



[THE LATINO CENTER OF IOWA](#)

PRESENTS

2023 | [DES MOINES LATINO FILM FESTIVAL](#)

TUE / MAR, JUN 13: Opening Night / Apertura

[Des Moines Art Center](#), 4:30 - 9:00 PM

WED / MIÉ, JUN 14

Pride Night / Tema: Pride

[State Historical Museum](#), 4:30 - 9:00 PM

THU / JUE, JUN 15

Drive-in Night / Auto-Cine

Rebel's All-American Drive-In ([Valley West Mall](#)), 5:00 - 10:00 PM

FRI / VIE, JUN 16

Night of Terror!

[Tallgrass Theater](#), 4:30-8:30 PM

SAT / SÁB, JUN 17

Family Fun Day / Celebración Para Familias

[Valley Junction Railroad Park](#), 11:00 AM – 9:30 PM

TUESDAY | DES MOINES ART CENTER

SHORT FILM

[Letters/Cartas \(2023\)](#)

Emma has been working for some time to get a job in Canada. After much effort and hours of work, she receives a letter stating that she has been selected. Everything takes a turn when she asks her partner to move to Canada together. Memories of her childhood, the relationship with her parents, and the couple's situation make them doubt their future.

Emma ha estado trabajando durante algún tiempo para conseguir un trabajo en Canadá. Después de mucho esfuerzo y horas de trabajo, recibe una carta en la que se le informa que ha sido seleccionada. Todo da un giro cuando le pide a su pareja que se muden juntos a Canadá. Los recuerdos de su infancia, la relación con sus padres y la situación de la pareja les hacen dudar de su futuro.

Genre | Short

Country | Spain

Director | Eva Beunza

Film Length | 14min

Language | Spanish with English subtitles

SHORT FILM

[Lili \(2022\)](#)

A father and daughter must cross the border in order to find a better life. However, the journey is made more difficult because the daughter cannot speak.

Un padre y su hija tienen que cruzar la frontera hacia Estados Unidos para una mejor vida. El camino se hace más difícil porque la niña no puede hablar.

Genre | Short

Country | Puerto Rico

Director | Brian Ríos

Film Length | 15min

Language | Spanish with English subtitles

FEATURE FILM

[When Jack Came Back/Cuando Jack volvió \(2022\)](#)

Jack, a down-on-his-luck actor, begrudgingly comes home after the death of his father only to find that his mom is in the grip of Alzheimer's Disease.

Tuesday

4:30-5:30 Reception

5:30-5:40 LCI Introduction

5:40-5:45 Intro video from Director

Eva Buenza

5:45-6:00 **LETTERS / CARTAS**

6:00-6:15 **LILI**

6:15-6:30 Intermission

6:30-8:15 **WHEN JACK CAME BACK**

8:15 Q&A with Director Thor Moreno

Special Thanks to tonight's host, the Des Moines Art Center.

This festival is made possible by the support and generosity of all our sponsors, with special thanks to the following:

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PROGRAM MOVIE INSERT-V4

Now the two of them must find some common ground as Nancy's time is running out.

Jack, un actor con mala suerte, llega a casa a regañadientes después de la muerte de su padre solo para descubrir que su madre sufre de la enfermedad de Alzheimer. Ahora los dos deben encontrar algo en común ya que el tiempo de Nancy se está acabando.

Genre | Drama

Country | USA

Director | Thor Moreno

Film Length | 1hr 45min

Language | English

Q&A PANEL WITH DIRECTOR THOR MORENO

WEDNESDAY | STATE HISTORIC MUSEUM

FEATURE FILM

[The Pool of the Nobodies/La alberca de los Nadies](#) (2022)

An indigenous migrant named Alex is put to the ultimate test, forced to enter the criminal underworld just to live another day. Anayeli, another indigenous migrant, struggles to save the life of her unborn son, as well as her own. They will both do unthinkable things to survive the Pool of the Nobodies.

Un migrante indígena llamado Alex se somete a la prueba definitiva, obligado a ingresar al inframundo criminal solo para vivir un día más. Anayeli, otra migrante indígena, lucha por salvar la vida de su hijo por nacer, así como la suya propia. Ambos harán cosas impensables para sobrevivir en la Piscina de los Incorpóreos.

Genre | Drama

Country | Mexico

Director | José Luis Solís Olivares

Film Length | 1hr 21min

Language | Spanish, Nahuatl, Zapotec, Kaqchikel with English subtitles

SHORT FILM

[The Butch and the Baby Daddy/](#) [La marimacho y el papá del bebé](#) (2022)

Alex has wanted to have a baby almost as long as she can remember. But how is a trans/butch lesbian supposed to get sperm? When she considers asking Mateo, a close gay friend of hers, Alex is forced to investigate what she really values.

