

Free public screening of Yorkton Film Festival 2022 entries

All film screenings are open to the public and are 100% free!

Parental discretion is advised. Not all films contain content that is suitable for all audiences.

Friday, May 27

Remax Sports Lounge, Gallagher Centre

9:00 am: Action Figure Man

Short Subject – Non-fiction 00:05:12

Director: Tara Mewis; Producer: Tara Mewis

A man on the brink of a mental breakdown leaves his stressful corporate job to pursue a childhood dream, making and selling action figures.

<https://www.honeycutstudios.com>

9:20 am: Building Bastille

Documentary History & Biography 00:52:00

Director: Leif Kaldor; Producer: Leslea Mair

A half a billion dollar project, a crushing architectural challenge, an impossible deadline, two warring political titans and a blind competition that chose - the wrong guy?

<https://lefiga.com/en/catalog/building-bastille>

10:25 am: Hello (Again), Episode 1, Chicken

Series 00:10:00

Director: Melanie Chung; Producer: Teresa M. Ho, Nathalie Younglai, Simu Liu, Alex Mallari Jr.

Boy meets girl. Boy gets girl. Boy loses girl. Boy meets creepy, mischievous, mysterious child. She gives him a second chance at love... by sending him back in time. Meet Jayden and Avery. Chef? Cook. Doctor? Resident. Javery! Jayden tries to find a way to break the time loop, so he can win Avery back and say, Hello (Again).

<https://www.facebook.com/Hello-Again-103600468595493>

10:50 am: Like Us

Short Subject – Fiction 00:05:33

Director: Scott Johnson; Producer: Scott Johnson

One man grapples to hold on to his individuality and sanity while dealing with the societal pressures of conformity and change.

11:10 am: Fighting Extinction After Dark

Documentary Science/Nature/Technology 00:18:06

Director: David Ozier; Producer: David Ozier

When darkness falls on the Caribbean side of Belize, a small group of conservationists work to save a threatened species of crocodile. Fighting Extinction After Dark chronicles a single, high stakes croc rescue and release on a night full of unexpected challenges, curve balls and quick thinking. The dramatic, unfolding action on this single night illustrates many of the challenges facing both the crocodiles themselves and those fighting to save them.

11:40 am: Bleach

Short Subject – Fiction 00:13:29

Director: Mattias Graham; Producer: Emmanuel Hessler (Productions Leitmotiv)

Damien, a 16-year-old swimmer, clashes with his coach at practice. In parallel, Damien plays with his younger brother at a hotel waterslide, but his erratic behaviour shows something hidden beneath the surface. Bleach explores the confusing moments following trauma and abuse, and how big each small step can be.

12:10 pm: Why am I Season 3

Children's/Youth Productions 00:07:30

Director: Adrian Dean; Producer: Dawn Bird, Adrian Dean

Why? It's a question every child asks as they explore the fascinating new world around them. Believe it or not, this curiosity is no different in the animal kingdom! Lily the bison and Otis the Otter love helping curious critters answer their questions and make friends along the way.

<https://www.facebook.com/WhyAmITvShow>

12:30 pm: Dating Unlocked

Lifestyle & Reality 00:23:50

Director: Sam Coyle

Producer: Charlie David

In Dating Unlocked, hopeful romantics from the LGBTQ2S+ community move beyond curated social media and dating profiles to find love in real life, and potentially share the key to their hearts. From the traditional to more radical, there are daters from all walks of life who share the same goal - to find a hook-up, a date or their one and only.

<https://www.border2border.ca/dating-unlocked>

1:10 pm: Nude To Me

Documentary POV (Point of View) 00:20:05

Director: Danny Berish; Producer: Erin Mussolum

Nude to Me follows filmmaker Danny Berish as he explores his family history which surprisingly leads him to Canada's oldest nudist club. In this personal documentary Director Danny Berish discovers how his grandmother found love at a nudist camp in 1949 and how that chance encounter would change the course of his life. Searching to discover more about his grandparent's radical lifestyle, he meets and mingles with the members of Van Tan, Canada's oldest nudist club.

