



EDUCATION

Our flagship Education Screenings program is back in full swing, having presented **8 screenings** to over **7,000 students grades 1-12**, our biggest attendance since before the pandemic! With a mission to provide access to high quality film to Milwaukee’s youth, Milwaukee Film defrays bus transportation costs for Milwaukee Public Schools and offers a transportation scholarship to Title 1 schools in need—through this service we spent over \$22K in bus costs this quarter.

We continue to offer our Take 1: Teen Filmmaking Lab program, engaging 38 students in beginning and intermediate levels during the fall semester.



8 Education Film Screenings



7,000 Students



\$22K in Bus Costs

FORWARD FUND

A vital part of Milwaukee Film’s Artist Services program, the 2023 Forward Fund awarded a pool of over **\$100,000 in cash and film production resources to 11 total projects headed by local filmmakers.** Every year, the Forward Fund awards both cash as well as sponsor-donated production resources (camera rentals, lighting rentals, post-production audio, and visual services, etc.) to jury-selected recipients in packages that combine cash and services to suit the needs of the project. On December 6, Milwaukee Film staff, the visiting jury of film professionals, local filmmakers, and guests gathered at Radio Milwaukee for an awards ceremony celebrating our local talented filmmakers and bolstering their projects.



LOOKING FORWARD:

2024 MILWAUKEE FILM FESTIVAL - SAVE THE DATE!

The 16th Annual Milwaukee Film Festival will take place from **April 11 - 25, 2024** and offers **fifteen straight days of city-wide films, events, and conversations.** With opportunities to experience films and topics from all over the world and gain access to the best film festival circuit offerings, the Annual Milwaukee Film Festival offers a wide range of film experiences for all ages. We can’t wait to see you there!



2023 FALL FESTIVAL:

Guided by principles of cultural inclusivity, the 2023 Cultures & Communities Festival (October 5 - 12), generously presented by the Brewers, was an eight-day convergence of groundbreaking films, distinguished speakers, and public forums designed to amplify diverse cultural expressions and celebrate community—convening multicultural, intergenerational audiences across southeastern Wisconsin through engaging events, films, and compelling public conversations. The festival included **40 cultural events and programs** and **13 films screened** at The Oriental Theatre. Laurie & Byron Vielehr's 2023 Cultures and Communities Match Campaign was a great success, with the amazing match of \$50,000 in donations from Laurie & Byron.


NOVEMBER 8 FUNDRAISER EVENT & RETURN OF THE PIPE ORGAN

Milwaukee Film was pleased to present a first ever fundraiser event of its kind at the Oriental Theatre. **Coming Home Again: A 1925 Wurlitzer Organ's Grand Debut** was a night to remember as guests were present for the official unveiling of a 1925 Wurlitzer pipe organ. After a cocktail reception, guests supported our nonprofit arts organization with a paddle raise and auction, followed by the special 100th anniversary screening of Harold Lloyd's *Safety Last!* with live organ accompaniment - exactly as it would have been in the silent film era. We are so proud to have this cultural icon make its way to our cinema palace. In total, the event **raised \$160,000**, enabling us to continue to offer world-class cinematic programming and events to our community.


A TRIUMPHANT RETURN TO THE CINEMA!

Over the course of 2023, Milwaukee Film saw a major increase in cinema attendance. We also had an incredible 69% membership renewal rate for the year, and sales on site at the Oriental Theatre were 87% up over 2022.

People are getting the message at the cinema more than ever. **66% increase in total attendance** for Members screenings over last year, consisting of over 6,100 members and guests attending. And we ended the year with a **21% increase in total members**, beating our ambitious goal of 20%!

69%
RENEWAL RATE
 in membership

OVER 6,100 IN ATTENDANCE
 for membership screenings