



Santa Barbara  
INTERNATIONAL  
**Film**<sup>TM</sup>  
FESTIVAL

2020 - 2021  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



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## DEAR FRIENDS,

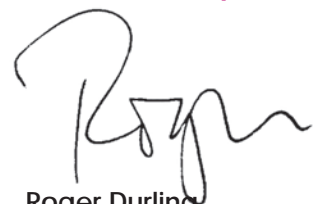
During a year of loss, isolation and separation, SBIFF made a point to respond by bringing comfort, distraction and a sense of community. Albeit, we couldn't gather, but we could still dream and be stimulated by film in our homes, and so we wrote and sent daily movie recommendations that provided an education in cinema, and strove to introduce our readers to challenging, stirring and inspiring choices. We kept this dialogue going for over a year.

Starting in March 2020, we hosted online conversations with the best talent of the year including Oscar winners Chloe Zhao, Emerald Fennell, Yuh-Jung Youn, Thomas Vinterberg, and Daniel Kaluuya amongst others. We were able to shift our educational programs online, at times with innovations that we will continue in the future. When it came time for the main festival, we knew that we needed to put together an event that would bring a sense of hope and optimism, and we succeeded by creating two drive in cinemas on SBCC parking lots overlooking the ocean and showings of great cinema for FREE while simultaneously having an online event, as well. The show did go on.

Thank you very much for supporting us during this year. Although the structure may have appeared different on many fronts, we stayed true to what is at the heart of SBIFF; our love of film, and our dedication to sharing a program of unmatched quality with our audiences near and far. We are grateful for your participation in this year's event.

We are so appreciative of your support in helping to make sure that the show will go on for many years to come.

## WITH LOVE,



**Roger Durling**  
*Executive Director*

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to engage, enrich, and inspire people through the power of film. We celebrate the art of cinema and provide impactful educational experiences for our local, national, and global communities.







89 Free Community Screenings  
37 U.S. Premieres  
47 World Premieres  
56 Oscar®-nominated & Winning Filmmakers  
45 Countries Represented

The All-New **MIRAI** Powered by hydrogen.

IMAN IN THE CLASSIC MINI UGG

ZERO EMISSIONS UP TO 402-MILE EPA-EST. RANGE HOV COMPLIMENTARY FUEL

# 36th Santa Barbara International Film Festival

This year's SBIFF included two beachside drive-in theatres to provide a safe and family friendly environment for all attendees. The drive-in venues offered all 89 film screenings **ABSOLUTELY FREE** for the community and was complemented by a brand-new virtual platform which made all films, tributes, panels, and artist Q&As available to be viewed from the comfort of home.

Presented by  
**UGG®**



# Mike's FieldTrip to the Movies

With this year's Mike's FieldTrip to the Movies program being held in the virtual space, we were able to significantly expand our reach, and included every grade school in Santa Barbara County. This year featured 3 films and offered a more robust curriculum that highlighted different facets of filmmaking, including directing, writing, producing, computer animation, and voice acting.

Sponsored by Montecito Bank & Trust, Union Bank, Patagonia, Volentine Family Foundation, Bentson Foundation

Roger Durling leading  
a discussion with  
SOUL's Pete Docter  
and Dana Murray



## SOUL

### Guest Mentors:

- Academy Award-Winning Director Pete Docter
- Academy Award-Winning Producer Dana Murray
- Director of Photography Matt Asbury
- Director of Photography Ian Megibben

## OVER THE MOON

### Guest Mentors:

- Editor Edie Ichioka
- Computer Graphics Supervisor Clara Chan
- Voice Actor Cathy Ang

## WOLFWALKERS

### Guest Mentors:

- Writer and Director Tomm Moore
- Writer and Director Ross Stewart



3,500  
Overall Attendance

125  
Total Classrooms

84  
Title I Classrooms

2,372  
Title I School Attendance



# 10-10-10 Screenwriting & Filmmaking Mentorship and Competition

10 teams of student directors and screenwriters from local high schools and colleges were paired with acclaimed industry professionals to create their own short films. This year's program has been extended into 2022 to allow additional time for students to safely produce their films.

Sponsored by Final Draft, Inc.



