



LIAISON OF
INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS
OF TORONTO



FALL 2026: September - December
WORKSHOPS and COURSES
Comprehensive Production Training
for Film, Digital and Interactive Art

FALL 2026 WORKSHOPS

Registration starts Tuesday September 22, 10 AM ET

The Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT) is an artist-run charitable organization dedicated to facilitating excellence in the moving image through media arts education and production resources. LIFT provides more than 130 workshops per year across three seasons, where participants can develop practical filmmaking skills across all experience levels. These intensive evening and weekend workshops allow learners to quickly build specialized skills. The small class sizes ensure hands-on access to professional equipment and direct feedback from experienced industry professionals.

**Cover Image: Photograph by Katerina Zoumboulakis, www.katerinazoum.com
Featuring a camera lens from LIFT's catalogue. See our new Lens Tech Lab this season.**

01 COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND INDUSTRY

LIFT Public Guided Tour	September 29 6 PM-6:45 PM	Free <i>Register Online</i>
Panel: The Business of Film Sales and Distribution	September 29 7 PM-8:30 PM	Free <i>Register Online</i>

02 INTRODUCTION TO FILMMAKING

Introduction to Independent Filmmaking: Class A*	October 5 and 7 6 PM-10 PM	\$140 Members \$165 Non-members
Introduction to Independent Filmmaking: Class B*	October 20 and 22 6 PM-10 PM	\$140 Members \$165 Non-members
Cinematography Bootcamp for Documentary Filmmakers	December 12 10 AM-3 PM	\$90 Members \$115 Non-members

03 FILMMAKING INTENSIVE

Super 8 Filmmaking Intensive	October 31 10 AM-6 PM	\$200 Members \$225 Non-members
Smartphone Filmmaking and Content Production	November 30, December 2, 7 and 9 6 PM-9 PM	\$200 Members \$225 Non-members

Visit www.lift.ca/workshops for detailed workshop descriptions and updates

WRITING

Introduction to Screenwriting: Class A*	October 8, 15, 22 and 29 7 PM-9:30 PM	\$240 Members \$265 Non-members
Introduction to Screenwriting: Class B*	November 10, 17, 24 and December 1 7 PM-9:30 PM	\$240 Members \$265 Non-members
Script Development Studio	November 12, 19, 26, December 3 and 10 6:30 PM-9:30 PM	\$300 Members \$325 Non-members

PRODUCING

Grant Writing for Arts Councils: Class A*	October 14 and 21 6 PM-9 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Grant Writing for Arts Councils: Class B*	November 30 and December 7 6 PM-9 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Producing Dramatic Films	October 6 and 8 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Crafting Fear: The Business of Horror Filmmaking	November 3 6 PM-10 PM	\$85 Members \$110 Non-members
Crafting the Perfect Pitch: Packaging Your Project for Success	November 23 and 30 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
The Business of Film Distribution	December 10 and 16 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Film Law	December 14 6 PM-10 PM	\$85 Members \$110 Non-members

Please Note: Workshops are subject to change. Please refer to our website for the updated dates, descriptions and instructors.
www.lift.ca/workshops.

*** Class A and B are the duplicate classes scheduled on different dates.**

DIRECTING

Directing Dramatic Film	October 19 and 21 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Directing Documentary Film	October 26 and 28 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Directing Actors for Narrative: Part I	October 25 11 AM-3 PM and 29 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Directing Actors for Narrative: Part II	November 9 and 11 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Visual Metaphor and Expressive Directing Techniques	November 1 and 8 10 AM-5 PM	\$275 Members \$300 Non-members
Assistant Directing	November 2 and 4 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Storyboarding	November 18 and 25 6 PM-9 PM	\$110 Members \$135 Non-members
Intimacy Coordination	November 29 10 AM-2 PM	\$85 Members \$110 Non-members
The Art of the Interview	December 7 and 9 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members

PRODUCTION

Lighting Fundamentals	October 17 10 AM-6 PM	\$160 Members \$185 Non-members
Cinematography Fundamentals	October 24 10 AM-6 PM	\$160 Members \$185 Non-members
Art Direction for Film	November 5 6 PM-10 PM	\$85 Members \$110 Non-members
Script Supervision	November 16 and 18 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members