<https://www.facebook.com/NudeToMe>

1:50 pm: Quinn

Documentary POV (Point of View) 00:31:00

Director: Eva Colmers; Producer: Eva Colmers, Bonnie Thompson

An intimate documentary of changing identity, over four seasons and four years.

<https://www.facebook.com/QuinnDocFilm>

Friday, May 27**Ravine Room, Gallagher Centre****9:00 am: Brown Enough**

Short Subject – Non-fiction 00:14:40

Director: Andrea Nirmala Widjajanto, Kent Donguines; Producer: Robin Macabulos, Kent Donguines, Maxime Beauchamp

Brown Enough follows four people of Southeast Asian descent and their life experiences with racial discrimination as a Malaysian actor, a Filipino artist, an Indonesian filmmaker, and a Vietnamese Canadian actress. They are all united under the same umbrella of mistreatment and blind discrimination, especially by those of their ethnicity unaware of the effect their language has.

<https://www.facebook.com/aimerfilmsinc>

9:25 am: Dirty Laundry

Documentary Arts/Culture

00:27:35

Director: Florence Hwang; Producer: Florence Hwang
Chinese-Canadians living with mental illness face more stigma and shame than other ethnicities because of cultural expectations. Since this culture suppresses emotions to achieve harmonious relationships at all costs, it worsens mental wellness, possibly leading to death. This documentary examines the roots of this deep-seated shame, how it affects family relations, and its consequences on the individual and the community. Kayla Mak Harrison aspires to become a filmmaker but she struggles with bipolar type one disorder.

10:05 am: What Flowers They Bloom

Documentary Social/Political 00:26:58

Director: C Hudson Hwang; Producer: C Hudson Hwang, Amanda Goreski

An intimate look at Asian Canadian small business owner Andy Sue as he explores the psychological trauma of a first-hand encounter with racism during the pandemic. The film examines the social implications of our digital media reality, where algorithms detect bias and translate fear, blame and outrage into profit.

<http://suprecontent.com/documentaries/what-flowers-they-bloom/>

10:45 am: The Final Exam

Short Subject – Fiction 00:11:23

Director: Beth Wishart MacKenzie, Tobias Nicholas;
 Producer: Beth Wishart MacKenzie, Tobias Nicholas
 When a devout young Muslim woman is asked to remove her headscarf in order to write a final exam at university in Turkey, a male classmate finds a "strategic" way to guard her privacy so she can write the exam.

<https://www.facebook.com/thefinaleexam/>

11:10 am: Songs from a Box

Scripted 00:28:28

Director: Taylor Brown; Producer: Taylor Brown and Ellaina Brown

A struggling musician finds inspiration from an ominous music box.

<https://www.instagram.com/songsfromabox/>

11:50 am: The Goats of Monesiglio

Documentary POV (Point of View) 00:27:00

Director: Emily Graves; Producer: Emily Graves, Anna Cooley, Raj Dhillon

Observational short documentary about the lives of two families working together to manage a goat farm. One Punjabi family and one Italian family work side-by-side in the northern Piedmontese town of Monesiglio. Through brief observations of everyday moments, viewers gain fleeting insights into the characters' experiences as they care for a flock of over 300 goats and produce traditional artisanal goat cheese.

12:30 pm: Wild Prairie Man

Documentary POV (Point of View) 00:54:30

Director: George Tsougrianis; Producer: Carol Andrews, George Tsougrianis

Wild Prairie Man is an intimate look at the life of a man enthralled with the exotic and endangered lands of Grasslands National Park. Located in the Northern Great Plains of Canada, Grasslands has been a 20-year odyssey for wildlife photographer James R. Page. For James, critters are more interesting than people and in this documentary he shares some of his iconic images and experiences from this endangered ecosystem.

1:35 pm: Anything Can Happen

Documentary POV (Point of View) 00:40:23

Director: Chase Gouthro; Producer: Chase Gouthro
 Faced with the possibility of her son Nicholas dying from intractable epilepsy, Dr. Jennifer Anderson, a Canadian physician and single mother of three, decides to treat her own child with cannabis. With the treatment, Nicholas goes from 3-4 seizures an hour, and in a near catatonic state, to playing with his twin brother and older sister, participating in life, and no longer needing emergency admissions to hospital. Anderson is met with push-back from her son's doctors, and even her own colleagues. This experience, and the focus on the political aspects of cannabis instead of the patient, makes her question what she does as a physician for other families.

