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### **Many students, grads from Indiana colleges to be featured at 3<sup>rd</sup> Hoosier Films Annual Festival**

The Hoosier Films Annual Festival has announced its lineup for 2022, and many of the films included have connections to local colleges and universities, including from Ball State University, Goshen College, Indiana State University, Indiana University, Purdue University, Purdue Fort Wayne (IPFW), and Taylor University.

“We’re thrilled to have the opportunity to show off the work of so many Indiana students and graduates of Indiana’s incredible film schools,” says Meredith McGriff, co-founder and CEO of Hoosier Films. “Faculty and staff, too,” she adds. “The universities are such an important part of the filmmaking network in the state, and it’s great to see films submitted each year with connections to these programs.”

The films selected for this year’s festival are both feature-length and short films, and they come from a wide variety of genres, including comedy, drama, animation, documentary, romance, mystery, dance, and experimental films.

This is the third year for the Hoosier Films Annual Festival, and the first year it will be held in person. The event will be held at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater and other nearby venues in downtown Bloomington, March 24-27. The festival was established three years ago to highlight independent films with strong Indiana connections, including films with central cast and crew from the state, or documentaries with an exclusively Indiana-based topic.

The full schedule can be explored on the festival website at [festival.hoosierfilms.com/2022-schedule](https://festival.hoosierfilms.com/2022-schedule). The in-person festival also includes workshops, receptions, and other social events and opportunities for networking. Further details about the upcoming festival and the history of Hoosier Films can be found at [festival.hoosierfilms.com/about](https://festival.hoosierfilms.com/about).

Read on to find out about films and filmmakers connected to your region or university. Each film noted below is linked to full details, including a description, on the festival website.

#### **Ball State University:**

Writer/director of [The Theory \(or Conspiracy\) of Fanta Martin](#) James Austin Black is a recent graduate of Ball State University's Honors Video Production and Screenwriting. He shared, “All five members of the cast and crew were attending Ball State University” during production of the film.

The entire crew of feature film [Chasing Rabbits](#) graduated from the Ball State telecommunications program: Eric Pascarelli (director, co-writer, director of photography, editor) graduated in 2011, Elizabeth Cutshaw (location sound mixer) graduated in 2015, and Mitchell Jacki (co-producer) graduated from Ball State in 2013.

Also, Lloyd Logan, DP for [Saint Joseph](#), is a graduate of Ball State.

**Goshen College:**

[Welcome to the Dollhouse](#) had strong Goshen College connections, since Elizabeth Miller-Derstine (Director, Producer), David Miller-Derstine (Cinematographer, Editor), and Riley Mills (Cinematographer) all graduated from the film program.

Another film in this year's lineup, [Again](#), was also shot and produced in Goshen, Indiana.

**Indiana State University:**

[Fruitridge Ave.](#) writer/director Joshua Hart attends Indiana State University and is majoring in communications. He notes, "I and all of the crew are lifelong Hoosiers who attend Indiana State University. The film also takes place in Terre Haute, and is based off of a local folk tale."

**Indiana University:**

Feature film [The Addict's Wake](#) has many IU connections. Both executive producer Lisa Hall and director and producer Michael Husain graduated from Indiana University. Also, the film's composer was IU Jacobs School of Music's Alex Tedrow.

The cast of feature film [Chasing Rabbits](#) includes Holly Anspaugh, a 2016 graduate of the IU Maurer School of Law and current staff attorney at the Indiana University Student Legal Services.

[Chisel](#)'s writer/director Robert Steven Mack recently graduated from Indiana University with a BS in Ballet from the Jacobs School of Music, as well as a BA in History and a minor in Classics. He says, "All cast and crew were students, grad students and/or faculty at Indiana University, Bloomington at the time. The film was shot entirely at the Woolery Stone Mill in Bloomington, IN." Also, Caleb Allison, the director of photography, is a PhD candidate at the Media School, and digital cinematographer Matt Jacobs was a senior at the Media School at the time.

Director/producer of [The Dealer Smiles](#), Nathan Crowder, studied Media Production and Music at Indiana University.