Alex ha querido tener un bebé casi desde que tiene memoria. Pero, ¿cómo se supone que una lesbiana trans/butch obtiene esperma? Cuando considera preguntarle a Mateo, un amigo gay cercano suyo, Alex se ve obligada a investigar qué es lo que realmente valora.

Genre | Animated short, LGBTQ

Country | Canada

Director | Karleen Pendleton Jiménez, Barb Taylor

Film Length | 6 min

Language | English

FEATURE FILM

Wednesday

4:30-5:30 Reception

5:30-5:40 LCI Introduction

5:40-7:00 **THE POOL OF THE NOBODIES**

7:00-7:15 Intermission

7:15-7:20 **THE BUTCH AND THE BABY DADDY**

7:20-9:00 **SUBLIME**

Special Thanks to tonight's host, the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs & Produce Iowa.

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Sublime (2022)

Sixteen-year-old Manuel loves to play bass in a local band, wander around the streets of the coastal town he calls home and boast about his sexual experiences. But just as he is about to make love to his girlfriend, Manuel feels a sudden yearning for his childhood friend, Felipe. Manuel struggles with his feelings as he watches Felipe flirt with different girls. Mariano Biasin has crafted an empathetic, intimate coming-of-age story in his feature debut.

A Manuel, de dieciséis años, le encanta tocar el bajo en una banda local, pasear por las calles del pueblo costero al que llama hogar y alardear de sus experiencias sexuales. Pero justo cuando está a punto de hacer el amor con su novia, Manuel siente un súbito anhelo por su amigo de la infancia, Felipe. Manuel lucha con sus sentimientos mientras ve a Felipe coquetear con diferentes chicas. Mariano Biasin ha elaborado una historia empática e íntima sobre la mayoría de edad en su ópera prima.

Genre | Drama

Country | Argentina

Director | Mariano Biasin

Film Length | 1hr 40min

Language | Spanish with English subtitles

THURSDAY | REBEL'S ALL-AMERICAN DRIVE-IN

FEATURE FILM

Encanto (2021)

The Madrigals are an extraordinary family who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia in a charmed place called the Encanto. The magic of the Encanto has blessed every child in the family with a unique gift -- every child except Mirabel. However, she soon may be the Madrigals last hope when she discovers that the magic surrounding the Encanto is now in danger.

Los Madrigal son una extraordinaria familia que vive escondida en las montañas de Colombia en un lugar encantado llamado El Encanto. La magia del Encanto ha bendecido a cada niño de la familia con un regalo único: todos los niños excepto Mirabel. Sin embargo, pronto puede ser la última esperanza de Madrigal cuando descubre que la magia que rodea al Encanto está ahora en peligro.

Genre | Family, Musical

Country | USA

Director | Byron Howard, Jared Bush

Film Length | 1hr 42min

Language | English and Spanish with English subtitles

FEATURE FILM

Intersection/Intersección (2022)

Chilean refugee Daniela (Carmen Aguirre) came to Canada as a child after her mother was assassinated during Chile's dictatorship. Her father, Pepe, never wants to speak about Chile, but when her daughter Rocío starts to ask questions, Daniela decides to apply for Chilean citizenship for a first trip back. In doing this, however, Daniela triggers a chain of events that ends up uprooting the very foundation of her life.

La refugiada chilena Daniela (Carmen Aguirre) llegó a Canadá de niña después de que su madre fuera asesinada durante la dictadura chilena. Su padre, Pepe, nunca quiere hablar de Chile, pero cuando su hija Rocío empieza a hacer preguntas, Daniela decide solicitar la nacionalidad chilena para un primer viaje de regreso. Al hacerlo, sin embargo, Daniela desencadena una serie de acontecimientos que terminan por desarraigar los cimientos de su vida.

Genre | Drama, Thriller

Country | Canada

Director | Cecilia Araneda

Film Length | 1hr 39min

Language | English and Spanish with English subtitles

Thursday

5:00-6:00 DJ & Miniature Golf, Bags, Food Truck & Fun!

6:00-6:10 LCI Introduction

6:10-7:55 **ENCANTO**

7:55-8:10 Sponsor Callouts, Food Truck and Games Break

8:10-9:55 **INTERSECTION**

Special Thanks to tonight's host, Rebel's All-American Drive-In Theater.

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FRIDAY | TALLGRASS THEATRE

SHORT FILM

[Off Color/Fuera de color](#) (2022)

In an attempt to fit in, a white Brazilian man goes to his first Halloween college party in the United States dressed as a Klansman.

