32nd ANNUAL HOT SPRINGS DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

The Longest Running All-Documentary Film Festival in North America

OCTOBER 6-14, 2023
HSDF is an annual 9-day festival attracting thousands of filmmakers and cinephiles from around the world to celebrate the art of documentary, champion new perspectives and cultivate discussion. We hand-pick a range of world-class films, as well as offering community programming and events: from workshops to VR arcades to impact experiences (and of course, our speakeasy parties!). Our programming focuses our commitment to discovery and diverse voices. We’ve gained international recognition, having been designated an Oscar® qualifying festival for ‘Documentary Short Subject’ by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences - one of only 38 accredited festivals worldwide! MovieMaker Magazine has added HSDF to its annual list of “Top 50 Festivals Worth the Entry Fee” from a field of close to 7000 festivals and we’ve been named one of the top 30 festivals in the U.S. by Top Events USA!

This year, the Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival will celebrate its 32nd year October 6-14 throughout downtown Hot Springs.
There is no better energizer for a documentary with Oscar ambitions than the Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival. Coming closer to nomination time than most festivals, it is the trampoline to bounce contenders up to the starting line."

- Peter Coyote, actor and narrator

"In the midst of the craziest year possible for festivals, HSDFF stood out and raised the standard. Their focus on their filmmakers and their constant effort to build the community was so appreciated. This truly has been our best fest of 2022 easily."

- HSDFF Alumni
Through our partnerships HSDFF is able to capture national exposure. On average, HSDFF receives 64,397,139 press impressions from coverage at the festival.
ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS
Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival offers an extraordinary mix of documentary features and shorts, both domestic and international, as well as exclusive film panels, tributes to industry greats, and local access to a host of celebrity guests and visiting professionals.

HSDFF is one of only 38 festivals worldwide that has been designated an Oscar qualifier in the category of Documentary Short Subject by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.
Every October, HSDFF hosts a wide range of industry guests including jury members, actors, critics and documentary film legends. In 2020 the festival partnered with representatives from HBO, Vimeo, The Film Collaborative, IDA and Kartemquin, and hosted talks featuring Alex Gibney (Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room), Dawn Porter (The Way I See It, John Lewis: Good Trouble), Sam Pollard (MLK/FBI), Kirsten Johnson (Dick Johnson is Dead), David and Christina Arquette (You Cannot Kill David Arquette), and Mark Monroe (Writer of The Cove, Icarus). In 2019 we had in attendance Oscar nominee directors, Nanfu Wang (One Child Nation) and Waad al-Kateab, the co-director of 2020’s For Sama, as well as actress Diane Ladd, former Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe, Olympic marathoner Guor Marial, and Tig Notaro and CEO of the Academy of Motion Picture and Sciences, Dawn Hudson.

In 2017 we celebrated the presence of two of the greatest documentarians of our time, Werner Herzog and Stanley Nelson.
HSDFF might be the first place a young person could watch a documentary and it is likely that the festival is the first time these young people will have the chance to meet a working filmmaker. HSDFF makes a significant effort to schedule as many of our visiting filmmakers to visit local classrooms to give inspirational guest lectures about their career and creative work.
The Emerging Filmmakers program is a collaboration between HSDFF and Arkansas PBS. This program is designed for middle and high school students from around the state who are invited to take part in hands-on workshops. Staff for the program include top film department professors, industry professionals and Oscar-winning filmmakers. To date, over 30 schools and hundreds of students have participated in this free program.

In partnership with Low Key Arts’ renowned filmmaking program Inception to Projection, HSDFF will once again host the innovative and hands-on documentary bootcamp. Participants will direct, produce and edit their own short documentary film that will be showcased at the 32nd Annual Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, October 8-16, 2023.
We’re not just interested in *industry* resources but also developing filmmakers’ *inner* resources by nurturing the creative spirit and creating moments for reflection during the festival. Compelled to fulfill our mission of creating a haven for filmmakers led us to craft our new ‘self-care series’ placing a focus on artists’ mental health and well-being. It was our proudest moment of the doozy that was 2020 to offer resources to our documentary community struggling and feeling isolated by the pandemic. Building off the healing ‘spa’ waters of Hot Springs, we designed a series of in-person activities to safely allow people to gather such as inspiration hikes, outdoor guided meditations, bike parades, and yoga in the park. We hosted a free 2-part virtual workshop led by Beth Pickens, the author of *Your Art Will Save Your Life*, who guided participants to reflect on the emotional challenges of 2020 while providing coping mechanisms for the obstacles still ahead. We received such positive feedback that we’re making it a permanent part of our festival - embracing the revitalizing essence of Hot Springs, “America’s First Resort.”
We are entering a golden era of documentary film. Join the HSDFF family and associate your brand with North America’s longest running all documentary film festival.

We have a variety of sponsorship packages that can be customized and enable you to get involved at any level.

