

The 19th Gimli Film Festival runs July 24 - 28, 2019



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

GIMLI FILM FESTIVAL WILL KICK-OFF WITH THREE OPENING NIGHT FILMS

GIMLI – July 23, 2019 –On Wednesday, July 24, Manitoba’s largest film festival kicks off its 19th year with three [Opening Night Screenings](#), including the Canadian premiere of the Sundance award-winning doc [Jawline](#), with director Liza Mandelup in attendance.

The Festival opens at 3 p.m. with one of the most acclaimed documentaries of the year, *For Sama*, an intimate and moving portrait of a mother’s experience of war in Syria. *For Sama* won the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance 2019, and has gone on to win awards at Cannes, Hot Docs, Telluride and more. In the form of a love letter from a young mother to her daughter, the film tells the story of Waad al-Kateab’s life through five years of the uprising in Aleppo, Syria. She falls in love, gets married and gives birth to Sama, all while cataclysmic conflict rises around her.

Next at 6 p.m. is *When the Storm Fades*, a Canadian-made comedic-drama set in post Typhoon Yolanda Philippines, and two bumbling voluntourists from Canada who are there to “help” directed by Sean Devlin.

Wednesday’s indoor screenings will cap off with the Canadian premiere of *Jawline* with director Liza Mandelup in attendance. This Sundance award-winning documentary follows Austyn Tester, a 16-year-old attempting to ride a wave of social media optimism to become the world’s next big internet crush. You’ll dive deep into

Internet fame and leave with a deeper understanding of what human connections looks like in the post-millennial age.

Super Pass holders will have the added opportunity to attend the GFF Opening Reception at 7 p.m. in Johnson Hall before hitting the beach at 10 p.m. for Amy Heckerling's classic *Clueless* on Gimli Beach. This is the first of five "Summer School" themed RBC Sunset Screenings at GFF 2019, which also includes Mean Girls (Friday), School of Rock (Saturday) and the audience choice selection The Breakfast Club (Sunday).

With higher than ever Pass Sales and a 38% increase in advance individual ticket sales, all signs point to another record-breaking Gimli Film Festival in 2019. Last year, the Festival also posted a record turnout with over 12,000 attending overall and nearly 6,000 attending paid indoor film screenings, making GFF one of Manitoba's fastest growing festivals.

The first day of the Festival highlights three critically acclaimed films and one Canadian premiere. Throughout the weekend, film fans will have the chance to meet and take special Masterclasses with [Penny Lane \(Hail Satan?\)](#), [Wendy Crewson](#), and Manitoba's own [Shelagh Carter \(Into Invisible Light\)](#) & Mike Maryniuk ([The Goose](#)). GFF is excited to screen over 130 films and celebrate the work of Manitoban, Canadian and international filmmakers at this year's festival.

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Wednesday Films:

For Sama

dir. Waad Al-Kateab & Edward Watts

2019 | United States / United Kingdom / Syria | 100 min.

When the Storm Fades

dir. Sean Devlin

2018 | Canada | 81 mins | PG

Jawline

dir. Liza Mandelup

2019 | United States | 99 min.

Passes and Tickets:

Super Pass - \$110

Access to all films plus special events.

Film Pass - \$80

Access to films only.

**Only 20 Film Pass left.*

Film Community Pass - \$90

To purchase Community Film Pass, you must be a practising Filmmaker and you must show your membership to a local film organization

Individual Film Tickets - \$10

GFF Box Office:

Guarantee your seat. Individual film tickets are on sale through the GFF Box Office and online.

73 1st Ave – Lakeview Resort

Located in Tara's Corner, entrance on 1st Ave.

Twitter: @Gimlifilm

Instagram: @Gimlifilm

Facebook: [facebook.com/Gimlifilmfestival](https://www.facebook.com/Gimlifilmfestival)

Hashtag: #Gimlifilm

The Gimli Film Festival is the largest film festival in Manitoba. Over the past eighteen years, our audience, sponsors and partners have supported and shaped the festival into what it is today. We showcase fiction feature films, documentaries and short films from Manitoba, Canada and the world, that promise informative, fascinating and riveting entertainment.

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Venue Partners:

Dr. George Johnson Middle School, Gimli Lutheran Church, Gimli Theatre est. 1947, Gimli Unitarian Church - Aspire Theatre, Johnson Hall - Waterfront Centre, New Iceland Heritage Museum - Lady of The Lake Theatre