Most people involved in the production of [The Armor](#) are Indiana natives, and many are current/past students of IU; Maggie Crady, Lydia Brubaker, and Drew Riggs graduated from Indiana University in Media with concentrations in filmmaking and editing. Sebastian Russell, Brody McFadden, Alex Klo, and Mia Holtzman are all still enrolled in the filmmaking program.

The Archives of African American Music and Culture (AAAMC) lives on the Indiana University Bloomington campus, so [AAAMC Speaks: Portia Maultsby, A Renaissance Woman](#) has many IU connections. Dr. Portia Maultsby herself greatly impacted the Black community of Bloomington during her time working for IU. Furthermore, creator of AAAMC Speaks and Director of the AAAMC Tyron Cooper received his Ph.D. at IU, and directors Ethan Gill and Haley Semian both grew up in Indiana and

graduated from Indiana University Bloomington's Media School in 2018. Haley and Ethan are part of the communications staff of the Office of the Provost of Indiana University Bloomington. Through the Provost office and with the help of their student multimedia team, they create documentary shorts that celebrate campus diversity, departments' achievements, and student excellence. In fact, all crew members on the film were current IU students during the production.

Director/producer of [Prism](#) Spencer Bowman is a filmmaker, freelance videographer and editor, and associate producer at WFIU Public Radio and WTIU Public Television. He graduated from the Media School at Indiana University in spring 2020.

Jason Doty, co-producer and writer/director/editor of [Some Kind of Hero](#), graduated from IU with a degree in telecommunications, as did director of photography Ted Schellenberger.

#### **Purdue University:**

Alyssa Katalyna Fritz was writer/director/producer on both [Paranoia](#) and [The Wrangler](#). She is a Latina filmmaker originally from Roachdale, Indiana where she grew up on her family's farm. Alyssa says she “was admitted to Purdue University to be a veterinarian and had to take an acting class as an elective,” and there found her calling in filmmaking. Alyssa has won several awards including the prestigious George Lucas Scholarship at USC awarded to exceptional underrepresented student filmmakers. She is also a National Hispanic Foundation of the Arts Scholar and was chosen to speak for the inductee class at 2019's Noche de Gala event in Washington D.C. Alyssa was also a finalist for Paxeros' inaugural Women of Color Commercial Directing Program for 2020. [Paranoia](#) was filmed as a thesis film at Purdue University, and all of the cast and crew came from Purdue University.

[Saint Joseph](#) was also created as a thesis project for a Purdue film course; writer/director Humza Syed is a student of Purdue University. Syed states that the film was “shot in West Lafayette, IN by a crew all born and raised in Avon, IN just west of Indianapolis.”

Jason Doty, co-producer and writer/director/editor of [Some Kind of Hero](#), currently works at Purdue as a Lead Video Producer/Editor, and taught Screenwriting & Film Production at Purdue for several years. Additionally, director of photography Ted Schellenberger is a Broadcast Media Senior Producer at Purdue.

#### **Purdue Fort Wayne (IPFW):**

Writer/producer and actor in [Teacher Fight](#) James Stover is based in Fort Wayne and is a professor at Purdue University Fort Wayne. Crew members and featured extras were students at Purdue Fort Wayne at the time of the filming.

Darren Hunt, writer/director/producer of featurette [The Paper Angel](#), received his degree in English from IPFW in 1994. He notes that the entire film was cast and shot in Fort Wayne Indiana.

#### **Taylor University:**

Editor of feature film [The Addict's Wake](#), Aric Hartvig, was a media student at Taylor University.

Additionally, three other films were made by Taylor University filmmakers. [The Accidental Grandson](#) comes from director Paul Terzano, writer Matthew Brown, producer Josie Koontz, and stars Evan Furnish, Jeff Angel, Phil Bishara, Jon Bomers, Evan Wardell, and Autumn Dominique. [About a Motel](#) was created by writer/director Joseph Ford, produced by Erica Morman, and stars Kaleb Isabell, Rudy

Jimenez, and Tom O'Brien. [Science is for The Boys](#) was made by writer/director Tim Hudson, producer Natalie Baker, and stars Caleb Couvian, Susannah Quinn, Sam Jones, and Bailey Miles.