<https://www.anythingcanhappendoc.com/>

2:25 pm: By Hook or By Cook

Community Television Productions 00:23:00

Director: Pamela J Tomlinson; Producer: Pamela Tomlinson

After becoming paralyzed while attempting a world's first, Freestyle motocross rider Bruce Cook is on a mission to help others realize their dreams the same way he did; innovation, modifications, and a lot of determination.

<https://www.ami.ca/BHOBC/episodes>

Screenings ends at 3 pm. The 75th anniversary screening of Night Raiders begins at the Tower Theatre at 3:15 pm. Admission is free.

Saturday, May 28
Remax Sports Lounge, Gallagher Centre

10:00 am: Abuela

Short Subject – Fiction 00:11:25
Director: Rebeca Ortiz; Producer: Alicia K. Harris
Left to spend the day alone together, a young girl and her visiting Abuela (grandmother in Spanish) must find a way to connect, despite the language barrier that separates them.

10:30 am: First We Eat

Documentary POV (Point of View) 00:55:00
Director: Suzanne Crocker; Producer: Suzanne Crocker
Putting food sovereignty to the test in the far North of Canada. Filmmaker Suzanne Crocker, living just 300 km from the Arctic Circle, removes absolutely all grocery store food from her house. For one year, she feeds her family of five, only food that can be hunted, fished, gathered, grown or raised around Dawson City, Yukon. Add three skeptical teenagers, one reluctant husband, no salt, no caffeine, no sugar and -40 temperatures...and you have yourself an impossible challenge. Or is it?
<https://firstweeat.ca/>

11:40 am: Dirt Farmers, Season 2

Series 00:22:00
Director: Kolby Kostyniuk; Producer: Wally Start, Tyler Start
Brothers Jason and Trevor Simpson have their own reputations and their family's pride on the line as they take bold steps to keep the Simpson Family Farm alive. All this against the backdrop of a world-wide pandemic that could derail them as they begin preparing to seed. Meanwhile, just down the road the Danychuk family, who have been the Simpson's neighbors, kin and rivals for generations, struggle in their own way. Desperately, they try to keep their operation from folding in the face of a threat no one has faced before.
<https://www.facebook.com/Dirtfarmerstv>

12:15 pm: The Other Side, Season 7

Series 00:22:00
Director: Blake Horobin; Producer: Wally Start, Tyler Start
As paranormal investigators, Jeff, Erin and Allan rely on respect and Indigenous traditions to bring healing to lost spirits and answers to those who live with them. As they search through the unknown, they can't help but be affected by the powerful stories of love, fear, loss and redemption that emerge.
<https://theothersidetv.ca/>

12:50 pm: Prairie Pride

Community Television Productions 00:28:30
Director: Spencer Burrige; Producer: Brett Littlemore, Spencer Burrige
Your fabulous guide to all things queer in the Queen City and throughout Saskatchewan!
<https://www.myaccess.ca/accessnow>

1:30 pm: Another View

Community Television Productions 1:00:00
Director: Graham John Condo; Producer: Amarachi Ejike, Victor Ejike
Every week, host Amarachi is joined by three other women of Nigerian descent. They hang out to share their views on social issues, family, lifestyles and cultural conflicts. Their wit and stories from personal and communal experiences are a perfect potpourri of feel-good entertainment.

2:45 pm: Hard Reset

Experimental 00:05:37
Director: Scott Daniel Johnson; Producer: Scott Daniel Johnson
When a global crisis threatens the world an experimental AI tool is deployed in order to predict patient's susceptibility rates in hopes of stopping the virus from spreading further.

3:05 pm: Nature's Big Year

Documentary Science/Nature/Technology 00:44:00

Director: Christine Nielsen; Producer: Christine Nielsen, Diana Warmé

What happens when the world hits pause? Nature Reboots! From the Canadian wilderness to urban America and the backyards of Britain, scientists reveal unexpected and astounding discoveries from the year of the pandemic. This ambitious and provocative film explores the lockdown's silver lining- many species benefit immediately when humanity slows down.