*PALM SPRINGS' Director Max Barbakow and Roger Durling talking with Film Studies participants.*

## Film Studies Program

The 2021 Film Studies Program expanded to host 30 National and 48 California college students with curriculum-driven access to SBIFF for the educational experience of a lifetime. Students enjoyed the many films and panels offered by the festival and participated in private conversations with leading filmmakers and friends of SBIFF.

Sponsored by Lynda Weinman and Bruce Heavin



*Students and Mentors at the virtual table reads of the final scripts*





61  
Screenings with Q&As

129  
Q&A Participants

## SBIFF Cinema Society

Our popular membership series quickly moved to virtual programming and was able to significantly grow the number of screenings and artist Q&As offered to participants. This year's Cinema Society included MINARI, NOMADLAND, JUDAS AND THE BLACK MESSIAH, THE TRIAL OF THE CHICAGO 7 and many more.

Academy Award Winner  
Daniel Kaluuya joined us for a Q&A  
about JUDAS AND THE BLACK MESSIAH



# Film Talk

*This year, we introduced Film Talk – a weekly series that highlights a local filmmaker or past guest of the festival. The virtual discussion includes a deep dive into the creative process and provides unique perspective into the current state of the industry.*



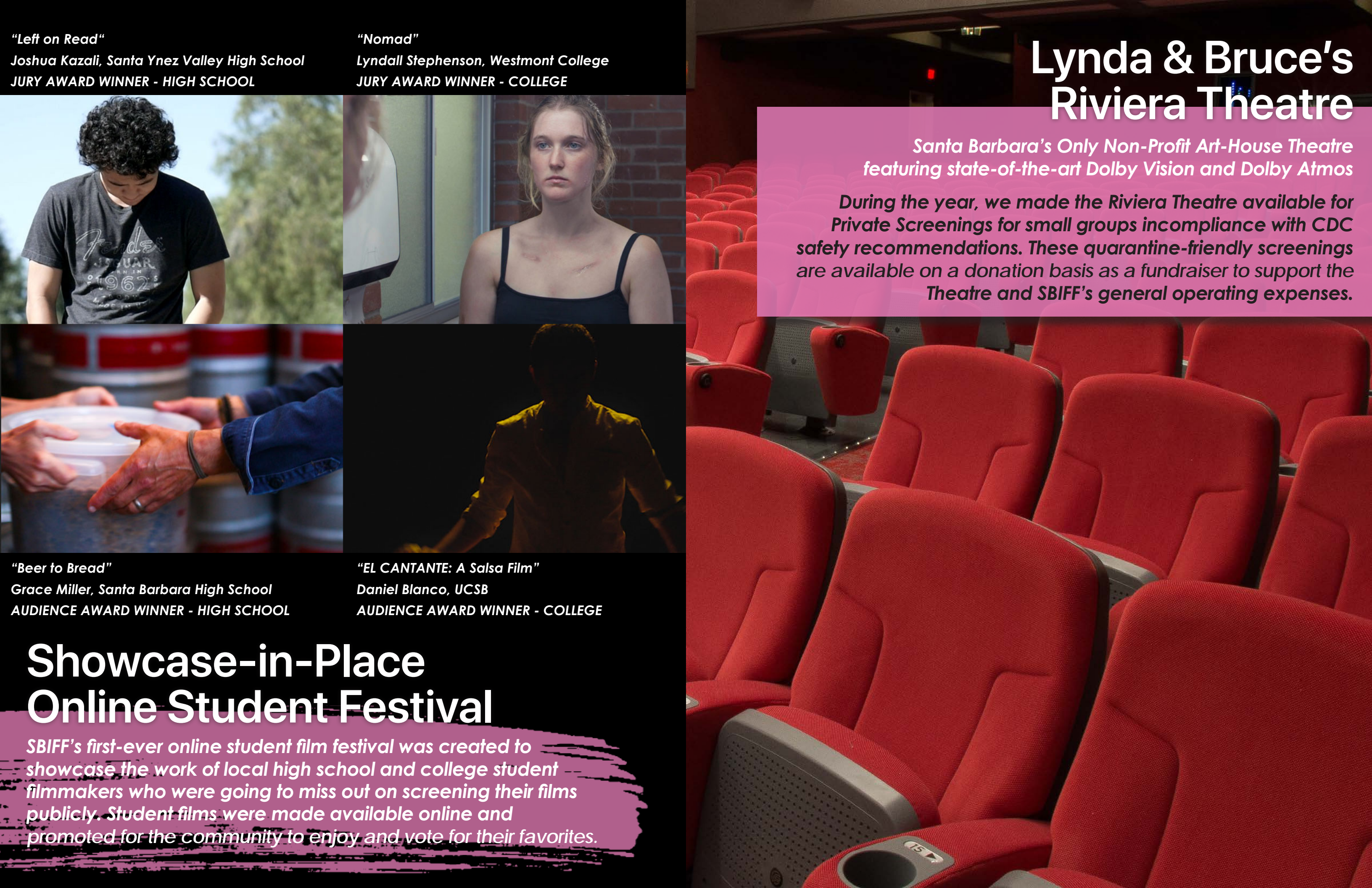
## Rosebud Program

*12 local college students were provided with access to 61 private screenings and 129 artist Q&As with some of the year's top filmmakers, including Spike Lee, Aaron Sorkin, and Carey Mulligan among many others.*



*A few of our featured filmmakers: (top to bottom)  
Jason Baffa, Christopher Oroza-Nostas, Mimi deGruy*





# Lynda & Bruce's Riviera Theatre

*Santa Barbara's Only Non-Profit Art-House Theatre  
featuring state-of-the-art Dolby Vision and Dolby Atmos*

*During the year, we made the Riviera Theatre available for  
Private Screenings for small groups in compliance with CDC  
safety recommendations. These quarantine-friendly screenings  
are available on a donation basis as a fundraiser to support the  
Theatre and SBIFF's general operating expenses.*



*"Left on Read"*

*Joshua Kazali, Santa Ynez Valley High School  
JURY AWARD WINNER - HIGH SCHOOL*

*"Nomad"*

*Lyndall Stephenson, Westmont College  
JURY AWARD WINNER - COLLEGE*

*"Beer to Bread"*

*Grace Miller, Santa Barbara High School  
AUDIENCE AWARD WINNER - HIGH SCHOOL*

*"EL CANTANTE: A Salsa Film"*

*Daniel Blanco, UCSB  
AUDIENCE AWARD WINNER - COLLEGE*