En un intento por encajar, un brasileño blanco va a su primera fiesta universitaria de Halloween en los Estados Unidos vestido como miembro del Klan.

Genre | Short, Drama

Country | USA

Director | Camila Franco Ribeiro Gomide

Film Length | 8 min

Language | English

FEATURE FILM

[The Son Rises/El hijo se levanta](#) (2022)

Manny, a rebellious biker, must fight for justice when his younger brother is killed in a senseless police shooting. Harassed by those who have sworn to protect him, he finds parallels between his story and that of Jesus Christ, as he's slowly nailed to a cross of his own.

Manny, un motociclista rebelde, debe luchar por la justicia cuando su hermano menor muere en un tiroteo policial sin sentido. Acosado por aquellos que han jurado protegerlo, encuentra paralelos entre su historia y la de Jesucristo, mientras es clavado lentamente en su propia cruz.

Genre | Drama

Country | USA

Director | Alexander G. Seyum

Film Length | 47min

Language | English, Spanish with English subtitles

SHORT FILM

[Haunting the Haunted/Atormentando a los embrujados](#) (2019)

The crew of a haunted house try to find a teenage trouble-making ghost, even though they're not sure if she'll talk their ears off or rip their limbs off.

El equipo de una casa embrujada intenta encontrar a un fantasma adolescente problemático, aunque no están seguros de si les hablará o les arrancará las extremidades.

Genre | Short, Horror, Comedy

Friday

4:30-5:30 Reception

5:30-5:40 LCI Introduction

5:40-5:50 **OFF COLOR**

5:50-6:40 **THE SON RISES**

6:40-7:00 Intermission

7:00-7:06 **HAUNTING THE HAUNTED**

7:06-8:25 **JUPÍA**

Special Thanks to tonight's host, Tallgrass Theatre.

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PROGRAM MOVIE INSERT-V4

Country | USA

Director | John Gigrich

Film Length | 6min

Language | English

FEATURE FILM

Jupía (2022)

The investigation of the murder of his wife and the disappearance of his daughter led Tomas, a skeptical police investigator, who has fallen into depression, to a dilapidated nursing home on the outskirts of the city, where he'll be confronted with Atabey, an enigmatic nurse with mysterious powers.

La investigación del asesinato de su mujer y la desaparición de su hija lleva a Tomás, un investigador policial escéptico y sumido en una depresión, a un asilo de ancianos en ruinas en las afueras de la ciudad, donde se enfrentará a Atabey, una enfermera enigmática con poderes misteriosos.

Genre | Horror

Country | Dominican Republic

Director | Jose Gómez De Vargas, Julietta Rodríguez

Film Length | 1hr 19min

Language | Spanish with English subtitles

SATURDAY | VALLEY JUNCTION

SHORT FILM

[Daniel's Fight/ La pelea de Daniel \(2022\)](#)

A job is not just a paycheck—it is part of the bigger human story. Infinite Resources teamed up with Des Moines' own Estuary Motion Pictures to tell the story of Daniel Andrade. This video shows the "why" behind our work connecting jobseekers and local companies.

Un trabajo no es solo un cheque de pago, es parte de la historia humana más grande. Infinite Resources se asoció con Estuary Motion Pictures de Des Moines para contar la historia de Daniel Andrade. Este video muestra el "por qué" detrás de nuestro trabajo conectando a los solicitantes de empleo y las empresas locales.

Genre | Short, Local film

Country | USA

Director | Israel Lopez

Film Length | 5min

Language | English

Q&A WITH DIRECTOR ISRAEL LOPEZ

SHORT FILM

[Betsabé \(2022\)](#)

Though Betsabé anticipates the moment she may run into her ex, that moment proves to teach her more than she expected.

Aunque Betsabé anticipa el momento en que puede encontrarse con su ex, ese momento demuestra que le enseña más de lo que esperaba.

Genre | Short

Country | Mexico/USA

Director | Hannah Rosalie Wright

Film Length | 6min

Language | Spanish with English subtitles

Q&A WITH DIRECTOR HANNAH ROSALIE WRIGHT

SHORT FILM

[Mountain Dust/Polvo de montaña \(2022\)](#)

In the midst of quarrying in the mountains of her city, Jessy, a young domestic worker, witnesses the scope of the economic forces that are destroying her family's health.

