

SOU's 19th annual Student Film Festival

The SOU Digital Cinema program announces the 19th Annual Student Film Festival. The festival will screen 17 films by student filmmakers on June 5 at the Varsity Theater (66 E Main St, Ashland, OR 97520) in downtown Ashland. The festival is a co-production between SOU's Student Film Club and the Digital Cinema program's course "Film Festival Programming & Promotion." General admission tickets are \$5 (free to SOU students).

This year's festival accepted films written and directed by students from any major currently enrolled at SOU, alumni who graduated in Spring 2023 or later, and high school or community college students who intend to attend SOU. Films could be any genre, but must be 15 minutes or shorter. The Festival awards prizes in thirteen categories with decisions from a jury of over twenty local filmmakers and media professionals. Local business Coming Attractions Theatres (owners of The Varsity) donates one of their theaters for the festival.

The SOU Student Film Festival allows SOU students to share their work and make professional connections beyond their college careers. Student Festival Director Riley Carter (Junior, Sustainability Program) said, "SOUSFF is a great opportunity for us as students to celebrate art made by fellow students. Our goal this year is to reach out not only to students across multiple disciplines at SOU but to community members in hopes that they will join in on the festivities. We can't wait to return to the Varsity Theatre and recognize fresh talent!"

About the Course

Film Festival Programming & Promotion is a junior and senior-level course that includes historical and critical readings on arts festivals and distribution in the film business, as well as practical experience for event promotion and production as the students promote, produce, and program the university's annual film festival. The instructor for the course is Digital Cinema Professor and Program Coordinator, Christopher Lucas (lucasn@sou.edu).

About Digital Cinema

Since 2019, the Digital Cinema Program at SOU has provided students with a highly experiential education in visual storytelling, creative problem-solving, and professional collaboration. While rooted in the film school tradition, the major embraces entrepreneurship and innovation to prepare students for dynamic careers in an expanding media landscape that includes conventional motion pictures, documentary media, broadcast and streaming television, web series, virtual reality, social and mobile media, live and interactive media experiences, film festivals, and cinematic platforms and technologies that have yet to be invented.

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