From the time I was small, I’ve treasured the idea that anything and everything was possible at the movies. Walt Disney, Steven Spielberg, and George Lucas brought my daydreams to life in Technicolor. Their work was fantasy fuel, and their brilliant minds blew open a boundless expanse of possibility within my own.

What I couldn’t capture on celluloid, I directed live in a drafty attic playroom. One of my most prized childhood possessions was a Yoda action figure. Using a scrunchie pilfered from my sister’s dresser, I strapped the little green dude to the back of my favorite Barbie. She piggybacked him around Skywalker-style. Together, these unlikely allies concurrently saved the galaxy and Barbie’s junior prom. Their adventures were daring, bold, and beyond any measure of reason. I knew that I could dream big because the movies taught me that anything is possible. You just need a pinch of fairy dust... or the genius of Richard Edlund.

Now as an adult, I work to preserve that sense of wonder in my own heart and to share it with those around me. So I spend my days in a cinema, surrounded by the beautiful dreams of artists and innovators. I’m so glad you’ve decided to join us this week. I hope that this festival will offer you flights of fantasy, fits of giggles, and a few of those blissful moments when your breath catches in your chest just before you make the jump to lightspeed.

Thank you for coming to the 2019 Fargo Film Festival. ENJOY THE SHOW!

Emily Beck
Fargo Theatre • Executive Director
When he started as a comedy writer for the *Late Show with David Letterman*, Steve Young had few interests outside of his day job. But while gathering material for a segment on the show, Steve stumbled onto a cache of vintage record albums that would change his life forever.

Bizarre cast recordings — marked “internal use only” — revealed Broadway-style musicals about some of the most recognizable corporations in America, including McDonald’s and Ford. They also featured writers and performers who would become legends, such as Chita Rivera, Kander & Ebb, and Bob Fosse.

*Bathtubs Over Broadway* follows Steve Young on his quest to uncover all he can about this hidden world. While delving into treasure troves of forgotten archives, tracking down rare albums, and unearthing unseen footage, Steve forms unlikely friendships and discovers how this discarded musical genre starring tractors and bathtubs was bigger than Broadway.

**DAVA WHISENANT** is a Los Angeles-based filmmaker making her directorial debut with *Bathtubs Over Broadway*. Recently, she was the co-producer and editor of *Two Trains Runnin’* — a Grammy-nominated blues and civil rights documentary directed by Sam Pollard. Dava was also an editor for the 3D documentary *Under the Electric Sky* (Sundance 2014), and she cut the doc feature *Merle Haggard: Learning to Live with Myself* for PBS’ *American Masters*. Her diverse experience includes serving as supervising producer for BBC Worldwide, editing assistant to Steven Soderbergh, and several years as an editor at *The Late Show with David Letterman*. Dava is a 2016 Sundance Fellow.

**STEVE YOUNG** is a New York-based comedy writer, author, songwriter, and lecturer. His writing credits include *Late Night* and *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *The Simpsons, Maya & Marty*, and the animated holiday special *Olive the Other Reindeer*, which also featured his song lyrics. He is the co-author of *Everything’s Coming Up Profits: The Golden Age of Industrial Musicals*. Young is also an instructor at New York University, teaching television history.
March 20th

Wednesday Night

Evening Hosts: Chris Meissner, Festival Co-Chair, and Tony Tilton, Student Jury Chair

7:00 p.m.  My Dead Dad’s Porno Tapes
7:15 p.m.  Riplist – with special guests Mike Scholtz, Valerie Coit, and cast members

My Dead Dad’s Porno Tapes
Directed by Charlie Tyrell | USA | 14 mins
Charlie Tyrell tries to uncover a better understanding of his emotionally distant late father through the personal belongings he left behind, including a pile of dirty VHS movies.

Riplist – Directed by Mike Scholtz | USA | 67 mins
A celebrity death pool is an unusual game in which players pick famous people they think will die in the next year. It’s like a fantasy football draft, but with elderly presidents and ailing musicians. Riplist follows seven friends from Fargo over the course of a year as they make their selections and live with the consequences. Society often frowns on any unusual or excessive attention to death. Some people have called this hobby “morbid” and “weird” and “just plain wrong.” But for these seven competitors, this game of death has taught them the value of life.

