

NFFTY 2024 EDUCATOR GUIDE

Welcome to NFFTY

Thanks for your interest in NFFTY 2024! NFFTY is the world's largest and most influential film festival for emerging filmmakers age 24 and under. Now entering its 17th year, the festival offers a jam-packed four days filled with films, great speakers, parties and more. We've put together a little guide to help introduce teachers to NFFTY!



Please start off by following NFFTY on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for updates about the festival. And thanks for your interest! Please contact me if I can help in any way.

Stefanie Malone • Executive Director • stefanie@NFFTY.org
Ryan Saunders • Managing Director • ryan.saunders@NFFTY.org

PURCHASING PASSES & FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Interested in purchasing passes for your class and visiting NFFTY? We offer discounted group rates (10+) at: <https://www.nffty.org/2024-group-sales>. We're also happy to work with teachers on invoicing for those that need to pay by check. Just reach out to us at info@nffty.org. For a link to the schedule with information on screenings, panels and more, visit: <https://www.nffty.org/nffty-2024>

- Day Passes (Group): \$28/day
- 3-Day Passes (Group): \$70
- Opening Night + 3-Day (Group): \$82
- \$11 individual screening tickets

PICKING UP FESTIVAL PASSES: Festival passes are available for pick up Thursday, April 25 at the Maxwell Hotel from 1pm – 3pm and the SIFF Uptown from 5pm - 6:30pm Afterwards, badges can be retrieved at Uptown Cinema for the rest of the weekend.

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW & LOCATIONS

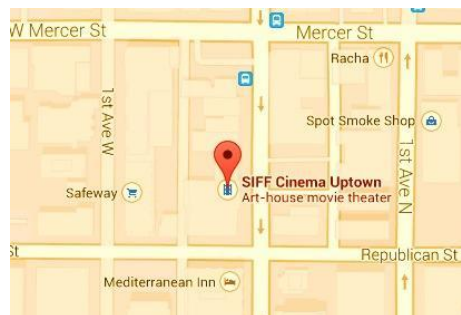
All NFFTY activities will be located near the Seattle Center campus from April 25 - 28 with screenings and discussions at the SIFF Uptown with a handful of parties and networking in walking distance. NFFTY 2024 contains 215 films from 28 countries and 26 states. Each screening event is packed with films that will inspire you, excite you and leave you wanting to watch more! In addition to our screenings, we have 7 professional development sessions for students to enjoy.

UPTOWN CINEMA

511 Queen Anne Avenue North

This is the location of all screenings and the best place to get information during the rest of the festival (April 26 - 28). Staff can help you find events, recommend places to eat, and answer questions.

Other locations are noted below or in the festival guide.



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THURSDAY, APRIL 25 >>>

Opening Night Gala

Screening: SIFF Uptown, 511 Queen Anne Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109

After party: Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP), 325 5th Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109

- **SIFF Uptown doors open at 5:30pm, screening starts at 6:30pm. We encourage you to arrive early and identify yourself as a NFFTY 2024 Filmmaker so you can be interviewed on the red carpet.**
- **Immediately following: After Party @ MoPOP (Museum of Popular Culture):** This is located at the Seattle Center in walking distance to the SIFF Uptown Cinema and the Maxwell and the Mediterranean Inn hotels.
- Dress is smart casual; there will be plenty of photo opportunities.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26 >>>

Friday contains 15 individual events, including screenings and guest speakers. For detailed information, visit: <https://www.nffty.org/nffty-2024>. Below are some highlights of our professional development sessions.

Speed Networking, 9:00 – 11 AM

VERA Project, 305 Harrison St, Seattle

For filmmakers with films in the festival as well as visiting students, NFFTY brings together a unique opportunity for filmmakers to network with industry professionals.

Seed&Spark: Stretch That Buck with Liam Brady, 11:00 AM

SIFF Cinema Uptown (Theater 2)

How much should you crowdfund for? As much as you need to move your project forward! In this workshop, we'll teach you how to build a budget, utilize loans to make up your budget (conceptually as well as literally), navigate the ask, break down your script, and get creative with ways to cut costs without sacrificing your vision.

