



Newsletter

August 2026

Why Humans Love Movies

By Tanushree Mertia

June 14, 2024

The first ever motion picture movie ever recorded in human history was Lous Le Prince's Roundhay Garden Scene, a groundbreaking 2 second long video – well, groundbreaking for its time, 1888.

Despite mysteriously disappearing before his movies were shown to the masses - all of a sudden, something seemingly impossible, led to thousands of people rushing to their cameras and figuring out how to mimic this technological advancement.

According to statistica.com, as of May 2024, there have been over 8 million films and television series in total, with 13 genres and more than 90 sub-genres, which leads me to the question: Why do Humans Love Movies? Billions of dollars are invested in movies and there are billions of viewers worldwide! Movies are well loved around the world and almost every single person in the world has seen at least one, others even have favorites, so what makes movies so enjoyable?

From a scientific standpoint, our brains are actually wired to respond to any stimuli, which activate any reward systems. So, to be more specific; movies engage the parts in our brain involved in visual/auditory processing to become extremely stimulated. This is where the release of neurotransmitters such as dopamine to be released because of the emotional engagement we are constantly experiencing in a cinema, or while watching TV. However, if I am really looking at what makes a cinematic masterpiece - it comes down to storytelling. These cinematic experiences almost mirror our own lives, but also wildly different that anyone can experience through the lives of a lens. These lives can be fictional or not.

Message from the RCA Board President

Greetings,
October 16, 2026, RCA is having its first fundraiser for Public Art hosted by Arizona National Bank. RCA's goal is to make Payson an Art Destination. This would not only be a great economic addition to Rim Country, but will make our shows and events more successful for all artists. To acquire a building for a Cultural Art Center at this time isn't feasible. I believe Public Art will develop the draw of people we need to help meet that goal.

I will be at Noley's handing out the 8x8 canvases/guidelines on the following dates:

Wednesday July 29th from 2 to 4pm

Wednesday August 12th from 2 to 4pm

You may do more than one canvas. You do not have to be a painter to do a canvas...many medias can do this...think outside of the box. I'll make myself available to make sure you get a canvas if the dates listed above are not workable for you.

Let's do our best to make the canvases outstanding. Thank you for donating your time and art to help make Rim Country an Art Destination. This will happen when we all work together. Your participation is vital to RCA's success.

You'll be receiving more information on the fundraiser as time grows closer. Questions? Please contact me...texting is the best, but I welcome any contact to make our first fundraiser a success: (928) 978-1119

Thank you my fellow creators,

Minette Hart Richardson



At the end of the day, it makes us feel less alone in our experiences and everyday lives, because audiences can readily resonate with characters' loves, losses, hopes, and struggles. The. Genre. Does. Not. Matter. However, the story it tells does. If you take a look at many of the movies that have broken box office records or what are considered 'old classics', they all have one thing in common: they want us to watch it all over again. The story has us on the edge of our seats and creates a damn good experience!

Therefore, the answer to my earlier question is quite simple – we watch movies to *feel* something! Movies are worlds we can explore and watch and question and love and hate and be shocked or laugh wholeheartedly. Movies not only bring what we dream to life, but are really just reflections of our reality. We can understand other people, connect with the characters. And isn't that the most human thing of all?



Tremendous Gratitude from RCA to our Western Heritage Partners





TICKET PRICES:



PURCHASE TICKETS

- **\$8** - AT THE DOOR FOR INDIVIDUAL FILMS
-LIMITED SEATING FOR THE SEARCHERS
- **\$50** - MOVIE PASSES FOR ALL FILMS
-DOES NOT INCLUDE THE SEARCHERS
- **\$130** - BADGE FOR ALL EVENTS & MOVIES
- **\$30** - KRISTYN HARRIS CONCERT
- **\$75** - BBQ LUNCHEON WITH
"THE SEARCHERS" GUEST SPEAKER
- **BREAKING CAMP CARPINO CONCERT**
★-SUGGESTED DONATION

August 8-18, 2026
Movies, Music, & Much More

For Information and Tickets go to:
www.paysonazfilmfestival.org

Longhorn Theatre Company Presents

The Tortoise and the Hare

Adapted by Emily Morrison
Music by Gregory Boris
Lyrics by Gregory Boris & Emily Morrison

MISSOULA
CHILDREN'S
THEATRE

Auditions

Monday,
August 3rd 2026
at 4:15 PM in
the PHS
Auditorium

Rehearsals

Monday - Thursday
August 3rd - August 6th
Section A: 4:15 - 6:15 PM
Section B: 6:30 - 8:30 PM
in the PHS Auditorium

**Dates and Times are dependent on
role given*

Show Dates

Friday Aug 7th
Call Time: 12 PM
Show: 4 PM

Saturday Aug 8th
Call Time: 5:30 PM
Show: 6:30 PM



Audition



Sign Up



KRISTYN HARRIS

Live in Concert!