As five-time Riplist champion Matt Olien says in the film, “Who wakes up every day and thinks ‘I wonder how Olivia de Havilland is doing today?’ We do.” In Riplist, you’ll learn what kind of a person it takes to compete in this contest. You’ll also get tips on drafting your own celebrities, in case you ever want to play along at home. And you’ll get a definitive answer to the most important question of all: “What happens to us when we die?” (The answer: Somebody gets a point for that.)
Appealing to the inner-teenager in each of us, the story, and more importantly the dialogue, make *Napoleon Dynamite* one of the most quoted movies of our time. *Napoleon Dynamite* makes us laugh – and laugh hard – over and over again.

This unique evening includes a full screening of *Napoleon Dynamite*, followed by a lively, freewheeling, moderated discussion with fan-favorite cast members Jon Heder (Napoleon) and Efren Ramirez (Pedro).

**A CONVERSATION WITH**

**THURSDAY**
**MARCH 21**
**7:00 pm**

The beloved indie classic *Napoleon Dynamite* was made almost 15 years ago. Since then much has changed – but the characters, as enduring as they are endearing, stay in our hearts.

**JON HEDER**
“NAPOLEON DYNAMITE”

**EFREN RAMIREZ**
“PEDRO”

*Napoleon Dynamite* makes us laugh – and laugh hard – over and over again.

This unique evening includes a full screening of *Napoleon Dynamite*, followed by a lively, freewheeling, moderated discussion with fan-favorite cast members Jon Heder (Napoleon) and Efren Ramirez (Pedro).

**TICKETS300.com**
March 22nd • 7:00 p.m.

Friday Night

Evening Host: Greg Carlson, Festival Executive Committee

7:00 p.m.  An Evening with Richard Edlund
A live, on-stage conversation about Edlund’s life, career, and artistic achievements.

9:00 p.m.  2-Minute Movie Contest

The Fargo Film Festival is proud to name Richard Edlund, ASC, as the 2019 recipient of the Ted M. Larson Award. Given in recognition of an outstanding career in film production, film preservation, and/or film education, the Ted M. Larson Award is the festival’s highest honor.

Edlund was born in Fargo, North Dakota. In 1975, fellow VFX enthusiast John Dykstra assembled the team for a startup called Industrial Light and Magic (ILM). Edlund was one of the first to join the group, whose mission was to go where no filmmaker had gone before – with visual effects for a movie called Star Wars. When the new technology clicked, Edlund moved to Marin County to supervise visual effects for the next two episodes of Star Wars, as well as Raiders of the Lost Ark and Poltergeist.

Looking for an even greater challenge, Edlund returned to Los Angeles, where his company Boss Films became a star in the visual effects world. Boss’s pioneering VFX technology went on to create stunning imagery for over 40 features, including Ghostbusters, Die Hard, Ghost, Batman Returns, and many other high-profile projects. The company achieved ten Academy Award nominations over a 14-year period.

Edlund is a four-time Academy Award visual effects winner – for Star Wars, The Empire Strikes Back, Raiders of the Lost Ark, and Return of the Jedi, and was nominated an additional six times. He’s won three Academy Technical Awards, and British Academy Awards, for Poltergeist and Return of the Jedi. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences honored him with their John A. Bonner Medal of Commendation in recognition of his contributions to the Academy.

TED LARSON (1940-2000) was best known for his presentations of classical film, seminars and movie series events at colleges, theatres and arts centers throughout the region. In 1998 he was named Distinguished Alumnus of Minnesota State University Moorhead, where he taught for 32 years. Ted directed MSUM’s International Film Festival and Summer Cinema Film Series for more than 20 years. A longtime member of the Fargo Theatre’s board of directors, Ted influenced planning for the first Fargo Film Festival.

Through his work in locating, restoring and reconstructing lost and rare films, Ted and his longtime collaborator and friend Rusty Casselton made donations of valuable motion pictures to the Library of Congress, the George Eastman House, the UCLA Film and Television Archive and the Museum of Modern Art. Until his death, he also administered the Colleen Moore Film Grant program at MSUM, which funds projects for student filmmakers. Ted was a unique presence who impacted constituencies, institutions and audiences.
KARI ARNTSON has been a volunteer with the Fargo Film Festival since 2006. She has served as a juror for every category, jury chair for student and animation, and as a festival co-chair. Kari is currently doc. short jury chair and a member of the executive committee. She has worked on a subcommittee as well as helping plan the pre-parties.