Liam Brady is a filmmaker by vocation and a marketing creative by trade. He has written, directed, and produced over two dozen national TV ads with his team at ORB Media, and he has worked in multiple capacities on numerous feature films, shorts, and music videos. He completed a graduate degree in directing at NYU, then went on to co-found Seed&Spark, the film-funding and education platform, where his short film Fog City was used as a pilot project. At NYU, the film received production support and mentorship from Spike Lee, and the project became a community effort all around.

Perfecting the Pitch: Presented by Vancouver Film School, 3:00 PM

SIFF Cinema Uptown (Theatre 2)

All projects have to start somewhere, and this essential session is designed to kickstart your filmmaking journey! Discover the art of crafting compelling pitches and master essential pre-production tools. From writing treatments, compiling mood boards, developing casting strategies, and producing, this session covers everything you need to bring your vision to life.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 27 >>>

Friday contains 11 individual events, including screenings and guest speakers. For detailed information, visit: <https://www.nffty.org/nffty-2024>. Below are some highlights of our professional development sessions.

Owning Your Voice: Raven Jackson, 1:00 PM

SIFF Cinema Uptown (Theatre 1)

Navigating the uncharted waters of your filmmaking journey, you may find yourself wondering: "Who am I in all this?" Join award-winning filmmaker, poet, and photographer Raven Jackson (*All Dirt Roads Taste of Salt*), for an inspiring conversation about cultivating your collaborators, communicating your vision, and learning to trust the power of your own voice.

Raven Jackson is an award-winning filmmaker, poet, and photographer from Tennessee. Her work often explores landscapes of indefinable experiences and emotions, as well as the body's relationship to nature. Recently nominated for an Independent Spirit Award for Best First Feature and a Gotham Award for Breakthrough Director, Raven's debut narrative film, *All Dirt Roads Taste of Salt*, made in partnership with Maria Altamirano, PASTEL, and A24, world-premiered in the US Dramatic Competition at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival, and was named one of the top ten movies of the year by *The New Yorker*, *Rolling Stone*, and RogerEbert.com. The film has screened at the New York Film Festival, San Sebastián International Film Festival, BFI London, AFI Fest, and more.

Next Level Editing with Adobe Premiere Pro, 3:45 PM

SIFF Cinema Uptown (Theatre 1)

Dive deep into the latest AI editing tools in Adobe Premiere Pro as experienced NFFTY alumni share invaluable insights, tools, and tricks to elevate your editing game. Whether you're a novice or a seasoned editor, this panel promises to provide real world examples and invaluable knowledge to streamline your editing process and unlock your creative potential.

Panelists include: Chris Thach, Mar Sudac, Laura Holliday, Anna Baumgarten, Rudy Pesci

The Green Revolution with Ege Heckmann - Presented by Scan Design

Foundation, 5:30 PM

SIFF Cinema Uptown (Theatre 2)

Join Ege Heckmann, founder of the pioneering Danish production company Produced By, for an engaging exploration of the green revolution in the Film and TV industry. Discover the significant impact filmmakers can make in reducing emissions, applicable to both massive blockbusters and small-scale studio projects, through sustainability plans, CO2 calculators, and green production guides. Attendees will walk away with the knowledge to lead the charge towards a more sustainable industry!

Ege Heckmann is the founder of Produced by, the pioneering Danish production company that spearheaded sustainable filmmaking practices. His groundbreaking initiatives have significantly influenced and advanced sustainability standards within the Danish film industry. Ege Heckmann's expertise and firsthand experience have made him a key figure in the Nordic countries' cultural sector. He currently serves as the Danish country manager of the Green Producers Club, where he continues to champion environmentally responsible practices in film production and beyond.