Payson Western Heritage & Film Festival



Tuesday, August 11, 2026 • 6:00 p.m.
Sawmill Theater • Payson, Arizona



Tickets \$30 • www.PaysonFilmFestival.org

Six-Time IWMA Entertainer of the Year

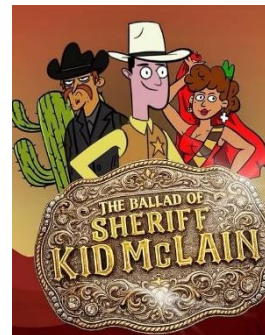
For Tickets go to:

www.paysonazfilmfestival.org

The Western Heritage and Film Festival Winning Films 2026

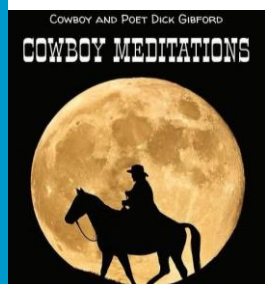
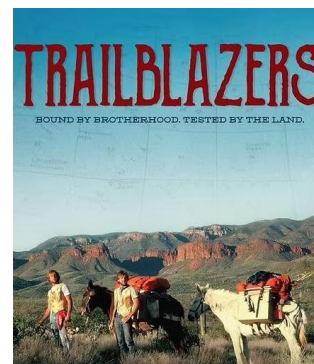
Friday, August 14, 2026 at the Sawmill Theaters

BEST ANIMATION — Ballad of Sheriff Kid McLain directed by Gui Pereira. In this 8-minute family-friendly short set in Ferro Grande, the determined Sheriff Kid McLain faces off against the notorious Dirt Man Duke and his Lightning Gang to restore justice to the Wild West. August 14th at 1:00 pm



BEST FEATURE — A Ranch Musical directed by Natalie Aramendia. A toe tapping, present-time romantic western follows Kristyn, a traditional rancher fighting foreclosure, who finds herself partnering with Jordan, a tech-savvy outsider. The film explores the tension between tradition and innovation as Kristyn works to hold on to what matters. This debut feature will leave you smiling and humming. August 14th at 1:15 pm – price for both Ballad of Sheriff Kid and A Ranch Musical \$9.00

BEST DOCUMENTARY — Trailblazers directed by Kristin Atwell and Bill Davis. This film chronicles brothers Troy and Powell "Gil" Gillenwater's 1982 journey across Arizona with two mules, a stray dog, and zero trails to follow. Their trek through snowstorms and rugged terrain helped inspire the creation of the now beloved Arizona National Scenic Trail. August 14th at 2:45 pm – Price is \$9.00



BEST IN SHOW — Cowboy Meditations by Gary Milliken. This film follows Dick Gibford, a working cowboy and poet who maintains the 19th-century tradition of cowboy poetry. From checking backcountry springs to performing at the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada, the documentary captures Dick's "naturally meditative" way of life and his deep connection to the land. August 14th at 4:00 pm – Price is \$9.00

For More Information and Tickets go to:
www.paysonazfilmfestival.org

Film Award Ceremony and Cocktail Party
August 14th at 6:00 pm at the Sawmill Theaters,
Following the Awards, with Macky's
Catered Appetizers at the Cocktail Party

If you purchased a package of \$50 or more for the film festival and you bring your badge, you are welcome to attend the party.

RCA Calendar of Events for August 2026



Rim Country Artists Events

Event	Location	Dates/Times	Notes
RCA Board Mtg.	National Bank of AZ	Aug 4 th 3:00 pm	
RCA Quarterly Mtg.	Payson Library	Oct 13 th 5:00 pm	

Payson Community Events

Event	Location	Dates/Times	Notes
RVN3 Memorial Run (Richard Vernon Nielsen, III)	Sawmill Theater 201 W Main St Payson, AZ	Aug 2 nd Times Vary	Hosted by the RVN3 Foundation
Kristyn Harris Concert	Sawmill Theater 201 W Main St Payson, AZ	Aug 11 th 5:00 pm	6-time International Western Music Association Entertainer of the Year
Film Award Ceremony & Cocktail Party	Sawmill Theater 201 W Main St Payson, AZ	Aug 14 th 6:00 pm	If you purchased a package of \$50 or more for the film festival & you bring your badge, you are welcome to attend.

