



**VIRGINIA**

**QUEER**

**FILM FESTIVAL**

**2024 SPONSOR AND MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**



# A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

## DEAR FILM LOVER,

As a life-long cinephile I'm thrilled that the Virginia Queer Film Festival is now embarking on its second year. Last year's inaugural event was an unqualified success with over 75 original film submissions from queer filmmakers around the globe, and I'm grateful for and proud of our board, volunteers, and financial supporters for bringing this project to life.

Filmmaking is a unique form of storytelling. And the story is at the heart of any good film. Unless there is an engaging story to be told, the special effects, setting, and actors are meaningless. Every culture and community has its own unique stories and narratives, and when they are shared through the medium of film, they can have a profound effect on the viewer.

Harnessing that power to tell the stories of the LGBTQ+ community is impactful in many ways. It can be an effective agent of change, and in a time when visibility is vital to our very survival film can and has paved the way to a deeper understanding of the many facets of the LGBTQ+ community.

That understanding is reflected in the increasing number of mainstream films featuring LGBTQ+ characters. In 2022, GLAAD reported that 28.5% of 350 films released featured an LGBTQ character—more than in any other year in the survey's history.

Independent festivals like ours are especially important for queer filmmakers. They give burgeoning creators an opportunity to get their work in front of audiences and, hopefully, ultimately, in front of production companies that can offer wider distribution.

Financial support from our generous donors and membership base is essential to the Virginia Queer Film Festival's continued ability to connect aspiring LGBTQ+ filmmakers with film fans who are joined together by their love of story.

Stories that make us think and feel, laugh and cry. Stories that cross boundaries and borders. Stories that reach across the globe and into our hearts.

Eric Hause

President and Festival Director



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The Virginia Queer Film Festival is a registered nonprofit Virginia corporation (Tax ID # 88-4145996) soliciting charitable donations for the purpose of operating the annual Virginia Queer Film Festival. Contributions may be tax deductible.

# ABOUT

**NOW IN OUR SECOND YEAR**, the Virginia Queer Film Festival closed the books on a successful inaugural event with filmmakers, creators, and buffs attending the multi-day festival in June 2023. Our offerings also included workshops for burgeoning creators, filmmaker talk backs, and social events. Beyond the Festival itself we curated a year-round schedule of public screenings of LGBTQ-themed films through our community outreach program, **OUT ON FILM**.

## OUR MISSION

The Virginia Queer Film Festival fosters community engagement by showcasing queer film programming and social dialogue with a focus on Southern voices.



// As a former Hampton Roads resident and graduate of Old Dominion University, it did my soul good to come home and share my passion for film making and social justice. The Festival is vital to moving that dialogue forward. //

David MacFarland  
Creator and Executive Producer, ***Alone in the Game***



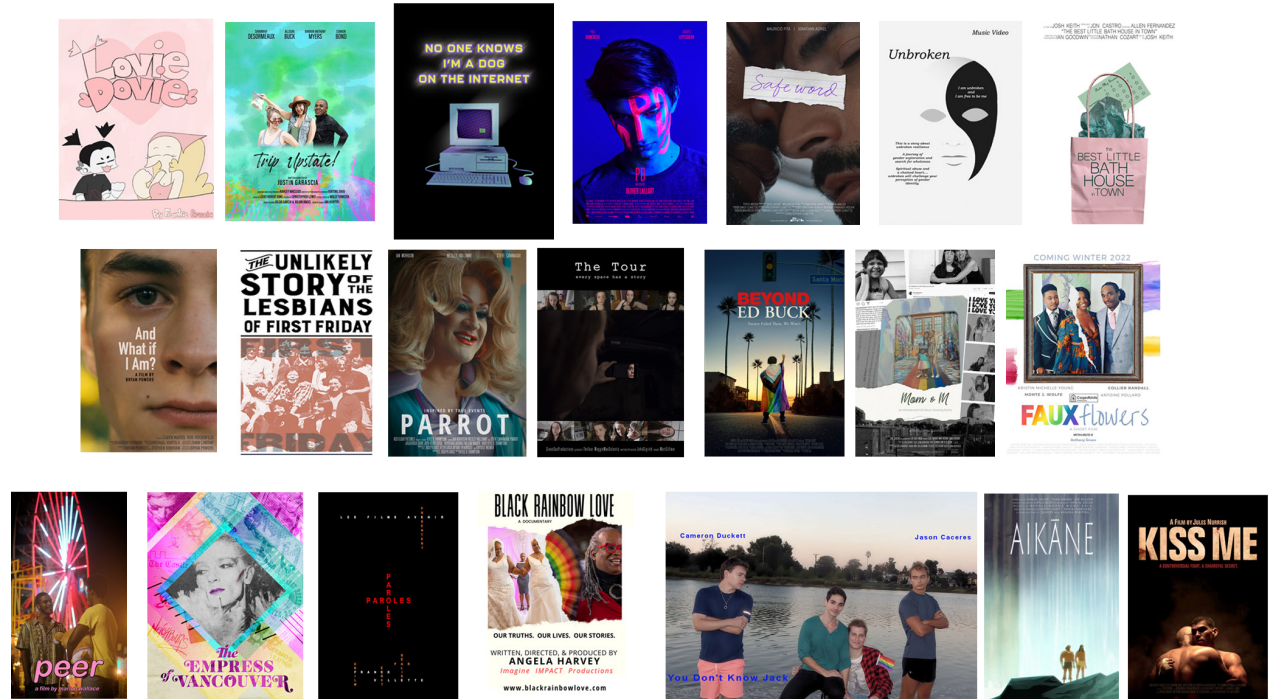
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# 2023 FILM FESTIVAL SELECTIONS

