

Artis—Naples

*Home of The Baker Museum
and the Naples Philharmonic*

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**Artis—Naples Announces CALL FOR ENTRIES
For 12th Annual Naples International Film Festival**

NIFF increases filmmaker cash prizes to over \$30K



Joe Pantoliano accepting his Artis—Naples Award (Photo by Charlie McDonald)

Naples, FL (March 6, 2020) – Call for entries are now open for the 2020 Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), which will take place October 22-25, 2020. The 12th iteration of the popular regional film festival, which was selected as one of *MovieMaker Magazine's* “Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World” in 2019, will once again feature independent and international films with a spotlight on diversity, presented with its signature fun-under-the-sun style and marked appreciation for inventive and entertaining cinema. The deadline for early-bird submissions is April 30, and the final deadline is July 2, 2020.

NIFF, which prides itself on its support of independent filmmakers and the diversity and quality of films selected for screening, has become a destination festival, popular among filmmakers, film industry members and the press. Under acclaimed multidisciplinary arts organization Artis—Naples, NIFF now trains a keen eye toward the intersection of other arts disciplines and the art of filmmaking, adding to what was already a great reputation built over the past decade with independent filmmakers.

“We look forward to making new discoveries with films we select this year and the filmmakers we and our Naples film fans will get to know,” says Festival Producer Shannon Franklin. “From our Opening Night red carpet gala to what is becoming another signature event, our Closing Night screening of a film classic accompanied by the Naples Philharmonic, we look forward to another edition of NIFF filled with singular movie moments and experiences.”

In 2020, filmmakers will be vying for more than \$30,000 in cash prizes, including \$7,500 each for the two juried competitions for Best Narrative Feature and Best Documentary Feature, and \$5,000 for the Focus on the Arts Award, given to a Narrative or Documentary film with an emphasis on one or more of the visual and performing arts.

“The Naples International Film Festival continues to grow both in the number of films presented, filmmakers traveling to Naples to attend and, yes, even the prize money we award to our winning filmmakers. There is a very good reason that publications like *MovieMaker Magazine* have singled out NIFF as being one of the ‘cool’ ones,” says David Filner, Artis—Naples Executive Vice President Artistic Operations.

In 2019, NIFF screened 54 films (16 narrative features, nine documentary features, 29 short films) representing 20 countries during the four-day film festival. In addition to the films, more than 24 filmmakers attended the post-screening Q&A conversations and panel discussions during the festival and, as is the style of the Naples International Film Festival, were present throughout the festival, interacting and connecting with the film fans. Those filmmakers hailed from New Zealand, the U.K. and Japan, as well as from cities throughout the United States.



(L to R): David Filner of Artis—Naples, Akio “Jimmy” Sakurai (*Mr. Jimmy*), NIFF’s Shannon Franklin, Nick Reid (*Miss Virginia*), Peter Michael Dowd (*Mr. Jimmy*), R.J. Daniel Hanna (*Miss Virginia*), Bill Gallagher (*Runner*), Guor Mading Maker (*Runner*), Andrew Margetson (*Housekeeping*), Isis Masoud (*South Mountain*), Andrew Aiello (*International Falls*), Rebecca Tansley (*The Heart Dances*), John Hermann (*Standing Up, Falling Down*), Andrew Murton (*Above the Clouds*), Hilary Broucher (*South Mountain*), Leon Chambers (*Above the Clouds*), Kathleen van Bergen of Artis—Naples (Photo by Charlie McDonald)

NIFF 2020 Categories/Requirements

Narrative Features: Any original work of fiction 41 minutes or longer. Narrative Feature films may be foreign or domestic.

Documentary Features: Any nonfiction feature film 41 minutes or longer. Documentary Feature films may be foreign or domestic.

Short Films: Any Narrative or Documentary film 40 minutes or less.

Florida Films: The Florida Films category is intended to celebrate, encourage and support Florida filmmakers and the production of films in the state of Florida. Documentary Feature, Narrative Feature or Short films must either include a filmmaker (director or producer) or cast member (leading actor or actress) from/or currently living in Florida, and/or have partial or principal photography in Florida.

Student Filmmaker Showcase, K-12 Division: Student filmmakers in the U.S., currently enrolled in grades K-12 (as of March 2, 2020), are invited to submit a short film with a running time of 10 minutes or less (including credits) completed any time after January 1, 2019. Films of all genres are accepted (documentary, narrative and animation).

Student Filmmaker Showcase, College/University Division: College and university students currently studying in the U.S. (undergraduate or graduate) 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, 2019. Films of all genres are accepted

(documentary, narrative and animation).

AWARDS CATEGORIES

Juried awards for Narrative and Documentary features
Audience awards for Narrative and Documentary features
Audience awards for Narrative and Documentary shorts
Focus on the Arts Award
Programmers' Choice
Best First Feature
Rising Star Award
Indie Spirit Award
Impact Award
Artis—Naples Award

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

- **Early Bird: April 30, 2020**
- **Regular: May 22, 2020**
- **Late: June 12, 2020**
- **Extended: July 2, 2020**

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 and Sharon and Timothy Ubben Music Director Andrey Boreyko, 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 more than 300,000 visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities perfect for audiences of all backgrounds and interests. The Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson 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.

In the 2014-15 season, Andrey Boreyko assumed the title of music director and serves in this capacity for Artis—Naples. Boreyko is internationally recognized as one of the most exciting and dynamic conductors working today. This appointment, extended through 2022, marks his first American post.

The Wall Street Journal says van Bergen and Boreyko have ushered in “an impressive new phase” for classical music in Southwest Florida.

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.

Jack Everly is principal pops conductor and, in the 2019-20 season, celebrates 10 years in this role, bringing pops performances that celebrate music in its many forms. In 2017, Romanian conductor Radu Paponiu was named assistant conductor of the Naples Philharmonic and director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, and in 2019 was promoted to associate conductor.

THE BAKER MUSEUM

The Baker Museum is one of the foremost fine arts museums in Southwest Florida. The museum hosts several traveling exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collections. Comprising more than 3,500 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 museum's collections of American and Mexican modern art and significant gifts from the personal collection of Olga Hirshhorn.

With almost two decades of collecting and exhibiting, the museum is dedicated to stewardship and scholarship from both its growing permanent collections 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, Smithsonian Institutions and École des Beaux-Arts, Paris—to enrich the Southwest Florida community.

The Baker Museum exhibitions reopened to the public on December 1, 2019, after being closed for more than two years in the wake of Hurricane Irma. The repair of the museum was paired with a simultaneous expansion of the building to the south, which creates 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. More than 45,000 students from Collier County Public Schools interact with Artis—Naples education programming each year 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 4,000 members, 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 2018, NIFF celebrated its 10th year in the community, and, in 2019, NIFF was named one of *MovieMaker Magazine's* Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World.

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