Arizona Events

Event	Location	Dates/Times	Notes
Prescott Summer Fine Art & Wine Festival	Courthouse Square 120 S. Cortez St. Prescott, AZ	Aug 1 st & 2 nd 9:00 am to 5:00 pm	Over 100 fine art vendors, art demonstration, live music, wine garden
2026 Phoenix Tattoo Festival	Arizona Biltmore Resort Phoenix, AZ	Aug 14 th – 16 th 12:00 pm to 11:00 pm	Incredible tattoo artists, tattoo events, amazing body art, & live painters

Border States Game

How many of the thirteen U.S. states that border Canada do you know?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____



RCA Class Schedule as of August 2026

Pay for classes at <https://rimcountryartists.godaddysites.com/current-classes>

We accept Google Pay, MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express.

No refunds for paid classes. Credit cards only - no checks or cash for classes in 2026.

Questions, concerns or having trouble registering? Contact Dorothy Perry at (719) 480-9981 ~~ or ~~ 500dperry@gmail.com

#	Instructor, Class & Fee	Date and Time	Location	Description of the Class
1	Peggy Donathan-4 Stained Glass Garden Art Class \$74	Saturday, 8/29/26 11:00 – 3:00	Church of the Nazarene	Students will select from pre-cut glass, learn how to copper foil, and solder.
2	Peggy Donathan-5 Stained Glass Wind Chimes \$70	Saturday, 9/26/26 12:00 – 3:00	Church of the Nazarene	Students will be provided a hanging object to create from, stained glass, plus chime cord, chain, beads & jump rings
3	Peggy Donathan-6 Christmas Stained Glass	Saturday, 10/24/26 11:00 – 3:00	Church of the Nazarene	Students will have pre-cut red and green glass and copper foil and will solder their art piece.



Help Wanted

RCA is looking for Instructors who would like to teach arts or crafts in Payson, AZ. Any type of art or craft is welcome. Instructors determine the number of students in their class and how much they want to be paid. Please contact Dorothy Perry at 500DPerry@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions.

August Holidays

August 3: National Watermelon Day

August 8: International Cat Day

August 9: National Book Lovers Day

August 15: National Relaxation Day

August 26: National Dog Day

August 26 Women's Equality Day



Pre-Cut Stained Glass Christmas Tree Class

Class by:
Peggy Donathan
Donathan Studio Glass

Wed., October 24, 2026
11 am-3 pm

'Tis the season for Christmas Art!

- Students will get a red & green pre-cut glass Christmas tree and pattern
- Learn how to copper foil your glass pieces
- Solder your Christmas tree
- You will have a choice to stand your tree on a wooden block or you can solder a hook for hanging.
- All tools and materials are provided for class use

Cutting and grinding glass
Demonstration

Bring a snack
(something to share if desired)



Tuition: \$73

RCA only accepts MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express and G Pay
No checks or cash accepted for classes in 2026

Register and pay for class at
<https://rimcountryartists.godaddysites.com/current-classes>

Class Fee is non-refundable

For more information please contact
Dorothy Perry at 500dperry@gmail.com





Stained Glass Wind Chime Workshop

Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026 12-3 pm

**Class by: Peggy Donathan
Donathan Studio Glass**

**Location: Church of the Nazarene
200 E Tyler Parkway, Payson**

Students will be provided :

- A hanging object to create from
- glass pieces and other media (pre-drilled)
- Chime Cord, chain, beads, jump rings

All tools and materials are provided for class use

**Tuition:
\$70 per person**



Demonstrations:

- Cutting and grinding glass pieces
- Drilling holes in glass

**Bring a snack
(something to share if desired)**

**Register and pay for class at
www.rimcountryartists.org
in the 'Current Classes' link**



RCA only accepts MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express and G Pay

No checks or cash accepted for classes in 2026

Class Fee is non-refundable

For more information please contact Dorothy Perry at 500dperry@gmail.com



Pre-Cut Stained Glass Garden Art Class

Sat., August 29, 2026 11 am-3 pm

Location: Church of the Nazarene
200 E Tyler Parkway, Payson

Class by: Peggy Donathan
Donathan Studio Glass

- Students will choose their Glass (There will be lots of pre-cut glass forms to choose from as shown in the pictures- choose one).
- Learn how to copper foil their glass pieces.
- Solder your piece. You can choose to solder on a garden stake to place in your garden or solder a hanger to hang in your window.

All tools and materials
provided for class use

Cutting and grinding glass
Demonstration



Tuition: \$74 per person

Register and pay for class at
www.rimcountryartists.org
in the 'Current Classes' link



Bring a snack
(something to share
if desired)

RCA only accepts MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express and G Pay
No checks or cash accepted for classes in 2026

Class Fee is non-refundable

For more information please contact Dorothy Perry at 500dperry@gmail.com

Border States Game Answers

How many of the thirteen U.S. states that border Canada do you know?

1. Alaska
2. Idaho
3. Maine
4. Michigan
5. Minnesota



6. Montana
7. New Hampshire
8. New York
9. North Dakota
10. Ohio
11. Pennsylvania
12. Vermont
13. Washington