# FILMS

**OUR 2023 FESTIVAL ENTRIES** featured 21 original films by queer filmmakers from around the world. From full length documentaries to shorts, film topics ranged from the unique challenges faced by queer people of color to a school shooting during a drag story hour. Awards were presented for Best Animated Film, Best Student Film, Best Documentary, and Best Virginia Film, among others. In 2024, we're expanding our reach and opening film submissions early in the year, so expect to see a diverse and eclectic selection of entries.



// As a queer Virginia filmmaker it was an honor to be an official selection for the inaugural Virginia Queer Film Festival. This will absolutely be a festival I attend again. //

Nathan King  
 Animator, **No One Knows I'm A Dog On The Internet**  
 Winner, Best Virginia Film, 2023



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# WHY SPONSOR?

## YOU'VE HEARD OF THE BIG FILM FESTIVALS

but what about the Virginia Queer Film Festival?

You might be surprised, but there are quite a few festivals showcasing inventive, high



concept stories that you might not otherwise see because they don't have Hollywood headlining talent or a large distribution budget.

These smaller festivals also go largely unnoticed because of their lack of celebrity endorsement and strained budgets.

That's why sponsorship and membership programs are key to the success of the Virginia Queer Film Festival.

## SPONSORING THE VIRGINIA QUEER FILM FESTIVAL IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO SHOWCASE YOUR COMPANY'S BRAND—

especially when ours is a niche Festival that reaches a very specific audience. Your sponsorship is guaranteed to be seen not only by attendees and filmmakers, but in other markets where we promote the event.

Sure, having your company's name and message up in front of large crowds alongside giants like Xfinity, United Airlines, and JP Morgan Chase may be beneficial for a business with a large advertising budget.

If your ad budget is limited a low cost sponsorship with significantly fewer attendees can provide the opportunity to connect one-on-one with potential customers in a fun, casual environment.

Your support of the Festival also demonstrates your dual commitment to the LGBTQ community and the arts, both of which



face challenges in our increasingly complex world. By supporting queer filmmakers you are validating their work and contributing to the possibility that their films will be selected by mainstream production companies.

## FILMS ARE MEANT TO BE A COMMUNAL

**EXPERIENCE.** We owe it to our filmmakers to have their film judged as it was meant to be screened: with the gasps, laughs, and tears that only a live screening can provide.

Join the Virginia Queer Film Festival community today!



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# SPONSORSHIP SELECTIONS

## CREATOR - \$10,000

### Festival Promotion

- Recognition as Filmmaker Award Presenting Sponsor
- Inclusion in all 2024 Festival publicity and marketing through Festival date
- Six (6) all-access passes to Festival screenings and 2024 events\*
- Six (6) total swag bags (tote bags with complimentary T-shirts)\*
- Four (4) tickets for each screening during the 2024 Festival
- Logo on 2024 volunteer T-Shirt
- Logo on 2024 step-and-repeat
- Logo on official 2024 Festival poster
- Logo on official 2024 Festival trailer
- Logo in 2024 Festival catalog
- Opportunity for company representative to speak before each in-person screening
- Video recognition before each digital screening
- One (1) dedicated promotional email to subscribers
- Full-page ad in Festival film catalog

### Year-Round Marketing Opportunities

- Homepage ad banner on Festival website
- Company name and link to web site on VAQFF.org
- Four (4) company-dedicated social media posts
- Feature in three (3) email newsletters to Festival subscribers

\* Reservations required and based on availability.

\* Custom sponsorships available! Email [director@vaqff.org](mailto:director@vaqff.org).

