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,

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.
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.
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

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

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

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.

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

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.
“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

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.

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.
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 well as 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+.

GROUNDHOG DAY
Directed by Harold Ramis, 1993

I have found that the past week, by which we have had our daily readings and habits altered, has been an opportunity for introspection, and it has afforded the time to count the blessings and the important things in my life. That’s why I liked that Groundhog Day, starring a nerve-rattler Bill Murray, is one of the perfect movies to watch. This comedy is absolutely hysterical, funny, and surreal.

I find poignant in the fact that the main character in Groundhog Day is trying to find something in life. He begins his lifeChanged — and finds what things aren’t changing from the norm, he starts to learn and grow as an individual. He gives the rare chance to…

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
Cinema In Flux

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.

FINANCIALS

INCOME

Contributed 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%)

Total Contributed: $2,840,467

Earned Income
- SBIFF: $722,932 (96%)
- Riviera Theatre: $32,469 (04%)

Total Earned: $755,401

TOTAL INCOME: $3,595,868

EXPENSE

- Programs: $2,388,093 (70%)
- Administrative: $631,431 (19%)
- Fundraising: $354,656 (11%)

TOTAL EXPENSE: $3,336,680

SURPLUS / DEFICIT: $259,188
THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

$350,000+
Manitou Fund
Nora McNeely Hurley & Michael Hurley

$200,000+
Lynda Weinman & Bruce Heavin

$50,000+
Leslie Sweem Bhutani & Ashish Bhutani

$25,000+
J Jeffrey Barbakow & Margo Baker Barbakow

$10,000+
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Russ & Pamela Strobel
Susan Eng-DenBaars & Steven DenBaars

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Michael Douglas & Catherine Zeta-Jones
Robin & Roger Himovitz
Tammy & Kim Hughes

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Laurie Bentzon Kauth
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THE RIVIERA PROJECT BENEFACCTOR’S CIRCLE

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SOURCES

A24
ADL Santa Barbara / Tri-Counties
Agency for the Performing Arts
Amazon Studios
Apple Original Films
Atlas Entertainment
Beltmond B Encanto
Bourke Wealth Management
Casa of Santa Barbara County
Cavalry Media
Chapman University
Comcast NBC Universal
Focus Features
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Alan & Carol Marshall
PLANNED GIVING

Build a legacy in the arts by supporting SBIFF with a planned gift. For information on how you can give, please contact our Development office at 805.963.0023 x 809.

MAKE A DONATION

To support SBIFF, please make a 100% tax deductible donation at www.sbiff.org or call us at 805.963.0023.

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