## Showcase-in-Place Online Student Festival

*SBIFF's first-ever online student film festival was created to  
showcase the work of local high school and college student  
filmmakers who were going to miss out on screening their films  
publicly. Student films were made available online and  
promoted for the community to enjoy and vote for their favorites.*



MARCH 15, 2020

Dear Cinephiles,

I hope this note finds you well. Since we're spending time at home, we thought of sending you daily movie recommendations – accompanied with a study guide (below) with fun facts. The first film is one of our personal favorites, David O. Russell's **SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK**. We all need to remain positive, focused at this moment, and I love that this movie inspires that.

One of my favorite lines is "You have to do everything you can, you have to work your hardest, and if you do, you have a shot at a silver lining." Silver Linings Playbook became the first film since 1981's Reds to be Oscar-nominated for the four acting categories and the first since 2004's Million Dollar Baby to be nominated for the Big Five Oscars, with Lawrence winning the Academy Award for Best Actress. Interestingly, David O. Russell's follow up, American Hustle, was also nominated for the four acting categories and the Big Five. I'd go as far as suggesting you do a David O. Russell retrospective – Spanking The Monkey, Flirting With Disaster, Three Kings, I Heart Huckabees, and The Fighter. His movies make for great company.

Cheers, Roger



MARCH 16,  
2020

## GROUNDHOG DAY

*Directed by Harold Ramis, 1993*

I have found that the past week, in which we have had our daily routines and habits altered, has been an opportunity for introspection, and it has afforded me time to count the blessings and the important things in my life. That's why I feel that Groundhog Day, starring a never-better Bill Murray, is one of the perfect movies to watch. This comedy is absolutely hysterical, lovable, and sweet.

I find poignancy in the fact that the main character in Groundhog Day is living his life disengaged—and then when things start deviating from the norm, he starts to learn and grow as an individual. He gets the rare chance to redo and learn from his experiences, to learn to love and live life to the fullest. He's able to find redemption and to appreciate the possibilities that can be found in every day of our lives.

Phil: "Something is different."

Rita: "Good or bad?"

Phil: "Anything different is good."



