism and a mere hint of necrophilia. – Karin Wolf

Preceded by **The neW Girlfriend**  (François Ozon, 2014, France, 109 min; in French with subtitles)
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Wednesday, October 7 • 7:00pm • freeFall
FROM THIS DAY FORWARD  Sponsored by Equality Florida
Sharon Shattuck, 2015, USA, 79 min

For better or for worse, in sickness and in health, till death do you part … are you sure? This middle class family consists of mom and dad and two teen-age kids trying to, “just blend in with everybody else,” while coming to terms with the truth that dad would be more comfortable being mom. From This Day Forward is the honest, transparent story of one family’s decision to stay together as Michael struggles to live out-loud as Trish. Intimate home movies, intensely personal interviews and photos enrich this compelling story by Sharon Shattuck, an award winning documentary filmmaker (Animated Life) as she chronicles what is, ultimately, the love story of her parents, Marsha and Trish. – SH
Preceded by Flying Solo: A Transgender Widow Fights Discrimination (Leslie von Pless, 2014 USA, 8 min)  A 92 year old WWII vet and pilot wants to be treated like any other widow.

Wednesday, October 7 • 9:00pm • freeFall
WHILE YOU WEREN’T LOOKING
Catherine Stewart, 2015, South Africa, 74 min; in English, Xhosa and Afrikaans with subtitles

All of a sudden, Dez is going through something of a mid-life crisis. Terri, her wife, begins to see it all as their 20th anniversary unfolds as a turning point in their lives. Their 18-year-old daughter, Asanda, has her own issues emerging as she forms a relationship with Shado, a “tommy boy” from Khayelitsha, a township on the edge of Cape Town. Director Catherine Stewart is ambitious and solid in her first feature film, which explores the raging issues of social status, economics and the deep culture of the progressive, yet struggling South Africa. – SH
Preceded by Veracity (Seith Mann, 2015, USA, 19 min)  When new girl Imani shows up in Olivia’s drama class, she gets butterflies. But acceptance doesn’t come as easily as attraction.

Wednesday, October 7 • 7:00pm • Studio Movie Grill
LOVE ISLAND  Sponsored by Brighthouse
Jasmila Zbanic, 2014, Croatia/Germany/Switzerland/Bosnia/Herzegovina, 86 min in English, Croatian & Bosnian with English subtitles.

You know it is going to messy when a woman professes, “I love my husband” and then lunges into a mind-blowing kiss with the woman her husband fantasizes about … and, unknown to him, is her ex-lover. Marital bliss takes an unexpected turn on Love Island, a steamy vacation spot teeming with intrigue and not so subtle sexual tension. Liliane and Grebo are supposed to be a happy, successful couple taking a vacation just before their child is born. Their island getaway opens their eyes to unforeseen possibilities as they discover that there is plenty of love to share. Award winning Bosnian filmmaker, Jasmila Zbanic breaks out with her first romantic comedy and has some serious fun with this crazy summer adventure. – SH
Preceded by In the Stream (Katie McCullough, 2014, UK, 16 min) Love is a metaphor, a metaphor is love…

Wednesday, October 7 • 9:00pm • Studio Movie Grill
BABY STEPS
Barney Cheng, 2014, Taiwan, 102 min; in English & Mandarin with subtitles

Taiwanese-American Danny and his partner Tate live in West Hollywood and they want to have a baby. Danny’s mom, Mrs. Lee, (expertly played by The Wedding Banquet’s Gua Ah-leh) travels from Taipei to oversee the proceedings and ensure the surrogate mother is exactly right. She has a vested interest, as she has no other grandchildren and longs to continue her bloodline. After failing to find a proper match in the US and without success in other countries, the trio decide to approach Mickey, Mrs. Lee’s beloved Indonesian maid. Conflicts inevitably arise between mother and the parental wanna-bes, and Mrs. Lee must figure out how to come to terms with her non-traditional family. - DG
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Dr. Suzanne Thatcher
Thursday, October 8 • 9:00pm • Hickman

HOW TO WIN AT CHECKERS (EVERY TIME)
Josh Kim, 2015, Thailand, 80 min; in Thai with subtitles

