

Oakland Film Society
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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, August 28, 2026

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24th Oakland International Film Festival Brings the World to Oakland Through Film

*September 9–19, 2026 • Oakland Stories, Global Voices,
Music, History, Immigration & Social Justice Humanitarian Themes Enlighten.*

WHO— David Roach, Co-Founder & Executive Director of the Oakland International Film Festival; independent filmmakers, artists and special guests from Oakland, across the United States and around the world.

WHAT— The 24th Oakland International Film Festival (OIFF24), presented by the Oakland Film Society, showcases independent films while hosting screenings, filmmaker conversations, panels, networking events and special programs designed to amplify diverse voices and stories.

WHERE— The Historic Grand Lake Theater, Northeastern University Oakland and additional venues throughout Oakland, California.

WHEN— Wednesday, September 9 through Saturday, September 19, 2026. Complete schedule and tickets: OIFF.org.

A FEW FILM HIGHLIGHTS— This year's selections with budget-conscious prices starting at \$15, connect Oakland's distinctive voice with stories of culture, justice, memory, creativity and resilience from around the world.

Bill Patterson Story- Directed by Anthony Severo- Champion of champions uplifting Curt Flood, Bill Russell, Joe Morgan and others, the untold story of Bill Patterson, who dedicated seven decades to public service in Oakland.

Federico Faggin - The Man Who Saw The Future- Directed by Marcello Foa- Immigrant Federico Faggin is one of the greatest minds of our time. Bill Gates once said, "If Faggin didn't exist, Silicon Valley would just be a valley." And it's no exaggeration—Faggin invented the microchip, the touchscreen,

and the touchpad, forever transforming the way we interact with technology.

The Art of Sharing- Directed by Ricardo Serena- Michelin-star Chef and multidisciplinary artist, Minh H Phan, explores the dual crises of food waste and hunger from a refugee's perspective – and creates an art installation and culinary experience that reveals her findings.

Contagious-Directed by Mandela Van Peebles, son of Mario Van Peebles and grandson of Black Independent Film Iconic Pioneer Melvin Van Peebles-Contagious reminds us that it's the simple things in life that matter— a smile, a helping hand, a kind gesture— in this short story about human connection. After all, love is contagious.

Free Speech Costs Plenty Directed by Donald E. Lacy Jr. & Ryan Jacobs — uses comedy to examine the stakes surrounding free expression and political criticism.

Brewin' Stew – Calvin Keys' Life on Guitar Directed by Isaac Pingree — celebrates Oakland jazz guitarist Calvin Keys and a musical legacy connecting generations.

The Fight To Breathe - Directed by Holden Hilal — Oakland residents, doctors, truck drivers and children living with asthma confront diesel pollution in a community fight for clean air.

Oakland Ilokana Directed by Elenita Makani O'Malley — four generations of Bay Area Filipinas explore migration, displacement and the power of memory through a 90-year-old Oakland grandmother's story.

Comparsa — Directed by Vickie Curtis and Doug Anderson-After 41 girls are killed in a State-run "Safe Home" in Guatemala the film shows a portrait of sisterhood, peace-building and healing through art and community performance in the aftermath of tragedy.

Last Shot-directed by Andy Palmer with former NBA player Baron Davis in partnership with HipHop TV- Shows the power of hoops with Davis as Coach Isaacs, a tough-but-fair club basketball coach and a former player who lost his way at the end of his career only to find redemption in serving youth.

WHY— Oakland is a city known for speaking truth to power, and OIFF screens films that give voice to the voiceless while connecting stories, issues and communities from around the world with the people of Oakland. Since its inception, the festival has showcased thousands of films from more than 30 countries and continues to position Oakland as a destination for independent film and artistic expression.

OIFF.org | Media passes and interview requests: Jackie Wright, 415-525-0410

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ABOUT OIFF— The Oakland International Film Festival is presented by the Oakland Film Society, a nonprofit based in Oakland whose mission is to promote independent filmmakers and showcase diverse voices and stories from around the world through screenings, panels and events.