



SXSW FILM & TV FESTIVAL EXPANDS 2026 PROGRAM WITH 13 ADDITIONAL TITLES

Film Stills can be found [here](#)

Austin, Texas, February 12, 2026 – South by Southwest® (SXSW®) Conference and Festivals today unveiled the final additions to the 33rd edition of its Film & TV Festival lineup, taking place March 12–18, 2026.

The 13 additional projects bring the line up to 120 Features including 90 World Premieres, 2 International Premiere, 5 North American Premieres, 6 U.S. Premieres, 16 Texas Premieres + 52 Short Films and 20 Music Videos. The TV Program includes 13 TV projects, with 4 TV premieres, 3 TV Spotlight and 6 Independent TV Pilots. There are 31 projects in the XR Experience Program, including 17 in XR Experience Competition, 13 in XR Experience Spotlight and 1 XR Experience Special Event.

“With these final selections, the 2026 Film & TV lineup is one of our most exciting yet,” said Claudette Godfrey, VP of Film & TV at SXSW. “These projects capture the creative fearlessness and storytelling ambition that filmmakers bring to SXSW year after year. Each film stands on its own, but together they create a program that’s bold, surprising, and built for discovery. We’re proud to showcase this work and to share it with audiences who show up curious, engaged, and ready to champion new voices.”

SXSW brings together thousands of fans, creators, press, and industry leaders from around the world to celebrate inventive storytelling, cultural discovery, and boundary-pushing screen experiences. The event showcases the year’s most innovative and entertaining films, television, and XR projects, alongside hundreds of Conference Sessions, Music and Comedy Showcases, Creative Industry Exhibitions, Mentoring opportunities, Meetups, and Special Events that define SXSW as a premier cross-industry gathering.

Screening Categories

Feature films in the SXSW 2026 lineup screen in the following categories: Headliner; Narrative Feature Competition presented by Kickstarter; Documentary Feature Competition; Narrative

Spotlight; Documentary Spotlight; Visions; Midnighter; Global presented by MUBI; 24 Beats Per Second, and Festival Favorite.

The TV program consists of TV Premiere, TV Spotlight, and the Independent TV Pilot Competition. The SXSW 2026 Shorts Film Program presented by Vimeo will consist of six competitive sections: Narrative Short Competition, Documentary Short Competition, Animated Short Competition, Midnight Short Competition, Texas Short Competition, and Music Video Competition. The XR Experience presented by Spectacles consists of the XR Experience Competition, XR Spotlight and XR Special Event programming rounds out the Film & TV Festival program. All Categories will be eligible for section-specific Audience Awards.

FILM PROGRAM

NARRATIVE SPOTLIGHT

Unforgettable features receiving their World, North American, or U.S. premieres.

Dead Deer High

Director: Jo Rochelle, Producer/Screenwriter: Joshua Roark

Created by teachers, *Dead Deer High* follows a team of high school slam poets and their English teacher as they prepare for a national poetry competition one year after a tragic shooting changed their lives forever. *Cast: Zack Kozlow, Holden Goyette, Kyla Brown, Christian Cruz, Ayanna Berkshire, Joseph Bertót, Madelyn Grace, Aaron Cammack, Julia Prud'homme, Audrey Kennedy Kozlow* (World Premiere)

The Fox (Australia)

Director/Screenwriter: Dario Russo, Producers: Kristina Ceyton, Samantha Jennings, Carly Maple

In this darkly comic folktale, an affable foxhunter encounters a talking Fox who offers him an opportunity to transform his fiancée into the perfect woman. *Cast: Jai Courtney, Emily Browning, Damon Herriman, Claudia Doumit, Sam Neill, Miranda Otto, Olivia Colman* (International Premiere)

Love Language

Director/Screenwriter: Joey Power, Producers: Bert Hamelinck, Allison Hironaka, Ari Lubet, Colin Jost, Jeff Grosvenor

An aspiring author with a side hustle writing wedding vows for other people reconnects with her long-time crush, only to learn he is the fiancé of one of her new clients. *Cast: Chloë Grace Moretz, Anthony Ramos, Manny Jacinto, Isabel May, Lukas Gage, Billie Lourd, Chloe Fineman, Zach Zucker, Morgan Jay, Bobbi Althoff, Marchánt Davis, Dan Perrault* (World Premiere)