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristineNielsenFilms/>

4:00 pm: Louis Says, Season 4

Children's/Youth Productions 00:11:00

Director: Raquel Lopez; Producer: Lioz Bouganin, Deborah Charles

An Indigenous Canadian elder who mostly speaks Cree takes on an English-speaking boy under his wing. In season 4, Randy and his friends embark on new adventures while learning new words in Cree.

<http://www.louissaystv.com/>

4:25 pm: Kok'eti: Walking With Caribou

Documentary POV (Point of View) 00:24:14

Director: Chad Galloway; Producer: Tammy Steinwand-Deschambeault

The Bathurst caribou herd have roamed Canada's arctic since time immemorial. Tragically, in just the last 30 years, their population has dropped from half a million to less than ten thousand. The Tłıchǫ people have an intimate connection with the Bathurst. The herd has been a source of food, clothing and deep culture. However, a future without the Bathurst has become a very real possibility.

<https://www.trailfilms.ca/portfolio/koketi>

Saturday May 28**Ravine Room, Gallagher Centre****9:00 am: Out Standing in His Field**

Short Subject – Fiction 00:09:17

Director: Lynette Piper; Producer: Lynette Piper, Jolene Kriska, Sierra Haynes

An elderly man escapes the nursing home and winds up back on his former wheat field. There, he meets up with his late wife and must decide which world he wants to reside.

9:25 am: Going Native

Series 00:22:00

Director: Paul Kemp, Sam Karney, Andrew Wiens, Kurt Spennath; Producer: Paul Kemp, Sam Karney, Andrew Wiens, Kurt Spennath, Drew Hayden Taylor

Fun-loving Ojibway author Drew Hayden Taylor explores everything from the weird and wacky, to the deep and profound ways Indigenous people are shaping North American culture in the 21st century.

<https://www.goingnativetv.com/>

10:00 am: Esther & Sai

Short Subject – Fiction 00:12:30

Director: Rosie Choo Pidcock, Anaïsa Visser; Producer: Jon Warne, Jesse Copeland

The night before their first day of nursing school in 1976, two female immigrants to Vancouver endure racism and homesickness. Esther and Sai are strangers with a few things in common: they are new immigrant students, they are homesick and they are hungry. When a racially charged interaction with a grocer goes awry, each finds themselves back in their dorm room with the only meal they could find: a box of macaroni and cheese. A night of loneliness and self doubt threatens to unravel each of them, but ultimately meeting a kindred spirit sparks the possibility of belonging. Based on a true story, Esther & Sai captures the struggle of immigrating to a new country through the beginning of a lifelong friendship.

<https://www.instagram.com/estherandsai/>

10:25 am: Toxic Neighbour

Documentary Science/Nature/Technology 00:23:00
 Director: Colin Scheyen; Producer: Ann Shin, Hannah Donegan

Eugene Bourgeois had no concerns about nuclear energy when he built his farm next door to the world's largest nuclear facility in 1974. Over that time, he and his wife Ann ran a successful wool business and taught generations of people around the world the art of knitting. They really believed they had found paradise. However, over the next few decades, Eugene, his family, and his sheep flock were frequently exposed to hydrogen sulfide, a deadly nerve gas from the nuclear plant, which caused hundreds of his sheep to be blinded, born deformed, or killed.

11:05 am: A Promise to My Son

Documentary Social/Political 00:22:31
 Director: Lori Kuffner; Producer: Lori Kuffner, Judith Silverthorne, Accessible Media Inc. (AMI)
 After her son Steven was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, Donlada Jones set up a volunteer support network to help him achieve his goals. The network worked so well, that when Steven died, Donaldda made a promise to her son to continue the work to help others. She founded the REALM Foundation and has now helped over 40 individuals living with various high physical disabilities to live their best life.