PRODUCTION CONTINUED

Introduction to Production Management and Accounting	November 22 10 AM-4 PM	\$115 Members \$140 Non-members
DIT Intensive (Digital Imaging)	November 28 10 AM-6 PM	\$135 Members \$160 Non-members
Starting a Production Company	December 1 and 3 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Grip and Electric Fundamentals	December 5 10 AM-6 PM	\$150 Members \$175 Non-members
Creative Lighting Techniques	December 6 10 AM-6 PM	\$150 Members \$175 Non-members

CAMERAS

Camera Theory: Class A*	October 3 10 AM-6 PM	\$140 Members \$165 Non-members
Camera Theory: Class B*	October 4 10 AM-6 PM	\$140 Members \$165 Non-members
Bolex 16mm Cameras	November 7 10 AM-6 PM	\$175 Members \$200 Non-members
ARRI SRII 16mm and Aaton XTR Prod Super 16mm Cameras	November 10 and 12 6 PM-10 PM	\$160 Members \$185 Non-members
Camera Assisting	November 14 10 AM-6 PM	\$160 Members \$185 Non-members
The Lens Tech Lab	December 15 6 PM-10 PM	\$85 Members \$110 Non-members

Please Note: Workshops are subject to change. Please refer to our website for the updated dates, descriptions and instructors.
www.lift.ca/workshops.

*** Class A and B are the duplicate classes scheduled on different dates.**

SOUND

Voice Over Techniques	November 17 and 19 6 PM-10 PM	\$125 Members \$150 Non-members
Introduction to Location Sound Recording	November 21 10 AM-6 PM	\$160 Members \$185 Non-members
Introduction to Post Production Sound	December 2 6 PM-10 PM	\$85 Members \$110 Non-members
Sound Design with Pro Tools	December 14 and 16 6 PM-10 PM	\$135 Members \$160 Non-members

POST-PRODUCTION AND DIGITAL TOOLS

Editing with Adobe Premiere: Class A*	October 18 10 AM-6 PM	\$135 Members \$160 Non-Members
Editing with Adobe Premiere: Class B*	November 15 10 AM-6 PM	\$135 Members \$160 Non-Members
Colour Theory for Filmmakers	November 25 6 PM-10 PM	\$85 Members \$110 Non-members
Digital Colour Grading with DaVinci Resolve	December 1 and 3 6 PM-10 PM	\$135 Members \$160 Non-members
Editing on Film	December 13 11 AM-3 PM	\$85 Members \$110 Non-members

CREATIVE PRACTICES

Darkroom Play with 16mm Colour Film	October 4 10 AM-6 PM	\$160 Members \$185 Non-members
Eco-Processing 16mm Film	November 15 10 AM-6 PM	\$160 Members \$185 Non-members
Hand Processing Colour Film	November 28 10 AM-6 PM	\$175 Members \$200 Non-members

HAPPY 45TH ANNIVERSARY TO LIFT

Did you know LIFT is a charitable organization
and we've been around for 45 years?

We exist to break down the barriers
of independent filmmaking through access to resources,
education, mentorship and community.

Our mandate is committed to supporting filmmakers
who might otherwise not have access
to the tools of filmmaking.

For our **45th Anniversary**,
we're running a "**\$45 for LIFT45**" campaign,
with the hope to raise \$45,000
by the end of the year.

We're halfway there!
Consider donating to help us face rising costs
in our day to day
as we continue to serve our community.

More info at www.lift.ca/donate

"45 for 45" CAMPAIGN



**\$45
FOR
45!**



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OF TORONTO

LIFT.ca/donate
#LiftFilm

COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

LIFT welcomes project and partnership inquiries from non-profit organizations, artist collectives, and community-based groups throughout the year. While one-time collaborations may be possible based on available resources and scheduling, LIFT is particularly interested in developing long-term partnerships that support independent filmmaking, artistic growth and community engagement.

Partnerships may include capacity-building support for emerging organizations, access to LIFT's facilities and equipment and opportunities to work with experienced instructors and mentors. Each collaboration is shaped by the needs and goals of the partner organization and the resources available.