Oat, a young man in Bangkok, remembers the turning point in his life. At eleven, his idolized older brother, Ek, must participate in Thailand’s bizarre military draft lottery. Cards are drawn and the color of the card decides the fate of the young men. Working class, Ek and his affluent boyfriend are up for the lottery and Oat quickly learns hard lessons about the privilege of class and the rigged system that he cannot beat. Based on the short stories “At the Café Lovely” and “Draft Day” from bestselling book Sightseeing by Rattawut Lapcharoensap, Josh Kim’s feature debut weaves gay and transgender characters seamlessly into a story of family and the turbulent journey from boy to man. – SH

Preceded by Big Time - my doodled diary (Sonali Gulati, 2015, India/USA, 12 min) Growin’ up is hard to do. It’s important to record everything!

Thursday, October 8 • 7:00pm • Hickman

WOMEN’S SHORTS Sponsored by ProSuzy

When Mom Visits (Chuang-Wen Chang, 2015, Taiwan/USA, 19 min) Surprised! Cue complications.
The First Session (Ryan Logan, 2015, USA, 6 min) Therapy is a great place to meet chicks.
Pepper (Patrick Aubert, 2014, Canada, 7 min) Three is sometimes, for some people, a crowd.
Moonlight (Janella Larci, 2015, USA, 12 min) Memories can seem so real…
Secrets & Toys (Quentin Lee, 2014, USA, 12 min) Mom can handle it, believe me.
Falling (Maija Suchak & Iman Peterkin, 2015, USA, 10 min) Parents just don’t understand.
The Plunge (Kate Lefoe, 2014, Australia, 6 min) Has a girlfriend ever done this to you?
No Matter Who (Anne-Claire Jaulin, 2015, France, 19 min) Girl Scout camp passions.

Thursday, October 8 • 7:00pm • Villagio

EIENSTEIN IN GUANAJUATO
Peter Greenaway, 2015, Netherlands/Mexico/Finland/ Belgium, 106 min

Rejected by Hollywood, Russian filmmaker Sergei Eisenstein travels to Mexico to shoot a new film funded by author and socialite Upton Sinclair. Eisenstein travels among Mexico’s elite, including Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, but his greatest enlightenment comes from his guide Palomino Cañedo. Eisenstein follows his Palomino leads him into a world of pleasure and homoeroticism, with direct yet gentle resolve. Legendary director Peter Greenaway’s (The Cook, the Thief, His Wife and Her Lover) latest film is a visual masterpiece filled with precise montages and stunning art direction, told at a hurried, frenetic pace much like Eisenstein’s life. – DG

Thursday, October 8 • 8:00pm • Woodson

THE WIZ Sponsored by Macy’s
Sidney Lumet, 1978, USA, 134 min

“There’s a feeling here inside, that I cannot hide and I know I’ve tried. But, it’s turning me around.” The Wiz’s version of “Toto, we’re not in Kansas anymore” is just the beginning of this beautifully crafted film by Sidney Lumet, with a who’s who of 1978 cast. These songs have become classics, from “Ease on Down the Road” all the way to “Home” with tunes from Quincy Jones, Luther Vandross, Nick Ashford and more. Michael Jackson’s film debut was a critical success and the film has thrived as a cult favorite around the world. Diva Diana Ross, the regal Lena Horne and the brilliance of Richard Pryor and Nipsey Russell round out a film that is not so much throw-back as it is nostalgia. – SH

This is an outside screening, so bring blankets or chairs to enjoy the film.
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Thursday, October 8 • 9:00pm • Villagio

DARKNESS BY DAY
Martin Desalvo, 2013, Argentina, 75 min; in Spanish with subtitles

In a darkly beautiful Argentinian estate, Virginia waits at home alone. Her father, a doctor, has gone to help a sick cousin. Meanwhile, another cousin, the broodingly stunning Anabel, arrives and the two huddle in remote isolation as stories of a local rabies epidemic circle around them. Anabel too suffers from a mysterious illness, sleeping by day and waking into the woods at night. Virginia herself suffers from nightmares. Languid shots slowly build tension and suspense prevails. Masterful cinematography helps create the perfect atmosphere for this vampiric feature with lesbian undertones. –KW

Preceded by

Between Silences (Axel Ducret & Siham Bel, 2015, France, 15 min) It’s a thin line between love and hate.