Kari grew up in the Fargo-Moorhead area. While she has traveled, to her, Fargo will always be home. She lives here with her husband and two sons. Kari and her sons have been a part of the Homeless and Hungry Event for 5 years. Last year she participated in the Fargo Marathon. Running her first race, Kari completed the full marathon with her family and friends cheering her on the whole way. It was an event she will never forget.

Film has always been a big part of her life. She attributes her love of film to her father, who introduced her to the movies at a young age. It was always something they had in common. She now has the joy of sharing in the Fargo Film Festival experience with both her parents as they too are volunteers.

Kari looks forward to the Fargo Film Festival every year and is so proud of the films that it shares with the community. She hopes the audiences enjoy the fantastic film line-up and the Q & A opportunities with visiting filmmakers. She says “When do you get the opportunity to talk to the filmmakers, asking those questions that come to mind when watching a film? During the Fargo Film Festival, we provide that priceless opportunity.” Kari also finds one of the best parts of the festival is the opportunity to meet new people, including filmmakers, actors and attendees. It is her favorite part of the festival.

The Margie Bailly Volunteer Spirit Award is given to an outstanding individual whose contributions to the Fargo Film Festival go above and beyond expectations for service, commitment, and ambassadorship. Named for former Fargo Theatre executive director and Fargo Film Festival co-founder Margie Bailly, the honor was established in 2011.

RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD INCLUDE:

2019  Kari Arntson  2016  Brittney Goodman  2013  Tom Brandau
2018  Karen Olson  2015  Tony Tilton  2012  Greg Carlson
2017  Tom Speer  2014  Matt Olien  2011  Martin Jonason
Saturday Evening • March 23rd

Best of the Fest

Evening Hosts: Emily Beck, Festival Director and Sean Volk, Animation Jury Chair

7:00 p.m. Presentation of the 2019 Margie Bailly Volunteer Spirit Award to Kari Arntson

7:10 p.m. 2-Minute Movie Contest Winner

7:12 p.m. The Driver Is Red

Winner: Best Animated Film
Directed by Randall Christopher  | USA | 15 mins
Set in Argentina in 1960, this true crime documentary follows the story of secret agent Zvi Aharoni as he hunts down one of the highest-ranking Nazi war criminals on the run.

7:40 p.m. Beneath the Ink

Winner: Best Documentary Short
Directed by Cy Dodson  | USA | 12 mins
In this timely examination of hate, racism, and redemption, one Ohio tattoo artist challenges his community by saying “bring me your mistakes.”

8:05 p.m. Caroline

Winner: Best Narrative Short
Directed by Logan George and Celine Held  | USA | 12 mins
When plans fall through, a six-year-old is faced with a big responsibility on a hot Texas day.

8:15 p.m. Little Woods

Winner: Best Narrative Feature
Directed by Nia DaCosta  | USA | 105 mins
Set in North Dakota, this modern western stars Tessa Thompson and Lily James as estranged sisters Ollie and Deb. The two women are driven to extremes when their mother dies and leaves them with one week to pay back her mortgage.
The Driver Is Red
Winner: Best Animated Film
Directed by Randall Christopher | USA | 15 mins
Set in Argentina in 1960, this true crime documentary follows the story of secret agent Zvi Aharoni as he hunts down one of the highest-ranking Nazi war criminals on the run.

Hybrids
Honorable Mention
Directed by Florian Brauch, Matthieu Pujol, Kim Tailhades, Yohan Thireau, Romain Thirion | France | 6 mins
When marine wildlife is forced to adapt to the pollution surrounding it, the rules of survival change.

Weekends
Honorable Mention
Directed by Trevor Jimenez | USA | 15 mins
A young boy shuffles between the homes of his recently divorced parents.

ANIMATION OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

Beebox
Directed by Cable Hardin | USA | 2 mins
Inspired by the research of Blue Dasher Farm, this tale of agriculture and ecoculture is told by a bee and its box.

Between the Lines
Directed by Maria Koneva | Russia | 4 mins
A lonely zebra searches for love in a world where everyone seems to already have a partner.

Bloeistraat 11
Directed by Nienke Deutz | Belgium | 10 mins
Through the course of one summer, puberty seems determined to interrupt the bond between two inseparable best friends.