LIFT encourages inquiries from organizations whose work aligns with our commitment to independent filmmaking, artistic innovation, equity, inclusion, freedom of expression and community-based practice. **As demand for partnerships exceeds our capacity, we are only able to support a limited number of projects each year.**

See website for application details: <https://lift.ca/project-partnership-inquiries>

Inquiries should be sent to LIFT's Executive Director at director@lift.ca
Subject Heading: LIFT Partnership Proposal – Organization Name



Image by Junyeong Kim

Featuring a still from *Hard Offer*, as part of the Virtual Production Storytelling with Unreal Engine Training Program in partnership with Screen Industry Training Hub (SITHub).

ANALOGUE WORKSHOPS FOR GROUPS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Due to our unique analogue film resources, **LIFT offers customized analogue filmmaking workshops for schools, post-secondary institutions, artist-run centres, museums, festivals and community organizations interested in exploring the art and craft of working with film.** Led by experienced filmmakers, these hands-on sessions introduce participants to a range of analogue practices, including Super 8 and 16mm filmmaking, hand processing, darkroom techniques and other experimental film practices.

Whether complementing an existing curriculum, supporting professional development or providing a unique learning experience for a community group, workshops can be adapted to meet the needs, interests and experience levels of participants. LIFT is committed to fostering a deeper appreciation for analogue filmmaking in an inclusive and collaborative learning environment.

Inquiries should be sent to LIFT's Executive Director at director@lift.ca
Subject Heading: LIFT Custom Analogue Workshops – Organization Name



**Photograph by Justine McCloskey, www.justinemccloskey.com
Featuring the Bolex 16mm Cameras workshop.**

LIFT PROGRAMMING

LIFT's year-round programming offers filmmakers opportunities to learn, create, connect and grow within a vibrant community of independent artists. Through masterclasses, artist talks, screenings and special events, participants explore new approaches to filmmaking and engage with leading Canadian and international filmmakers. Our programs provide a welcoming space to discover new ideas and advance independent cinema.

See website for more details: <https://lift.ca/programming-home>

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

General Membership:

\$90.00 annually

- Receive the weekly members' ebulletin via email.
- Ability to post unlimited listings in weekly members' ebulletin for cast and crew calls, screenings, broadcasts, exhibitions and projects that members have worked on.
- Discounted rates on LIFT workshops and courses.
- Discounts on expendable items and merchandise in the LIFT Store.
- Discounts on admission to LIFT events.
- Ability to attend the LIFT Screenwriting Circle.
- Discounts on workshops and events from partner organizations.
- Eligible to apply for LIFT Production and Post-Production Support Grant.

Production

Membership:

\$175.00 annually

- All of the benefits of the General Level Membership.
- Ability to rent production equipment and post-production facilities.
- Reference check required.

General Student and Production Student Membership:

\$75.00 annually

- General Student and Production Student Memberships are available for students currently enrolled in any Canadian post-secondary learning institution.
- Students enrolled in non-film/media programs are also eligible.
- Proof of student registration and/or reference check required.

General Equitable and Production Equitable Membership:

\$75.00 annually

- For individuals who are seniors (over 65 years of age) or are a recipient of Canada Workers Benefit (CWB), Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), Ontario Works, Employment Insurance (EI) or equivalent.
- Applicable proof of registration required and/or reference cheque required.

Organizational Membership:

Level 1:

\$175.00 annually
(Operating budget
under \$1,000,000)

- Organizational memberships available for artist-run centres, festivals, art galleries, arts education and training institutions, and other non-profit or charitable organizations. Unincorporated collectives operating on a not-for-profit basis that receive funding (from one of the three levels of Arts Councils) for project grants are also eligible to apply.
- Receive the weekly members' ebulletin via email to all current staff members.
- Ability to post unlimited listings in weekly members' ebulletin of cast and crew calls of organizations' job listings, events, calls for submissions, etc.
- Discounted rates for current staff members on LIFT workshops and courses, and items from LIFT Store.
- Ability to rent production equipment and post-production facilities for organization events and projects.
- Staff must join as individual members for personal projects.

