

Program Schedule for Friday, March 6

Theatre 9

3:00 - 10:00 pm Check-in for Filmmakers & Attendees

Feature - March 6 6:05 pm (length 1:30)
The Kids Are Not Alright: What does it mean to be a survivor? Generations of children have been left with this question in the wake of abuse suffered at the hands of the Troubled Teen Industry, an unregulated network of for-profit institutions claiming to fix wayward teenagers. Decades later, they are fighting back. Filmed over the course of nine years, THE KIDS ARE NOT ALRIGHT is an intimate portrait of trauma following three families' journeys as they work to shed light on the devastating impacts of institutional abuse, pursue healing in the absence of justice, and fight to hold abusers accountable.
Reckoning Film Block - March 6 7:55 pm (length 1:14)
Monster Slayer: After Monty is assaulted at the strip club where she works, she weaponizes public art to exact justice against a system's refusal to act.
The Game Camera: When a grieving woman installs a night-vision camera in her mini-horse's corral, the specter of a human intruder on her rural Kansas ranch makes her reconsider her husband's death.
The Talk: What begins as a soft, loving monologue slowly unravels into a heartbreaking truth, revealing the weight of systemic racism, personal loss, and the fear every Black parent carries.
Mother Pearl: Jane, a kindergarten teacher leading a double life as the manager of an escort agency, must confront the blurred lines between empowerment, morality, and her own past to protect her employees from an abusive client.
The Voice of Despair: The Voice of Despair delivers a powerful affecting narrative told from a new perspective - that of an unborn child. Conceived because of a brutal sexual assault, the film brings the audience within the womb of his mother.
Lean On Me Film Block - March 6 9:30 pm (length 1:17)
New Voices in the City: New Voices in the City is a poetic documentary that follows newcomers as they rediscover their identity through theatre, language, and the power of storytelling.
Harmony On Pointe: In an unprecedented collaboration, the School of Ballet Arizona and the Phoenix Youth Symphony Orchestra unite to bring a groundbreaking performance to life. This short film follows the journey of these extraordinary young dancers and musicians as they prepare for the world premiere of Peter and the Wolf. With breathtaking talent and unwavering dedication, they showcase the transformative power of youth arts education, the profound impact of artistic collaboration, and the enduring importance of the arts in our world. A testament to passion and creativity, this film captures a moment unlike anything happening in the state—or perhaps the nation.
Thumbprint Cookies: As Annie bakes cookies in the kitchen she converses with Howie, her husband inhabiting a rocking chair in the living room, about changing the thumbprint cookies filling from raspberry to apricot jam. In the tiny moments of everyday life, the presence of timeless love is revealed.
The Happiness Experiment: A father responds to son's suicide by spreading happiness throughout his community and affecting change through the message of choosing happiness. <i>Viewer discretion: suicide.</i>