Friday, October 9 • 7:00pm • Hickman

LIZ IN SEPTEMBER Sponsored by St. Petersburg/Clearwater Film Commission
Fina Torres, 2014, Venezuela, 92 min; in Spanish with subtitles

Death is God’s greatest betrayal. Who is innocent? No one. Patricia Velasquez, (“The L Word” and The Mummy) “the world’s first Latin supermodel” and recently out lesbian is the beautiful Liz, who loves women with a passion and lives life the same way, even when both are slowly moving out of her grasp. The steamy backdrop of an exclusively lesbian seaside resort and the beautiful Liz capture the heart of Eva, a grieving young mother finding her way back from the loss of her son. Loving Liz is Eva’s path to redemption and the warm embrace of the cadre of women is her destiny. Beautiful cinematography and a delightful cast keep Fina Torres’ (Oriana) film from falling into cliché, while celebrating the kinship of women and the notion of unconditional love. –SH

Preceded by

Truckin’ (Diane Newman, 2015, USA, 11 min) Food truck rivals with a past come to terms with their childhood differences.

Friday, October 9 • 9:00pm • Hickman

S&M SALLY
Michelle Ehlen, 2015, USA, 79 min

When your S&M pseudonym is Sally, you are obviously not a top! Even if you want to be the butchest, badass in the room, you are in for a world of hurt as Sally. Sally aka Jamie’s new paramour is the lovely Jill who, much to Jamie’s chagrin, knows a thing or two about being the top and has much to teach budding BDSM virgin, Jamie. Visiting the dungeon is an eye-popping adventure for Jamie, who is most comfortable in the snack room of the BDSM club. (Seriously, they really do have great snacks. Everybody gets hungry after a great workout.) Writer/Director and lead actor, Michelle Ehlen keeps the touch light as she whips up an in-your-face romp of fantasy and fun. –SH

Preceded by

OutLoud (Chantale Glover, 2015, USA, 17 min) Longing for acceptance from her family and thriving in her church community, Nadia lives and sings with glowing authenticity.

Friday, October 9 • 7:00pm • MCC

THE NEW MAN
Aldo Garay, 2015, Uruguay, 79 min; in Spanish with subtitles

Every person has a unique story and shares that with the world accordingly. Stories of individuals transitioning their gender can also be told in vastly different ways. They can be lived in the limelight like Caitlyn Jenner or they can be quietly heroic like our protagonist Stephanie. Born Roberto in Nicaragua where he supported the Sandinista revolution and fought for education and social reforms, Stephanie now lives in Montevideo and is traveling back home looking for acceptance from both society and family. Winner of Berlin’s prestigious Teddy Award for Best Documentary, this rich and astonishing film is a treat for the mind and the heart. –DG

Preceded by

OutLoud (Chantale Glover, 2015, USA, 17 min) Longing for acceptance from her family and thriving in her church community, Nadia lives and sings with glowing authenticity.
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Friday, October 9 • 9:00pm • MCC
HENRY GAMBLE’S BIRTHDAY PARTY
Stephen Cone, 2015, USA, 87 min

Henry Gamble wakes up next to his close friend on the morning of his 17th birthday and, as boys his age do, they talk about sex. After their morning rituals, the boys prepare for the big birthday party later that day. Guests show up, and they all take their traditional positions, kids in the pool and the adults supervising. After the usual talk about church sermons and youth camps, some unexpected guests and a box of wine shake up the proceedings and the status quo, revealing secrets that fester right below the surface. – DG

Preceded by Scotty & Josh Get Enlightened (Dan Pal, 2014, USA, 15 min)
The morning after first-time sex, Scotty and Josh are getting along great…Until God comes up.

Friday, October 9 • Hotel Zamora
Suggested donation: $5+
Doors @ 9:00pm • Screening @ 10:30pm • Party till 1am

ROOFTOP SHORTS PARTY
AT THE ZAMORA!

Short films at a rooftop bar overlooking the beach! What could be better?!

Technical Difficulties of Intimacy (Joel Moffett, 2015, USA, 20 min)
Salvaging romance, exploring horizons.

This Film Is Not Gay (Michael Morgenstern, 2015, USA, 2 min)
‘Nuff said.