Level 2:

\$275.00 annually
(Operating budget
over \$1,000,000)

Complete membership details and application requirements can be found online at www.lift.ca/lift-membership

Questions should be emailed to membership@lift.ca

EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES RENTAL

LIFT provides affordable access to production, post-production and exhibition equipment for non-commercial film, digital and new media projects. LIFT's equipment rental program strives to make otherwise expensive production resources accessible to the broadest pool of media makers. Equipment rentals are available to all LIFT Production and Organizational members in good standing. **LIFT does not rent equipment or facilities to non-members. Please see the previous page for membership levels and benefits.**

Complete equipment and facilities details, rental policy and rates can be found online at www.lift.ca/equipment

Questions should be emailed to tech@lift.ca

Available Facilities

Includes:

- Colour Correction and Finishing Suite (DaVinci Resolve)
- Dragonframe Animation Suite
- 16mm and 35mm Digital to Film Transfer Suite
- Steenbeck 16mm and 35mm Flatbed Editing Suite
- Pro Tools Audio Recording Suite
- Photography and Motion Picture Darkroom
- Telecine Transfer Suite
- JK Optical Printer Suite
- Oxberry 1700 Printer Suite
- Digital Classroom (7 workstations)

Available Equipment

Includes:

- High-Definition and 4K Digital Cameras (RED Komodo, Canon C500 MKII, Canon C70, and more)
- Regular 8mm, Super 8mm, 16mm, Super 16mm and 35mm Motion Picture Cameras (ARRI 35 III, Aaton XTR S16mm Prod, ARRI SR11 16mm, Bolex Cameras, and more)
- Camera Support and Accessories
- Various Lens Packages
- Lighting and Grip Equipment
- Location Sound Equipment
- Digital Video Projectors
- Super 8mm, 16mm and 35mm Projectors
- Additional Presentation Equipment

THE LIFT STORE

The LIFT Store carries a wide variety of film stocks (specializing in Regular 8mm, Super 8mm and 16mm), processing chemistry and editing supplies for all formats at economical rates.

The LIFT Store is available to the general public; members receive a members' discount. Special orders available. www.lift.ca/store

DONATE

Support LIFT's year round activities and speciality programs today. One-time or monthly donations will ensure we continue to provide affordable access to equipment, education and space for those who want to make films, out of a passion for, and commitment to the practice of filmmaking. www.lift.ca/donate

Registration

Online **registration starts at 10 AM ET on Tuesday September 22, 2026**. For credit card or PayPal registrations, please use our online system remotely at: **www.lift.ca/workshop-registration**. We accept Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Visa Debit. Cash or interac transactions require in person registration during office hours. Cheques and money orders are not accepted. LIFT Workshops have limited enrollment. **Registration is confirmed only when payment has been received in full.**

Workshop Guidelines

A workshop will run once we have 50% enrolment in the class; please register early to avoid disappointment. LIFT workshops are best suited to individuals 18 years old and over. Only the person whose name appears on the enrolment is registered for the workshop. **Digital video and audio recording of LIFT workshops is strictly prohibited.** LIFT strives to make our space and workshops as accessible as possible. Please contact us about special needs at least four (4) weeks before the start of the workshop you are interested in and we will work towards accommodating them. The majority of workshops are in person at 1137 Dupont Street and some will take place online via Zoom. **Please use the Gladstone Avenue entrance for all in person workshops. During registration note whether a workshop is in person or online.** If a workshop is in person, we ask that participants review the mask policy for that workshop before attending. Workshops are subject to schedule, instructor or content amendments, or cancellation at the discretion of LIFT. Please refer to our website for updated information. All registered participants will be notified of any cancellation, instructor or schedule changes. LIFT will refund full registration fees to those participants unable to make rescheduled dates or cancellations.

Participant Cancellation Policy

Participants must cancel up to five (5) full business days, excluding weekends and holidays, prior to the start date of the workshop to receive a 80% refund per cancelled workshop. No compensation is available for cancellations less than five (5) full business days or for non-attendance. There are absolutely no make-ups or transfers allowed for any missed session. All cancellations must be received and confirmed by email to **workshops@lift.ca**. All refunds will be issued by cheque or PayPal regardless of the original method of payment.

Address:

1137 Dupont Street, Toronto, Ontario, M6H 2A3 | Canada

Website:

www.lift.ca

Telephone:

416.588.6444

Email:

workshops@lift.ca

Hours:

Monday - Friday 10 AM - 6 PM



@_liftfilm

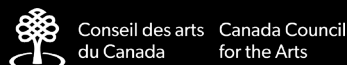


@LIFT.ca



@LIFTfilm

The Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT) is supported by its membership, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, the Government of Ontario, the Ontario Arts Foundation, the Toronto Arts Council and the City of Toronto.



Workshops designed by Screen Industry Training Hub (SITHub)
www.sithub.ca