

The background of the entire page is an underwater scene. It features numerous bubbles of various sizes rising from the bottom towards the top. Sunlight rays penetrate the water from the upper left, creating a shimmering, ethereal effect. The water has a deep teal or blue-green hue.

Partnership
Opportunity
Packet

LITTLE FORT FILM FESTIVAL

*Filmmakers
inspiring change*

June 20-21, 2026



Dear Potential Sponsor,

Welcome to Little Fort Film Festival, a celebration of environmental storytelling rooted in history, community, and global creativity.

This unique festival was founded with a powerful mission: to inspire action and awareness around environmental issues through the art of film. We believe stories have the power to change perspectives, spark movements, and connect people from across the globe—and there is no better place to host such a gathering than the vibrant and resilient city of **Waukegan, Illinois**.

Why Waukegan? Nestled on the shores of **Lake Michigan**, Waukegan is a city with a rich environmental and cultural history. Once known as “**Little Fort**”, the area served as a gathering point and sanctuary long before it was officially incorporated. Today, Waukegan is at the forefront of environmental revitalization efforts, from restoring its lakefront and ravines to creating green infrastructure. This makes it a fitting home for a film festival that blends environmental consciousness with global storytelling.

This year, the Little Fort Film Festival has received **over 70 international film submissions from more than 20 countries**—a testament to the global urgency and creative energy surrounding the environment. From poetic shorts about vanishing species to innovative documentaries on climate action, the submitted films reflect a shared commitment to the planet and to future generations.

We are excited to invite you to be part of this journey. Your support not only empowers filmmakers and environmental leaders—it also places your organization at the heart of a growing, global conversation on sustainability.

We look forward to partnering with you to make this festival a powerful experience for the Waukegan community and beyond.

With gratitude,

Susan L. Kelsey & Maryllene Blondell
Little Fort Film Festival
www.littlefortfilmfestival.org
info@littlefortfilmfestival.org



WHY SPONSOR LITTLE FORT ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL:

- 🏠 Environmentally Activated
- 🏠 Great Lakes regional attendance
- 🏠 Artistic and Entrepreneurial Community
- 🏠 International Filmmakers
- 🏠 English/Spanish promotion
- 🏠 Reachable by boat, rail, plane, bike and car
- 🏠 Curious and adventurous
- 🏠 Passion and Commitment:

info@littlefortfilmfestival.org | 312.213.6616

Little Fort Film Festival Sponsorship is a powerful marketing tool. We invite you to associate with our entertainment properties.

Our team will craft a custom-designed package to:

- Support your company's business objectives and resources
- Integrate your brand, image, products and services with our influential and highly receptive community of attendees and VIP guests
- Align your brand with a key element of the Festival
- Personalize your experience at the Festival

Known as 'Little Fort' in the early 19th century, Waukegan was originally home to the Potawatomi, Miami, and other Native American Tribes and served as a vital trading post along the Great Lakes for centuries.

It was a key harbor for fur traders and settlers before being renamed Waukegan in 1849, derived from the Potawatomi word for "fortress."

Over time, the city grew into a major industrial and cultural hub and, today, is undergoing a transformation, embracing its heritage while fostering a new identity as an arts and nature destination with a commitment to environmental sustainability – the perfect place for this inaugural film festival.

The festival honors this heritage and will be showcased in English and Spanish.





*Our mission is to
showcase global
environmental films that
change our world.*



LITTLE FORT FILM FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

BACKGROUND: A Great Lakes regional film festival encompassing Chicago up to Milwaukee and featuring an amazing selection of international films.

DATES: June 20-21, 2026

LOCATION: Waukegan, Illinois, along the shores of Lake Michigan

VENUES: Programs are presented at Three Brothers Theater and the Waukegan Historical Museum at the Carnegie Library.