FILMS IN THE FARGO FILM FESTIVAL HAVE NOT BEEN RATED FOR ADULT CONTENT AND MAY INCLUDE VIOLENCE, NUDITY, LANGUAGE AND ADULT SITUATIONS. VIEWER DISCRETION IS ADVISED.
**Bristled**  
Directed by Scott Farrell | USA | 5 mins  
After countless blind dates that have gone poorly, Bernard swears that his next date will be “the one.” But could her flaw be too much for him to overcome?

**Carlotta’s Face**  
Directed by Valentin Riedl and Frédéric Schuld  
Germany | 5 mins  
Carlotta has a rare, untreatable disorder called face blindness. Through art, she finds a way to finally recognize herself.

**Coyote**  
Directed by Lorenz Wunderle | Switzerland | 10 mins  
A coyote loses his mate and pups in a wolf attack and is plagued by emotions. Alongside grief, savagery gradually escalates.

**Egg**  
Directed by Martina Scarpelli | France | 12 mins  
In this intensely personal animated documentary, a woman with anorexia faces the food that both attracts and terrifies her.

**Qwerty**  
Directed by John McAmis | USA | 10 mins  
A grieving young inventor finds solace in repairing an antique typewriter.

**Seder-Masochism**  
Directed by Nina Paley | USA | 78 mins  
Loosely following a traditional Passover Seder, events from the Book of Exodus are retold by Moses, Aharon, the Angel of Death, Jesus, and the director’s own father.
**DOCUMENTARY FEATURE WINNERS**

**Bathtubs Over Broadway**

**Winner: Bill Synder Award for Best Documentary Feature**
Directed by Dava Whisenant | USA | 87 mins
A Late Night comedy writer stumbles on a hilarious, hidden world of entertainment and finds an unexpected connection to his fellow man.

**Behind the Curve ** Honorable Mention
Directed by Daniel J. Clark | USA | 96 mins
Meet real Flat Earthers, a small but growing contingent of people who firmly believe in a conspiracy to suppress the truth that the Earth is flat.

**Silicone Soul** Honorable Mention
Directed by Melody Gilbert | USA | 71 mins
When having a relationship with a real human being is too hard, where do you turn? Silicone Soul explores the emotional connection some people have to their synthetic companions and what that means for the future of human relationships.

**DOCUMENTARY FEATURE OFFICIAL SELECTIONS**

**Don’t Get Trouble in Your Mind:**
*The Carolina Chocolate Drops’ Story*
Directed by John Whitehead | USA | 83 mins
Three African-Americans from the hip-hop generation find a mentor in an 87-year-old fiddler and revive a nearly lost musical tradition.

**Maj Doris**
Directed by Jon Blåhed | Sweden | 73 mins
Legendary Sámi artist and activist Maj Doris Rimpi lives alone above the Arctic Circle.

**The Bill Snyder Award**

The Fargo Film Festival documentary award honors the significant career and accomplishments of Bill Snyder. Bill was a Fargo native, award-winning filmmaker, and producer and founder of Bill Snyder Films. Bill died on September 14, 2007. We celebrate the memory of this visionary and friend.
**My Country No More**  
**Winner: Prairie Spirit Award**  
Directed by Rita Baghdadi and Jeremiah Hammerling  | USA | 70 mins  
Forced to confront the meaning of progress during the new American oil boom, a rural North Dakota community fights for a disappearing way of life.

**The Night of All Nights**  
Directed by Nesrin Samdereli and Yasemin Samdereli  
Germany | 92 mins – With humor and honesty, four couples who have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary reveal the secrets of long-term partnerships and love.

**Who Killed Lt. Van Dorn?**  
Directed by Zachary Stauffer  | USA | 80 mins  
After Lt. Wes Van Dorn died during a training exercise in the controversial MH-53E helicopter, his friends and family search for answers.

**Beneath the Ink**  
**Winner: Best Documentary Short**  
Directed by Cy Dodson  | USA | 12 mins  
In this timely examination of hate, racism, and redemption, one Ohio tattoo artist challenges his community by saying “bring me your mistakes.”

**Bernie Langille Wants to Know…**  
**Who Killed Bernie Langille**  
**Honorable Mention**  
Directed by Jackie Torrens  | Canada | 15 mins  
Bernie Langille is a mild-mannered electrical equipment salesman investigating a dark family mystery: the unusual and unexplained death of his grandfather.
Happy Animals

**Honorable Mention**

Directed by David Freid  | USA | 23 mins

A remote island off the coast of Australia has become a magnet for celebrities and global selfie tourism all due to one very happy (and photogenic) animal.

