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2021 Hoosier Films Annual Festival to Share 37 Indiana-made Films Online

On March 26-28, 2021, the Hoosier Films Annual Festival will show a large collection of shorts and a feature film for their second annual film festival. The festival promotes films with strong Indiana connections, including films with central cast and crew from the state, or documentaries with an exclusively Indiana-based topic.

The short films selected for the festival come from a wide variety of genres, including drama, comedy, horror, experimental, and documentary. They will be shown in themed blocks: Past/Present and Determination shorts blocks will screen on Friday, and Family, Perseverance, Connection/Isolation, and Dark Shorts on Saturday. Feature film Palace from director Andrew Paul Davis will be shown on Friday evening. Two Hoosier History documentaries, short film The Jewel of Richmond and featurette WANTED: John Dillinger, will be featured on Saturday evening.

Although the festival was originally planned as an in-person event where local filmmakers and film fans could gather, health concerns have prompted the organizers to move to a virtual format for the festival's first two years. The online festival format allows festival pass-holders to watch the films on any device, including computers, mobile, or even on a television, for those who have a Roku device or Roku-enabled smart TV.

"The virtual fest this year is essentially a combination of on-demand films and live events on Zoom, all accessible through our streaming service," says festival director and Hoosier Films CEO Meredith McGriff. "Once you're registered, you can stream any of the films on demand at any time. But we're encouraging everyone to watch the films at the scheduled times, so you'll be finished watching in time for the Q&A sessions."

Live Q&A sessions have been scheduled after every short film block as well as after the feature films. Audience members are invited to join the festival organizers and the filmmakers on Zoom to learn more about their experiences making these films. "We're happy that the online fest allows more people to participate without having to travel. It's great to have people joining us from all around the US this year. But we're also looking forward to holding the festival in person next year," says McGriff.

Further information about the festival, including the full schedule, details about each selected film, and links to purchase tickets and festival merchandise can be found at <https://festival.hoosierfilms.com/>. Hoosier Films can also be found on Facebook (www.facebook.com/HoosierFilms), Instagram (www.instagram.com/HoosierFilms), and Twitter (www.twitter.com/Hoosier_Films), and by following the festival hashtag, #HFAF2021.