I Do (Felipe Cabral, 2014, Brazil, 20 min)
With wedding proposals, one shouldn’t assume.

The Cream (Jean-Marie Villeneuve, 2013, France, 9 min)
Man, this stuff feels good!

Weird Is Who’s Not Weird (Christopher Carballo Lerma, 2015, Mexico, 16 min)
Pool party romance.

Physical Attraction (Guy Guido, 2015, USA, 19 min)
Who doesn’t love Madonna?!

The Baby Cries (Mario Novoa, 2015, USA, 13 min)
A dramedy about love, faith & devotion.

You. Me. Bathroom. Sex. Now. (Francisco Fuertes, 2015, USA, 18 min)
The international language of love.

Friday, October 9 • 8:00pm • Muvico Sundial
54: THE DIRECTOR’S CUT Sponsored by The Hotchkiss Group
Mark Christopher, 1998/2015, USA, 106 min

Sex, drugs, disco, and at the center of it all, a bisexual anti-hero (Ryan Philippe as Shane O’Shea)… Sounds perfect for 2015, or an underground movie from the 1960s. But in 1998 when the film was originally released, some felt it might be too edgy for a wide audience. And so it was recut — one third went to the cutting room floor, and a half hour was reshot losing most of what was at the heart of the film: the sex, drugs, and bisexual anti-hero. In fact, this new cut looked and felt like an entirely different movie that one producer dubbed “55.” It could be said that 54 was ahead of its time. The world wasn’t ready for the real 1970s. But now, times have changed. — Mark Christopher
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Saturday, October 10 • 12:00pm • Hickman

REEL IN THE CLOSET

Stu Maddux, 2015, USA, 70 min

Filmmaker Stu Maddux wants to bring us out of the closet, again. This delightful documentary explores the films, tapes and videos that are languishing in the closets and attics of so many LGBT people and their families. Reels and reels of home movies are showcased, from as early as the 1930’s, and they chronicle LGBT history through the intimate lens of extraordinary, everyday people documenting their lives. These tapes and films capture everything from ordinary, mundane events to very personal views of monumental moments in our history. - SH

Followed by a panel discussion with Director Stu Maddux; Co-founder of the LGBT initiative at USF, Dr. David Johnson; and curator of the USF LGBT collections, Matt Knight. We will discuss the exciting progress made in the LGBT initiative at USF and how it relates to LGBT lives and our histories and legacies.

Saturday, October 10 • 2:00pm • Hickman

AKRON

Brian O’Donell & Sasha King, 2015, USA, 87 min

Benny and Christopher are young freshmen at their rural Ohio college when they meet playing football and begin to fall for each other—hard. But when Christopher’s mother reveals a tragic past event shared by the two boys, their young love must endure an unexpected test. Will love be able to conquer their families’ mutual pain? This sweetly earnest and well crafted feature debut is refreshing in that the lovers just happen to be gay. Their story is universally relatable and a compelling argument for the power of forgiveness in the face of unthinkable tragedy and love that persists and overcomes. – SM

Preceded by More of Last Night (Chase Casanova, 2014, USA, 16 min) Three friends on a camping trip spend the night rolling, but truth serum makes morning light realities hard to swallow.

Saturday, October 10 • 4:15pm • Hickman

BEST OF FEST SHORTS Sponsored by Watermark

Closed (Lloyd Eyre-Morgan, 2015, UK, 19 min) The ultimate queer time machine. Vagina Is the Warmest Color (Anna M. Albo, 2015, USA, 2 min) Sound familiar? Heavenly Peace (Andreas Wessel-Therhorn, 2014, USA, 5 min) Celestial König. Tomgirl (Jeremy Asher Lynch, 2014, USA, 14 min) Everybody loves Jaxie! Pipe Dream (Yudho Aditya, 2015, Indonesia, 15 min) Size doesn’t matter? Sock Puppet (Marc Seestaedt, 2014, Germany, 3 min) Dirty puppet desires. The Little Deputy (Trevor Anderson, 2015, Canada, 9 min) Are-do, with dad’s approval. 100 Crushes Chapter 6: They (Elisha Kim, 2014, Canada, 2 min) Clay-made pronoun pioneer. Followers (Tim Marshall, 2014, UK, 13 min) She sees Jesus in his crotch. 11 Life Lessons From an Awesome Old Dyke (Alison Khoury, 2015, USA, 8 min) Butch elders are the best.