**bOObs: The War on Women’s Breasts**

Directed by Megan S. Smith  | USA | 27 mins

Through interviews with medical doctors and experts, this film explores the controversial world of mammography.

**Dulce**

Directed by Angela Faccini and Guille Isa | USA | 11 mins

In a remote region on Colombia’s Pacific coast, where swimming is an essential skill for survival, young Dulce must overcome her fear of water.

**Hoan Alone: Personal Stories from the Bridge**

Directed by Aaron Johnson  | USA | 9 mins

This animated documentary explores why Daniel Hoan Memorial Bridge is one of Milwaukee’s most recognizable landmarks and also a popular site for suicides.

**Hula Girl**

Directed by Amy Hill and Riess Hill | USA | 11 mins

*Hula Girl* is the untold story behind one of the biggest fads in modern American history. At 94 years of age, Joan Anderson has waited 60 years to set the record straight.

**My Dead Dad’s Porno Tapes**

Directed by Charlie Tyrell  | USA | 14 mins

Charlie Tyrell tries to uncover a better understanding of his emotionally distant late father through the personal belongings he left behind, including a pile of dirty VHS movies.

**We Are Still Here**

Directed by Lizbeth Chappell  | USA | 34 mins

The Xo’shga are a band of the Hidatsa Native American tribe credited with saving significant amounts of language and tradition.
EXPERIMENTAL FILM WINNERS

Fragments 83
Winner: Best Experimental Film
Directed by Richard Millen  | USA | 19 mins
Fragments 83 rediscovers – and repurposes – Richard Millen’s 1983 experimental film If You Can’t Be with the One You Love, shot in the early days of the AIDS epidemic.

Dissection of a Rose
Honorable Mention
Directed by Austin Page  | USA | 16 mins
Venture into the beautifully vivid and sometimes psychedelic world of a young girl trapped in the confines of her mind.

Medium Rare
Honorable Mention
Directed by Luca Cioci  | USA | 5 mins
Functional and aesthetic values are seen in recurrent yet questionable domestic scenarios.

EXPERIMENTAL FILM OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

Ada
Directed by Christine Margaret  | Taiwan | 30 mins
In grief from her grandmother’s death, a girl finds herself distanced from her loss, observing herself analytically from a third-person perspective.

Divulge
Winner: The Ruth Landfield Award
Directed by Haven Nutt | USA | 9 mins
Real women’s stories of survival blend together into an eerie experimental tale of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The Ruth Landfield Award
HONORING FILMS CELEBRATING WOMEN OF COURAGE, CONVICTION AND COMPASSION

With the death of community arts patron Ruth Landfield, the Fargo Film Festival will continue in perpetuity to present this award honoring Ruth and her long-standing commitment to the health and well-being of the historic Fargo Theatre. Films of artistic merit about or by women of courage, conviction and compassion are selected as recipients of the Ruth Landfield Award.
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<td>Dulce</td>
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<td>Hoan Alone</td>
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<td>Bernie Langille Wants to Know…</td>
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<td>Behind the Curve</td>
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6:40 p.m.  At the console of the Mighty WurliTzer – Ryan Hardy
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6:40 p.m.  At the console of the Mighty WurliTzer – Lance Johnson
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7:15 p.m.  Riplist • p. 4, 27
EXPERIMENTAL FILM OFFICIAL SELECTIONS CONTINUED

The Equatorial Calms
Directed by Derek Taylor | USA | 4 mins
This piece offers optical ruminations on an unpredictable region of Earth where raging storms and calm waters coexist.

Letters from Eniwetok
Directed by Ed Carter | USA | 12 mins
A woman who lives by the beach retrieves objects brought to her by the tide.

Public Domain
Directed by Jason Britski | Canada | 5 mins
Using found footage from public domain archival material, this film is an exploration of and a reaction to the turbulent times in which we live.

NARRATIVE FEATURE WINNERS

Little Woods
Winner: Best Narrative Feature
Directed by Nia DaCosta | USA | 105 mins
Set in North Dakota, this modern western stars Tessa Thompson and Lily James as estranged sisters Ollie and Deb. The two women are driven to extremes when their mother dies and leaves them with one week to pay back her mortgage.