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SUNDAY, APRIL 28 >>>

Friday contains 8 individual events, including screenings and guest speakers. For detailed information, visit: <https://www.nffty.org/nffty-2024>, ending with a Closing Night screening with an Awards show and Closing Night Party immediately following. Below is an overview of our keynote speaker on Sunday.

From NFFTY to the Oscars: An Afternoon with Sean Wang, 1:00 PM SIFF Cinema Uptown (Theatre 1)

Join NFFTY alumnus Sean Wang ('17, '18) for an in-depth conversation that traces his journey from shooting skateboarding videos with his friends in Fremont to becoming a Sundance Ignite x Adobe fellow, premiering his first feature film *Didi* (弟弟), and most recently taking a trip with his grandmas to the 2024 Academy Awards with their nominated short, *Nǎi Nai* and *Wài Pó*. Not to be missed, this talk will provide first hand experience on workflows, navigating the industry, and carving your own path.

Sean is an Academy Award®-nominated filmmaker from Fremont, CA, currently based in Los Angeles. He is a Google Creative Lab 5 alum, former Sundance Ignite Fellow, and 2023 Sundance Screenwriters & Directors Lab Fellow. His latest film, *Nǎi Nai & Wài Pó* (Grandma & Grandma), premiered at SXSW 2023 where it won the Grand Jury Prize & Audience Award. It was acquired by Disney+ and was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Short Film. It is currently streaming on Disney+ & Hulu. His debut feature film, *Didi* (弟弟), premiered in the U.S. Dramatic Competition at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival. It won the U.S. Dramatic Audience Award, Special Jury Prize for Best Ensemble Cast, and was acquired by Focus Features. It is scheduled to be released in theaters on July 26, 2024.

ATTENDING NFFTY

WHY TAKE YOUR CLASS TO NFFTY?

Whether or not your students have a film at NFFTY, student group field trips are highly encouraged due to the educational experience that the festival can provide. Every year we bring out industry professionals that connect and speak to students and festival-goers.

“ While Sundance and other film festivals have a program for youth, NFFTY is entirely designed with the young filmmaker in mind. Filmmaking is, by necessity, a collaborative art form, so building a network is a critical first step for every young filmmaker. NFFTY gives youth the opportunity to learn from industry professionals and each other as they meet other young filmmakers from all over the world.... We routinely travel out of state to visit college programs, tour the industry, or attend film festivals. If NFFTY was on another continent, the trip would be worth it. ”

- Matt Lawrence, Film & Media Teacher, Ballard High School

TICKET PRICING

We offer discounted group rates (10+) at: <https://www.nffty.org/2024-group-sales>.

OTHER LOGISTICS

- For more information on lodging, visit: <https://www.nffty.org/travel-lodging>

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RESTAURANTS NEAR THE MEDITERRANEAN INN & UPTOWN CINEMA

You'll find plenty of vegetarian, gluten-free options and more at most Seattle restaurants.

- **Seattle Center Armory Food & Event Hall:** On the Seattle Center campus, this area offers seventeen different food vendors with plenty of setting in a large public facility.
- **Toulouse Petit:** 601 Queen Anne Ave N. - Cajun-Creole
- **Dick's Drive-In:** 500 Queen Anne Ave N. A Seattle icon: drive-in style burgers.
- **Blue Water Taco Grill:** 515 Queen Anne Ave N
- **Mecca Cafe:** 526 Queen Anne Ave N: long running diner
- **T.S. McHugh's:** 21 Mercer St. - Irish pub food.
- **Racha:** 12 Mercer St - Upscale Pan-Asian.
- **The Golden Olive:** 521 Queen Anne Ave N: Mediterranean

CLASSROOM VISITS

If you are interested in a classroom presentation for your students, the NFFTY team schedules visits for April about the upcoming line-up, what to expect, networking suggestions and more. We visit local classrooms [Washington] in person. We also schedule presentations via Skype and Google Hangout for our out-of-town schools! Contact outreach@nffty.org to schedule a visit. We show preview of films and can also schedule for a filmmaker to chat with a classroom. Just reach out at info@nffty.org!