## BENEFACTOR - \$5,000

### Festival Promotion

- Inclusion in three (3) press releases through Festival date
- Four (4) all-access passes to festival screenings and 2024 events\*
- Four (4) total swag bags (tote bags with complimentary T-shirts)\*
- Two (2) tickets for each screening during the 2024 Festival
- Logo on 2024 volunteer T-Shirt
- Logo on 2024 step-and-repeat
- Logo on official 2024 Festival poster
- Logo on official 2024 Festival trailer
- Logo in 2024 Festival film catalog
- Opportunity for company representative to speak before two in-person screenings
- Half-page ad in Festival film catalog

### Year-Round Marketing Opportunities

- Homepage ad banner on Festival website
- Company name and link to web site on VAQFF.org
- Four (4) company-dedicated social media posts
- Feature in three (3) email newsletters to Festival subscribers



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# SPONSORSHIP SELECTIONS (cont)

## **PRODUCER – \$2,500**

### **Festival Promotion**

- Inclusion in one (1) press releases through Festival date
- Two (2) all-access passes to Festival screenings and 2024 events\*
- Two (2) total swag bags (tote bags with complimentary T-shirts)\*
- Two (2) tickets for each screening during the 2024 Festival
- Logo on 2024 volunteer T-Shirt
- Logo on official 2024 Festival poster
- Logo on official 2024 Festival trailer
- Logo in 2024 festival film catalog
- One (1) quarter page ad in film catalog

### **Year-Round Marketing Opportunities**

- Company name and link to web site on VAQFF.org
- Two (2) company-dedicated social media posts
- Feature in one (1) email newsletter to Festival subscribers

## **DIRECTOR - \$1,000**

### **Festival Promotion**

- Logo on 2024 Festival T-Shirt
- Logo on official 2024 Festival trailer
- Logo in 2024 Festival film catalog
- Company name on VAQFF.org • One (1) quarter-page ad in film catalog
- One (1) company-dedicated social media posts

\* Reservations required and based on availability.

\* Custom sponsorships available. Email [director@vaqff.org](mailto:director@vaqff.org).

## **2024 ADVERTISING PARTNERSHIPS**

### **ENTHUSIAST – \$1,000**

- Logo on 2024 step-and-repeat
- Logo on official 2024 Festival poster
- Logo on official 2024 Festival trailer
- Logo in 2024 Festival film catalog
- Company name on VAQFF.org
- One (1) dedicated promotional email to Festival subscribers
- One (1) full-page ad in film catalog

### **FRIEND – \$500**

- Logo on 2024 step-and-repeat
- Logo on official 2024 Festival trailer
- Company name on the Festival website
- One (1) dedicated promotional email to Festival subscribers
- One (1) half-page ad in film catalog

### **ADVOCATE – \$250**

- Company name on Festival website
- Logo on official 2024 festival trailer
- One (1) quarter-page ad in film catalog



# MEMBERSHIP



**YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE VIRGINIA QUEER FILM FESTIVAL** goes a long way towards supporting our mission on a year-round basis. All members receive invitations to select member networking events, workshops, our OUT ON FILM screenings, and other special screening events. Members also receive advance single ticket access to all Festival events.

Join online today at [www.VAQFF.org](http://www.VAQFF.org).

## **SUSTAINER - \$1000 YEAR**

- 4 official Festival membership badges with priority seating access
- 9 complimentary tickets to all 2024 screenings
- 9 complimentary tickets to all other 2024 screenings
- 20% discount for single ticket purchase for all events in 2024
- On screen and official Festival guide recognition during the Festival
- Invitations to select VIP events
- Invitation to opening ceremony and awards ceremony

## **INNOVATOR - \$750 YEAR**

- 3 official Festival membership badges with priority seating\*
- 6 complimentary tickets to all 2024 Festival screenings
- 6 complimentary tickets to all other 2024 screenings
- 20% discount for single ticket purchase for all events in 2024
- Invitations to select VIP events
- Invitation to opening ceremony and awards ceremony

## **PATRON - \$250 YEAR**

- 2 official Festival membership badges with priority seating\*
- 3 complimentary tickets to all 2024 Festival screenings
- 3 complimentary tickets to all other 2024 screenings
- 15% discount on all single ticket purchases in 2024

## **INDIVIDUAL - \$75 YEAR**

- 1 official Virginia Festival membership badge with priority seating\*
- 1 complimentary ticket to the 2024 Festival screenings
- 1 complimentary ticket to all other 2024 screenings
- 15% discount on all single ticket purchases in 2024

\* Reservations required and based on availability.



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