Prospect
Honorable Mention
Directed by Christopher Caldwell and Zeek Earl | USA | 98 mins
Sophie Thatcher, Pedro Pascal and Jay Duplass star in this gripping science fiction tale of greed, ambition, and humanity. A man and his teenage daughter encounter nonstop danger while searching for valuable gems on an alien moon.
**An Acceptable Loss**  
Directed by Joe Chappelle | USA | 102 mins  
Tika Sumpter and Jamie Lee Curtis deliver dynamic performances in this political thriller. Former top national security adviser Libby Lamm is haunted by extreme actions she supported to end the war on terror. She must now decide whether to face the consequences or hide the truth forever.

**Are You Glad I’m Here**  
Directed by Noor Gharzeddine | Lebanon | 85 mins  
A millennial American girl befriends a Lebanese housewife and disrupts her ordered life; one night they become accidental partners-in-crime.

**Ask for Jane**  
Directed by Rachel Carey | USA | 109 mins  
Based on a true story. From 1969-1973, a group of determined Midwestern women operate an underground network to provide safe but illegal abortions.

**The Dancing Dogs of Dombrova**  
Directed by Zack Bernbaum | Canada | 102 mins  
An estranged sister and brother travel to Poland at the request of their dying grandmother to retrieve an object from her past.

**Ghost Light**  
Directed by John Stimpson | USA | 102 mins  
This haunted comedy stars Cary Elwes, Carol Kane, and Shannyn Sossamon as members of a Shakespearean troupe that unleash the infamous curse of Macbeth.

**Isabelle**  
Directed by Rob Heydon | Canada | 80 mins  
A young couple’s dream of starting a family shatters as they descend into the depths of paranoia and must struggle to survive an evil presence that wants nothing more than their very own lives.
**Wild Honey**
Directed by Francis Stokes | USA | 88 mins
In this offbeat romantic comedy, a lonely phone sex operator falls for one of her callers and flies across the country to find him.

**Zoo**
Directed by Colin McIvor | United Kingdom | 97 mins
A 12-year old boy and his misfit friends fight to save Buster the baby elephant during the 1941 air raid bombings on Belfast. Featuring Toby Jones and Dame Penelope Wilton.
NARRATIVE SHORT WINNERS

**Caroline**
**Winner: Best Narrative Short**
Directed by Logan George and Celine Held  | USA | 12 mins
When plans fall through, a six-year-old is faced with a big responsibility on a hot Texas day.

**Fauve**
**Honorable Mention**
Directed by Jeremy Comte  | Canada | 17 mins
While playing in a surface mine, two boys sink into a seemingly innocent power game with Mother Nature as the sole observer.

**Three Pages**
**Honorable Mention**
Directed by Roger Gariépy  | Canada | 15 mins
When a middle-aged accountant learns he has only weeks to live, he becomes determined to master three pages of a Bach adagio he’d abandoned as a child.

NARRATIVE SHORT OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

**Aeternitas**
Directed by Gordie Haakstad  | Canada | 16 mins
Scientist Lauren Wynne has discovered the secrets to human time travel. Now, as the first test pilot risks all to make history, there’s just one problem: they’ve fallen in love.

**The Badlands Girl**
Directed by Evan Ari Kelman | USA | 12 mins
Against the backdrop of the North Dakota Badlands, a rugged frontier woman is caught between two worlds and two lovers.

**A Craftsman**
Directed by Sanford Jenkins Jr.  | USA | 13 mins
Overcome with grief, a rural woodworker builds a coffin.

**Double Date**
Directed by Vania Smrkovski | USA | 23 mins
Having mourned her husband’s passing, Evelyn is ready to start dating again. But when her dates get mixed up, the situation becomes complicated.
NARRATIVE SHORT OFFICIAL SELECTIONS CONTINUED

**Echoes**
Directed by Mark Kerins and Elliot Mayén | USA | 12 mins
An ordinary family outing becomes a waking nightmare for a young mother who is forced to confront echoes of a past she can not escape.

**Elsewhere**
Directed by Andy Berriman | United Kingdom | 20 mins
Fate crosses the paths of a young woman questioning the direction of her life and a man trying to reclaim the family he threw away.