# Daily Movie Recommendations

**Every day since the start of quarantine, we produced and distributed a newsletter that includes incisive and illuminating thoughts on a different film as a well a detailed study guide to provide background and analysis of each film. Daily Movie Recommendations were often a reflection of current world events and offered our community something to look forward to each day.**

**Over 365 movie recommendations have been distributed, reaching a daily audience of 45,000+**

# AppleBox Family Films

**To continue offering family friendly programming at no cost, we created 52 family film activity guides, which we distributed every Saturday of the past year. Each included an extensive study guide and offered activities for parents to share with their children.**

## Let's Go Build a Mary Poppins Kite!



*There's no better way to get the family together than with a day in the park. Plan some outdoor fun with this DIY kite project inspired by Mary Poppins. Grab some paper and strings and a few other things, and get ready to send your kite soaring!*

**"Let's go fly a kite  
Up to the highest height!  
Let's go fly a kite and send it soaring  
Up through the atmosphere  
Up where the air is clear  
Oh, let's go fly a kite!"**

**Time: 45**

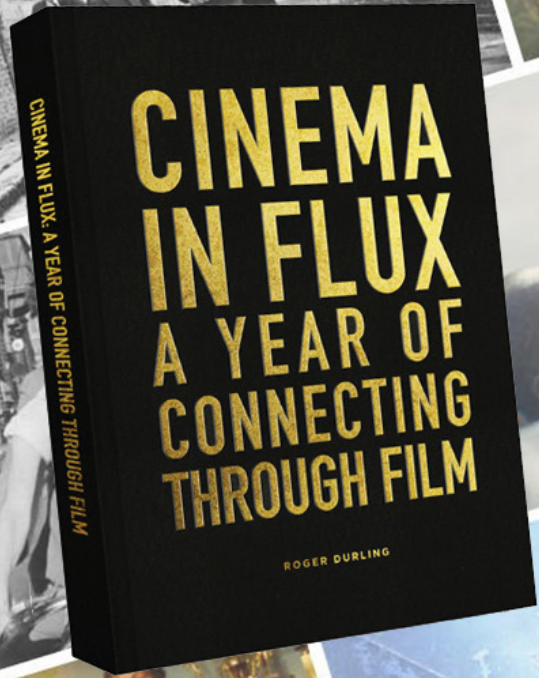
### What You'll Need:

- 36" wide sheet of white heavyweight craft paper
- Two wooden dowel rods: 1/8" x 30" and 1/8" x 21"
- Washable paint: green and yellow
- Twine
- Tape
- Ribbon, streamers or fabric
- Scissors
- Paintbrush
- Pencil
- Ruler

COURTESY OF DISNEY



**Our Daily Movie Recommendations received such a positive response, we were inspired to compile them into a coffee table book: *Cinema in Flux*. This beautiful and thoughtful book is a celebration of cinema, and what we think of as its essential role as a “second responder,” providing hope, comfort, and a source of connection, even in the most tumultuous of times. The book was generously underwritten by our Board President Lynda Weinman, and all proceeds benefit SBIFF.**



## INCOME

|                        |            |   |     |
|------------------------|------------|---|-----|
| Foundation Grants      | \$ 188,300 | ● | 07% |
| Government Grants      | 392,721    | ● | 14% |
| Corporate Sponsorships | 917,076    | ● | 32% |
| Individual Donations   | 745,240    | ● | 26% |
| In-Kind Contributions  | 596,131    | ● | 21% |



**\$ 2,840,467**

|                 |            |   |     |
|-----------------|------------|---|-----|
| SBIFF           | \$ 722,932 | ● | 96% |
| Riviera Theatre | 32,469     | ● | 04% |



**\$ 755,401**

**\$ 3,595,868**

|                |              |                        |     |
|----------------|--------------|------------------------|-----|
| Programs       | \$ 2,388,093 | <div><div></div></div> | 70% |
| Administrative | 631,431      | <div><div></div></div> | 19% |
| Fundraising    | 354,656      | <div><div></div></div> | 11% |

**\$ 3,336,680**

**\$259,188**





# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

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1528 CHAPALA STREET SUITE 203  
SANTA BARBARA CA 93101  
[WWW.SBIFF.ORG](http://WWW.SBIFF.ORG) #SBIFF