Sponsorship enables you to leverage the festival to:

- promote your product
- reach a diverse audience & directly engage with participants
- connect with partners
- have a physical footprint at the event
- provide clients & staff access to a VIP event.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS
**PRESENTING SPONSOR ($50,000) (EXCLUSIVE)**

- Logo or name featured in first position on all Festival promotional materials, including “Presented By” language in media coverage and press releases.
- Speaking opportunity before Opening and/or Closing Night film.
- Naming rights for significant award to be given at awards ceremony.
- Logo or name featured first position in all print advertising for the Festival.
- Logo or name featured first position on sponsor reel before each festival film screening.
- Logo or name included on all festival passes.
- Back cover or inside front ad in festival program + 2 full page ads inside program.
- Opportunity for sponsor to display marketing materials at Festival events (promotional signs, inflatables, kiosks, etc.).
- Opportunity to play 15 second video spot before every screening.
- 15 complimentary VIP Festival Passes.
- Access to VIP lounge.

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER SPONSOR ($25,000)**

- Logo or name featured second position on all Festival promotional materials.
- Logo or name featured second position in all print advertising for the Festival.
- Logo or name featured second position on sponsor reel before festival film screenings.
- Logo or name featured second position on festival website.
- Full page ad in festival program.
- Opportunity to hang banners and/or signs at festival high-traffic locations.
- Opportunity for sponsor to display marketing materials at festival events (promotional signs, inflatables, kiosks, etc.).
- Opportunity to place promotional materials in all festival and filmmaker goody bags.
- 10 complimentary VIP Festival Passes.
- Access to VIP lounge.
The HSDFF VIP Lounge is the luxury “hangout” for all high profile HSDFF industry guests and audience members. Sponsorship includes:

- Logo and/or name featured prominently at entrance and in waiting area of VIP lounge.
- Logo and/or name featured prominently on all festival promotional materials.
- Half page ad in festival program.
- Logo or name featured on festival website.
- Opportunity to place promotional materials in all festival and filmmaker goody bags.
- 8 complimentary VIP Festival Passes.
- Access to VIP lounge.

VIP LOUNGE SPONSOR ($15,000)

- Logo or name featured prominently on all festival promotional materials.
- Logo or name featured on sponsor reel before festival film screenings.
- Half page ad in festival program.
- Logo or name featured on festival website.
- Opportunity to place promotional materials in all festival and filmmaker goody bags.
- 8 complimentary VIP Festival Passes.
- Access to VIP lounge.

PRODUCER SPONSOR ($10,000)
SPONSOR THE WELLNESS SERIES ($5,000)

1. Logo or name on all festival promotional materials associated with wellness events.
2. Opportunity to introduce and give remarks before wellness events.
3. Logo or name featured on festival trailer shown before each festival film screening.
4. Quarter page ad in festival program.
5. Logo or name featured on festival website.
6. Logo included in program guide next to film information.
7. 4 complimentary VIP Festival Passes.
8. Access to VIP lounge.

SPONSOR A SCREENING ($5,000)

1. Opportunity to run up to a 1 minute advertisement before sponsored screening.
2. Logo or name featured on festival trailer shown before each festival film screening.
3. Quarter page ad in festival program.
4. Logo or name featured on festival website.
5. Logo listed in program guide next to film information.
6. 4 complimentary VIP Festival Passes.
7. Access to VIP lounge.

SPONSOR A PARTY ($5,000)

1. Opportunity to place marketing materials at the event.
2. Logo included on all event marketing materials.
3. Logo or name featured on festival trailer shown before each festival film screening.
4. Quarter page ad in festival program.
5. Logo or name featured on festival website.
6. Logo listed in program guide next to film information.
7. 4 complimentary VIP Festival Passes.
8. Access to VIP lounge.
“Without exaggeration I was literally reborn at the Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival. As a co-founder of SXSW and a producer who has had films premiere at Sundance, Toronto International Film Festival and SXSW, this might seem sheer hyperbole. But the truth is I spent the previous two years battling ill health, and, after that experience, I was a bit bitter and encased in a shell. The films and people at Hot Springs reminded me why I fell so in love with film in the first place. It was intimate yet professional, passionate but still reasoned. The attendees were great, the special guests exciting and accessible, and the films excellently programmed. It is a remarkable Festival and a great event.”

- Louis Black, editor of The Austin Chronicle & co-founder of South by Southwest (SXSW)
There is a reason people travel from all over the world to attend this prestigious, one-of-a-kind film festival, which local Arkansans have the privilege of having in their backyard.

We are thrilled to offer a unique cultural and educational opportunity to share stories from around the world with local Arkansans, and to show visitors the beautiful and rich history of our incredible state.

The festival continues to instill in our guests a lifelong love of documentary film. The 32nd Annual Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival will be a unique and unforgettable experience that you won't want to miss. We hope you can join us for what will be another remarkable cinematic adventure in the heart of Arkansas.