**End of the Line**
Directed by Jessica Sanders | USA | 15 mins
A lonely man goes to the pet store and buys a tiny man in a cage.

**A Gentle Night**
Directed by Qiu Yang | China | 15 mins
In a nameless Chinese city, a mother with a missing daughter refuses to go gentle into this good night.

**Hair Wolf**
Directed by Mariama Diallo | USA | 12 mins
In a black hair salon in gentrifying Brooklyn, the local residents fend off a strange new monster: white women intent on sucking the lifeblood from black culture.

**Ham**
Directed by Zachary Wentz | USA | 15 mins
Loosely based on the 1961 suborbital flight of Ham the Astrochimp, this film follows Dr. Jo Bradley as she develops a unique bond with the space-bound primate.

**Knock at the Door**
Directed by Michael Constable | United Kingdom | 9 mins
In this thriller, an elderly woman is preparing for a quiet evening at home when she is interrupted by a stranger at her doorstep.
**Magic Alps**
Directed by Andrea Brusa and Marco Scotuzzi | Italy | 15 mins
An Afgani refugee arrives in Italy with his goat and seeks political asylum for them both.

**Matria**
Directed by Álvaro Gago | Spain | 20 mins
Faced with the challenges presented by her daily routine, Ramona tries to take refuge in relationships with her daughter and granddaughter.

**Midnight Girl**
Directed by Christina Yoon | USA | 16 mins
A shy high-schooler dealing with the aftermath of sexual assault meets a “cam girl” who shows her a very different side of sexuality.

**Papa**
Directed by Christophe Switzer | France | 14 mins
How does a father explain prostitution to his eight-year-old son while riding in Parisian taxi? It depends on the driver.

**The Puppet Master**
Directed by Cal Brunker | Canada | 5 mins
When a jogger comes across a mysterious ringing cellphone in the woods, he becomes an unwilling pawn in the plan of an evil mastermind.

**Pygmalion**
Directed by André Hoven | Germany | 29 mins
Harold’s belief that his deceased wife lives on in a store mannequin creates complications as his daughter’s wedding approaches.

**Rosewood Ledge**
Directed by Trey Chapman | USA | 16 mins
A model and photographer agree to a strange proposition.
**NARRATIVE SHORT OFFICIAL SELECTIONS**

**Shadow Animals**  
Directed by Jerry Carlsson | Sweden | 22 mins  
A young girl accompanies her two dads to a party where she finds the adults’ behavior increasingly strange as the evening progresses.

**This Is Your Cuba**  
Directed by Brian Robau | USA | 20 mins  
In 1960s Cuba, young Anton simply wants to dance, laugh, and play with his friends. As his beloved country changes around him, Anton’s life begins to spiral out of control.

**The Suitor**  
Directed by Alvaro Congosto | USA | 12 mins  
During Orson Welles’s infamous 1938 radio broadcast of *War of the Worlds*, a lonely man tries to bond with a panicked young woman as they await the end of the world.

**To Ana**  
Directed by Simone LeClaire | USA | 6 mins  
With plenty of wine and her own creativity, Ana heroically processes the end of an ambiguous relationship.

**You Are the Captain**  
Directed by Dan Samiljan | USA | 11 mins  
A young woman seeking direction signs up for a mysterious self-help guru’s method to enhance her life.

**Your Call Is Important to Us**  
Directed by TJ Power | Australia | 15 mins  
This short comedy confirms our fears about what really occurs at call centers when we’re asked to ‘Please hold.”

**STUDENT FILM WINNERS**

**Mammoth**  
Winner: Best Student Film  
Directed by Ariel Heller | USA | 22 mins  
Paul drives his terminally ill brother Elliot on a farewell tour to Mammoth, California, where Elliot plans to end his life under the Death with Dignity Act.
**Tuesday Crowd**  **Honorable Mention**  
Directed by William Kioultzopoulos | USA | 20 mins  
Throughout the span of one Tuesday graveyard shift, the mundane escalates to the surreal as a group of characters find themselves in bizarre situations.

### STUDENT FILM OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

**Ablution**  
Directed by Omar Al Dakheel | USA | 15 mins – The bond between a disabled Muslim father and his son is tested when love is pitted against religion.

**Amal**  
Directed by Dilek Ince | USA | 15 mins – An American doctor in war-torn Syria attempts to bring back an injured girl, but is stopped by U.S. immigration.