11:40 am: Johnny Crow

Animation 00:07:15
 Director: Xstine Cook, Jesse Gouchey; Producer: Xstine Cook
 A poetic and transformative journey of a young man's physical, mental, and spiritual struggle to return to his son from the criminal justice system. Animated by Cree artist Jesse Gouchey over a period of seven years. Jesse animated frame-by-frame using spray paint on large outdoor surfaces in locations in Alberta and BC.
<https://www.facebook.com/Johnny-Crow-109649412493125>

12:00 pm: Pivot

Animation 00:07:08
 Director: Ana Gusson; Producer: Tini Wider
 Growing up isn't easy, and it's no exception for 12-year-old Ashley whose well-meaning Mom has her own ideas about who Ashley should be. Finding herself in an impossible situation, Ashley must decide whether to wear a gaudy dress she hates or find the courage to stand up for herself and fight the inner monster that is holding her back. The animated short film 'Pivot' is a defining moment in Ashley's quest to be herself at the risk of disappointing the person she loves the most, her Mom.
<https://www.facebook.com/WIAvanACE>

12:20 pm: Nalujuk Night

Documentary Arts/Culture 00:13:07
 Director: Jennie Williams; Producer: Latonia Hartery, Kat Baulu, Rohan Fernando
 Nalujuk Night is an up close look at an exhilarating, and sometimes terrifying, Labrador Inuit tradition. Every January 6th from the dark of the Nunatsiavut night, the Nalujuit appear on the sea ice. They walk on two legs, yet their faces are animalistic, skeletal, and otherworldly. Snow crunches underfoot as they approach their destination: the Inuit community of Nain. Despite the frights, Nalujuk Night is a beloved annual event, showing that sometimes it can be fun to be scared.
<https://mediaspace.nfb.ca/epk/nalujuk-night/>

12:45 pm: Incurrigible - A film About Velma Demerson

Documentary Social/Political 00:45:00
 Director: Karin Louise Lee; Producer: Cheuk Kwan
 Want to hear an unbelievable story? Let us tell you Velma's. In 1939 Velma Demerson was jailed for falling in love with a Chinese man. Pregnant and without legal counsel, Velma was sentenced to one year in a Toronto prison where she was tortured by a eugenicist doctor who attempted to abort her child. 60 years later she sued the Canadian government for wrongful incarceration, and until her death at age 98 in May 2019, continued to fight for the rights of the thousands of women imprisoned on the grounds of "incurrigibility" until 1964.
<http://www.karinlee.ca/incorrigible.php>

1:45 pm: Ghosts of Yesterday

Scripted 00:22:41

Director: Jeff Evans-Todd; Producer: Style Dayne, Jeff Evans-Todd, Jeremy Ratzlaff, Dylan Hryciuk

Ghosts of Yesterday is the story of a young musician named Emily, whom we find in the depths of an overwhelming depression. The film follows her as she leaves home with a guitar case full of antidepressants, trudging through the harsh city streets on a cold winter night, as she makes her way to the bar where she intends to play her final show, and take her final breath. While there, however, she realizes, perhaps too late, that something inside her still wants to live. That maybe she's made a mistake and maybe life isn't as bleak as she thought.

2:20 pm: The Newcomers

Documentary Social/Political 00:39:53

Director: Theresa Kliem; Producer: Theresa Kliem

The Newcomers investigates the challenges of new immigrants in rural Saskatchewan. The documentary explores contemporary immigrant experiences and weaves in historical context from the early waves of immigration into the province. The film chronicles the lives of five immigrants facing isolation in small-town Saskatchewan as some of them struggle to find acceptance in their new homes.

3:10 pm: Toe the Line

Scripted 00:22:50

Director: Carolyn Wu; Producer: Fonna Seidu, Kristina Wong

Queer teen Gloria Chau rediscovers her sense of purpose when she loses her childhood dream: playing Olympic hockey.

<https://www.toethelinefilm.com/>

3:45 pm: A Brief Record of My Father's Time at Sea

Documentary History & Biography 1:00:00

Director: Jeanette Kong; Producer: Linda Dunlop, Jeanette Kong

Buried deep in a closet in an old suitcase, Jeanette Kong discovered an artifact that would unlock a portal to her past—a burgundy notebook filled with handwritten Chinese characters. When she asked her father about it, he told her it was none of her business. It wasn't until after his death when she had the book translated that she discovered it was his private journal from when he travelled from Guangdong, China to Kingston, Jamaica in 1949. Why would he travel so far to start a new life?

<https://abriefrecord.com/>