Saturday

11:00-12:00 DJ by La Q Buena

12:00-12:10 LCI Introduction

12:10-12:15 **DANIEL'S FIGHT**

12:15-12:30 Q&A with Director Israel Lopez

12:30-1:15 Live Music: [Calle Sur](#)

1:15-1:30 **BETSABÉ**

1:30-1:45 Q&A with Director Hannah Rosalie Wright

2:00-2:20 **MOUNTAIN DUST**

2:20-2:50 **ÉLEFAN**

2:50-3:00 DJ by La Q Buena

3:00-4:35 **STEWARDS OF THE LAND**

4:35-5:00 DJ by La Q Buena

5:00-6:00 Live Music: [Las Guitarras ATM](#)

6:10-7:55 **DEAR GRANDMA**

8:00-9:30 Live Music: [Son Peruchos](#)

Special Thanks to today's host, Historic Valley Junction Foundation.

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PROGRAM MOVIE INSERT-V4

En medio de la explotación de canteras en las montañas de su ciudad, Jessy, una joven trabajadora doméstica, es testigo del alcance de las fuerzas económicas que están destruyendo la salud de su familia.

Genre | Short

Country | Mexico

Director | Marlén Ríos-Farjat

Film Length | 19min

Language | Spanish with English subtitles

SHORT FILM

[**ÉLEFAN \(2022\)**](#)

ÉLEFAN explores the relationship between space and identity among London's Latin American community in the years leading up to the demolition of Elephant and Castle shopping centre. The UK is home to 250,000 Latin Americans; some estimates put the true figure at over 1 million. London's Elephant and Castle shopping centre has been the community's primary hub for decades. After more than ten years of uncertainty, controversial plans to demolish the shopping centre finally moved ahead in 2021.

ÉLEFAN explora la relación entre el espacio y la identidad entre la comunidad latinoamericana de Londres en los años previos a la demolición del centro comercial Elephant and Castle. El Reino Unido alberga a 250.000 latinoamericanos; algunas estimaciones sitúan la cifra real en más de 1 millón. El centro comercial Elephant and Castle de Londres ha sido el centro principal de la comunidad durante décadas. Después de más de diez años de incertidumbre, los controvertidos planes para demoler el centro comercial finalmente avanzaron en 2021.

Genre | Documentary

Country | United Kingdom, Colombia

Director | Daniel Díaz

Film Length | 27min

Language | English, Spanish with English subtitles

FEATURE FILM

[**Stewards of the Land/Serán las dueñas de la tierra \(2022\)**](#)

39th Chicago Latino Film Festival Audience Choice Documentary Winner

Stephanie, Ian, and Alfredo are three young farmers who want to grow healthy produce for an island that imports most of its food, including fruits and vegetables. The farms they rent have been abandoned for decades. Their plans to rebuild these lands from the ground up are made that much more difficult by the devastation caused by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Pagan Teitelbaum shows the protagonists' grit as they attempt to carve out a living without land ownership or capital.

Stephanie, Ian y Alfredo son tres jóvenes agricultores que quieren cultivar productos saludables para una isla que importa la mayor parte de sus alimentos, incluidas frutas y verduras. Las fincas que alquilan están abandonadas desde hace décadas. Sus planes para reconstruir estas tierras desde cero se hacen mucho más difíciles por la devastación causada por los huracanes Irma y María. Pagan Teitelbaum muestra el valor de los protagonistas mientras intentan ganarse la vida sin propiedad de la tierra ni capital.

Genre | Documentary

Country | Puerto Rico

PROGRAM MOVIE INSERT-V4

Director | Juanma Pagán Teitelbaum

Film Length | 1hr 32min

Language | Spanish with English subtitles

FEATURE FILM

Dear Grandma/El vasco (2022)

39th Chicago Latino Film Festival Audience Choice Feature Winner

Forlorn after his girlfriend dumps him and tired of the Basque Country's non-stop rain, Mikel packs his bags and heads to Argentina where a distant uncle he met through Facebook promises him a job in his business. Mikel finds himself in a town founded by Basque emigres whose descendants are far much prouder of being Basque than the Basques themselves. And if this life without prospects wasn't enough, Mikel now has to pretend to be somebody else when his Grandma Dolores, his uncle's mom, wakes up from her lethargy after hearing him sing a lullaby in Basque.

Desconsolado luego que su novia lo abandona y cansado de la Lluvia incesante en el País Vasco, Mikel hace sus maletas y viaja a Argentina, donde un tío lejano que conoció a través de Facebook le promete un trabajo en su negocio. Mikel se encuentra en un pueblo fundad por emigrantes vascos cuyos descendientes están mucho más orgullosos de ser vascos que los propios vascos. Para colmo, Mikel ahora tendrá que hacerse pasar por otra persona cuando la abuela Dolores, la mama de su tío, se despierta de su letargo tras oírle cantar una nana en euskera.

Genre | Comedy

Country | Spain, Argentina

Director | Jabi Elortegi

Film Length | 1hr 40min

Language | Spanish, Basque with English subtitles