**The Liar**  
Directed by Jack Salvador | United Kingdom | 19 mins  
A man living in a rural, 1960’s English village becomes convinced that Adolf Hitler is still alive and running the local bakery.

**Mickey’s Pets**  
**Winner: Rusty Casselton Award**  
Directed by Ashley S. Brandon | USA | 13 mins  
With a trusty peacock in tow, a young taxidermist must overcome her insecurities as she enters the U.S. National Taxidermy Championships.

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THE FARGO FILM FESTIVAL  
HONORS THE LIFE AND WORK OF  
Rusty Casselton

HAROLD “RUSTY” CASSEITON was known around the world for his contributions to film restoration and preservation. Rusty collaborated with mentor Ted Larson for many years, and their efforts resulted in a variety of wonderful opportunities for movie fans, who regularly attended popular events like Silent Movie Night at the Fargo Theatre and the Summer Cinema series on the campus of MSUM. At the time of his passing, Rusty was chair of the Film Studies Department at Minnesota State University Moorhead.

He participated in the Fargo Film Festival from the time of its inception, providing a small army of students to help staff and run the various second venue locations as volunteers. A dedicated educator, Rusty taught film studies courses at Concordia College for 22 years before accepting a position at MSUM in 2001. He is greatly missed by the Fargo Film Festival, his students, his extended family, his friends, his colleagues, his wife Cindy and daughters Hannah and Amanda.
**One Small Step**
Directed by Aqsa Altaf | USA | 13 mins
A 9-year-old girl attempts to juggle the responsibilities of school and caring for her younger siblings after her mother goes missing.

**Practice**
Directed by Iyabo Kwayana | USA | 10 mins
Filmed at the Shaolin temple in Henan, China, this piece captures individuals engaging in collective practice and the possibility of union that can emerge.

**Resilient**
Directed by Aloiz Krisak | Canada | 14 mins
Three months after the accident that left his little brother wheelchair-bound, Matt returns home to rebuild the fraternal bond.

**Sitting Shiva**
Directed by Preston Lane Jeter and Heather Shapiro | USA | 18 mins
Heather and Tori discover a dead body by the lake. As they wait hours for the police to arrive, the young women are forced to face their conflicted friendship.

**Small Talk**
Directed by Steven G. Warkel | USA | 11 mins
A young man struggles to accept that his mother is terminally ill.

**Water Lily**
Directed by Sierra Obioha | USA | 8 mins
Shot on 16mm film, this experimental narrative follows a young woman’s fight for spiritual freedom from a life of secrets and silenced trauma.

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**FESTIVAL AND FARGO THEATRE MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE IN THE LOBBY**

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25
**INVITED FILMS**

**Chroma**
Directed by Caren McCaleb and Mary Trunk | USA | 18 mins
Abstract painter Margie Schlossman and composer Lisa Bost-Sandberg collaborated on an art experience they called *Chroma*. This film uses footage of rehearsals and performance, along with vivid pairings of painting and music, to capture the project’s spirit.

**I Never Really Left**
Directed by Izaak Love | Australia | 5 mins
In this experimental narrative, a man with nothing left to lose makes a deal with a mysterious driver.

**Lost & Found**
Directed by Andrew Goldsmith and Bradley Slabe | Australia | 8 mins
A clumsy crochet dinosaur must unravel itself to save the love of its life.

**Prussia**
Directed by Jim Manney and Cody Rogness | USA | 63 mins
This documentary follows Fargo resident, single mom, and small business owner Mariah Prussia over the course of two years as she explores what it takes to be a female MMA fighter.

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INVITED FILMS CONTINUED

**Riplist**
Directed by Mike Scholtz | USA | 67 mins
What’s a celebrity deadpool? For this group of friends, it’s a chance to get together once a year and draft celebrities they think might die. But while playing the game of death, they also learn the value of life.

**Sac de Merde**
Directed by Greg Chwerchak | USA | 13 mins
Mazel Mankewicz is an unlucky-in-love yet irrationally optimistic New Yorker who thinks her fortune has changed when she spends the night with the man of her dreams.

**To the Stars**
Directed by Martha Stephens | USA | 109 mins
Under small town scrutiny, a farmer’s daughter forges an intimate friendship with a worldly but reckless new girl in 1960s Oklahoma.

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Michael Solberg
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