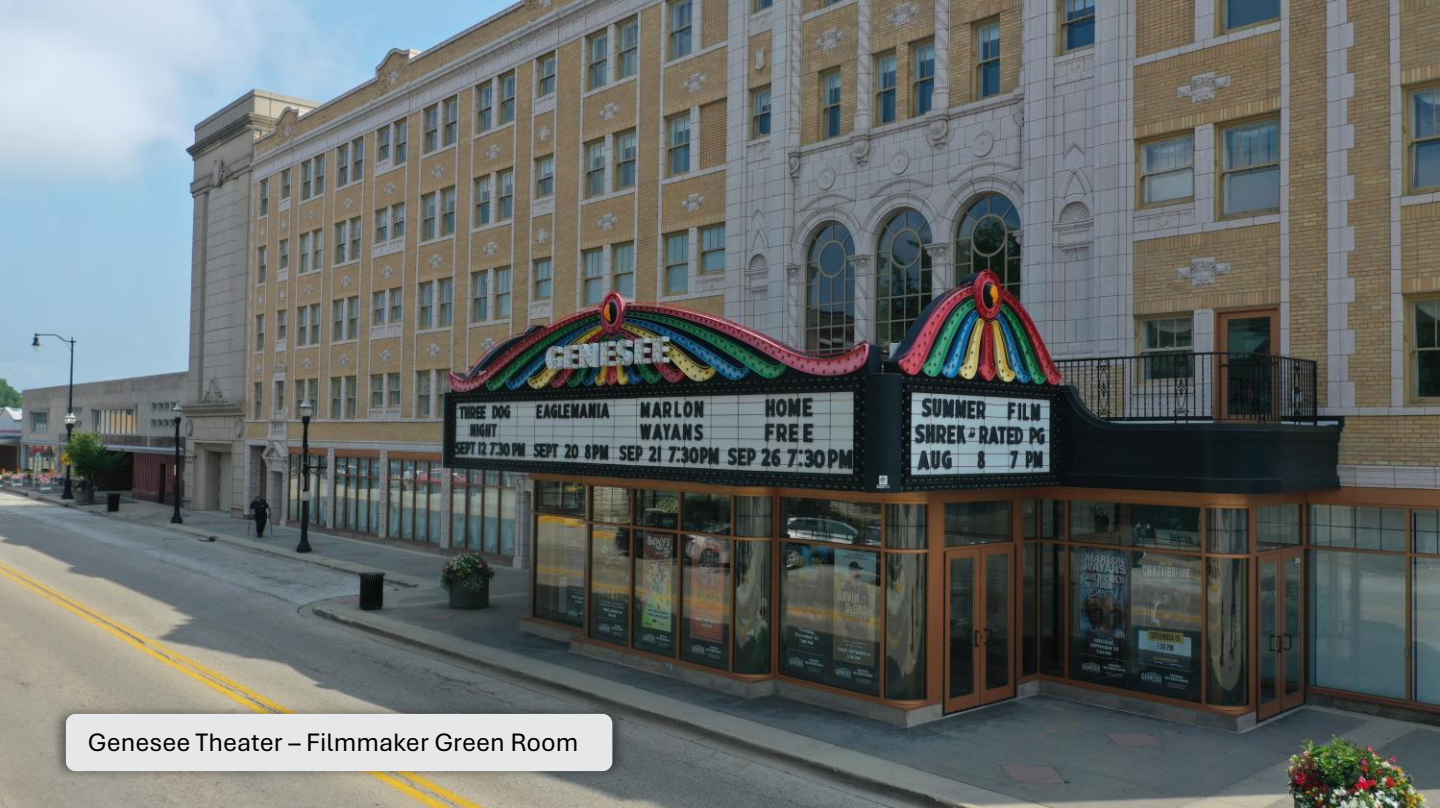
TRAVEL / LODGING: Hospitality sponsor: Marriott TownePlace Suites, Waukegan



PARTNERSHIP TIERS WITH LITTLE FORT FILM FESTIVAL

A tiered level of benefits with logo widely advertised, multi-layered media through December 2026.

- 🏛️ Presenting Partner \$10,000
 - 🏛️ A singular opportunity with extensive exposure
- 🏛️ Premiere Partner \$5000
 - 🏛️ Preferred status and festival-wide exposure
- 🏛️ Signature Partner \$2500
- 🏛️ Festival Partner \$1000
- 🏛️ Partner \$500
- 🏛️ Local Waukegan Business Supporters
 - 🏛️ A sponsorship program providing unique regional exposure for Waukegan-based businesses.



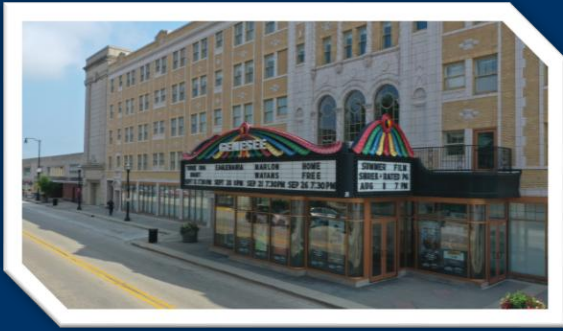
Genesee Theater – Filmmaker Green Room

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Sponsor one of the Film Festival's events or programs:

-  Genesee Theater Festival Reception \$2000
-  Filmmaker Green Room \$1000
-  Filmmaker Awards (Crystal Earth Globe) \$1000
-  Short Film Series at the Carnegie \$200
-  Feature Film Series at Three Brothers \$2500
-  Little Fort Film Festival Program \$1000
-  Filmmaker Swag Bags \$500
-  Communications Partner \$500
-  Transportation Partner \$500
-  Volunteer Program \$500
-  Volunteer T-Shirts \$500
-  Event Lanyards \$500

For more information on partnership opportunities, contact Susan Kelsey at 312.213.6616 or info@littlefortfilmfestival.org.



1926 Theater located in the heart of Waukegan, Illinois



The Waukegan Historical Museum m at the Carnegie Library and the Ray Bradbury Collection

JUNE 20-21, 2026 FESTIVAL VENUES



Three Brothers Theater located on Genesee Street in downtown Waukegan.



LITTLE FORT FILM FESTIVAL

AN ENVIRONMENTAL GATHERING

Corporate International Partnerships

Festival Partners



To secure your sponsorship package, please contact:
Susan Kelsey, 312.213.6616 or info@littlefortfilmfestival.org.
Thank you for considering the Little Fort Film Festival as part
of your giving strategy. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit and
100% of your sponsorship and/or donation is tax-deductible.





LITTLE FORT FILM FESTIVAL

Thank you for your consideration