Saturday, October 10 • 6:15pm • Hickman

TWO 4 ONE Sponsored by the Dali Museum

Maureen Bradley, 2014, Canada, 77 min

Adam is rationing his testosterone while saving up for genital reconstruction surgery when an unexpected and complicated fling with his ex-girlfriend Miriam leads to them both getting pregnant. As if parenthood weren’t complicated enough already, Maureen Bradley’s heartfelt comedic debut film delves into issues of masculinity, love, and what it means to be a parent. – SM

Preceded by Mothers of God (Laura Mc Gehee, 2015, USA, 10 min) When a lesbian couple discovers they’re pregnant, they must come to terms with the fact that they may be carrying the second coming.
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When Adam, an average Joe car mechanic from Anytown, America finally comes out to his best buds on his 24th birthday, they struggle to understand the surprising news. Ultimately, dudes will be dudes, and loyalty in friendship prevails. They man up, and get behind Joe’s mission, teach him how to use apps to pick up men, and escort him all the way to his first gay bar. A feel good, bro-com that reaffirms that straight ain’t necessarily narrow. - KW

Producer Lauren Avinoam is scheduled to attend.

Jake’s roommate Lucas is aching to share a big secret with him. The secret is revealed via mixtape sentiments, and they’re quite explicit.

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Photo credit: City of St Petersburg
festival jury

FRANC CASTRO served as the Executive Director of the Miami Gay & Lesbian Film Festival for 5 years until June 2013. In his tenure, he created the Fort Lauderdale Gay & Lesbian Film Festival as a stand-alone 4-day film festival over the Columbus Day Weekend. Franc has also attended numerous major film festivals such as Toronto International, Sundance, Berlin International Film Festival and Frameline. In 2012, Franc served as a Jury Member for documentaries at Frameline-the San Francisco LGBT Film Festival.

GIOVANNA CHESLER directs and produces narrative and documentary films that address the body, sexuality, and gender. These include the short melodrama Bye Bi Love (TIGLFF 2011), comedy short BeauteouS, documentary feature Period: The End of Menstruation, and PBS / LOGO documentary Out in the Night (producer) (TIGLFF 2014). Giovanna is an Associate Professor and Director of the Film and Video Studies Program at George Mason University. [Headshot photo credit, Lyric R. Cabral]

SANTIAGO ECHEVERRY is a Colombian New Media and Digital Artist with a background in Film and Television production. Thanks to a Fulbright Grant, he received his Master’s degree from the Interactive Telecommunications Program at NYU. He moved to the USA in 2003 to teach Interactivity at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, UMBC, and then relocated to Florida in the fall of 2005 to teach Digital Arts and Interactive Media at the University of Tampa.

ELSA LANKFORD is an Associate Professor in the Electronic Media and Film (EMF) department at Towson University. She teaches audio production and post-production classes and is the Festival Director of WAMMFest (Women And Minorities in Media - wammtu.com) which focuses on diversity in media production. She is a composer and musician and interdisciplinary artist who incorporates diversity, urban issues, and sound into most of her work. She lives in Baltimore City with her awesome wife Kristine and their three adorable cats.

MICKEY R MAHONEY is an educator, curator, and media maker, based in Chicago. Mahoney is an Adjunct Professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago where he teaches classes in Queer and Trans cinema in the departments of Art History and Film, Video, New Media, and Animation. He also teaches Queer TV in the Television Department at Columbia College Chicago. Mahoney serves on the Advisory Board of the TransLife Center in Chicago. mickeyraymahoney.com

GENE WEBSTER-ENGLISH, doctoral candidate, is a nineteen-year supporter of TIGLFF, having served on the Board of Directors for seven years, and he was part of the Tampa Bay Men’s Chorus in 1996, the founding producers of the festival. Gene attended the North Carolina School for the Performing Arts summer institutes, and has remained active in stage and voice performances as producer, actor and patron. Gene is the Executive Director of a local non-profit, and serves as a community activist participating in diversity and inclusion projects throughout the world.
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