A Safe Distance (Canada)

Director: Gloria Mercer, Producers: Nic Altobelli, Aidan West, Gloria Mercer, Screenwriter: Aidan West

After a woman is abandoned by her boyfriend in the forest, she befriends a pair of notorious

fugitives on the run from the law, and becomes dangerously entangled in their relationship.
Cast: Bethany Brown, Tandia Mercedes, Cody Kearsley, Chris McNally (World Premiere)

DOCUMENTARY SPOTLIGHT

Incredible features receiving their World, North American, or U.S. premieres.

Baby/Girls

Directors: Alyse Walsh, Jackie Jesko, Producers: Melissa Leardi, Alex Waterfield
Set in post-Dobbs Arkansas, *baby/girls* follows three teens living in a Christian maternity home as they navigate pregnancy and early motherhood. The film offers an intimate, unfiltered look at girlhood and motherhood colliding in the American South. *Featuring Grace Dulaney, Ariana Green, Olivia Malott, Audra Dulaney, Brian Rivera, Paula Woods (World Premiere)*

FESTIVAL FAVORITE

Acclaimed standouts from festivals around the world.

***Big Girls Don't Cry* (New Zealand)**

Director/Screenwriter: Paloma Schneideman, Producers: Vicky Pope, Thomas Coppell
Rural New Zealand, 2006. Over one transformative summer, 14 year-old Sid Bookman discovers desire, identity and the internet, as she imitates the people she longs to be loved by.
Cast: Ani Palmer, Rain Spencer, Noah Taylor (Texas Premiere)

Chasing Summer

Director: Josephine Decker, Producers: Rob Guillermo, Ray Maiello, Nihaar Sinha, Houston King, Sam Pressman, Paula Paizes, Screenwriter: Iliza Shlesinger
After losing both her job and boyfriend, Jamie retreats to her small Texas hometown where friends and flings from a fateful high school summer turn her life upside down. *Cast: Iliza Shlesinger, Garrett Wareing, Lola Tung, Tom Welling, Megan Mullally, Aimee Garcia, Cassidy Freeman, Jeff Perry (Texas Premiere)*

Cookie Queens

Director: Alysa Nahmias, Producers: Gregory Kershaw, Michael Dweck, Alysa Nahmias, Jennifer Sims
It's Girl Scout Cookie season, and four tenacious girls strive to be a top-selling "Cookie Queen," navigating an \$800 million business in which innocence and ambition collide. *Featuring Nikki B., Olive G., Shannon Elizabeth S., Ara E. (Texas Premiere)*

Joybubbles

Director: Rachael Morrison, Producer: Sarah Winshall
In the 1950s, a boy discovers he can control the global telephone system by whistling a magic tone. Born blind and hungry for connection, his obsession with the telephone sparks a subculture that shapes the future of hacking in the 20th century. *Featuring JoyBubbles, Steve Wozniak, Toni Engressia (Texas Premiere)*

VISIONS

Audacious, risk-taking artists who demonstrate innovation and creativity.

Sinner Supper Club

Directors: Daisy Rosato, Nora Kaye, Producers: Sophie Sagan-Gutherz, Jackie Monoson, Screenwriters: Nora Kaye, Daisy Rosato

An NYC friend group reunites to throw an "eviction funeral" for Genevieve; as the night progresses and a heat wave traps them together, their long-ignored problems boil over. An improvised gay mumblecore ghost story shot on an iPhone in six days. *Cast: Ashil Lee, Elise Kibler, Genevieve Simon, Jayae Riley Jr., Nora Kaye, Sophie Sagan-Gutherz, Daisy Rosato* (World Premiere)

24 BEATS PER SECOND

Vibrant films showcasing the sounds, culture, and influence of music and musicians.

Stages

Director: Ryan Booth, Producers: Val Hill, Morgan Stevenson Cooper, Russell Wayne Groves, JOLENE, Screenwriter: Bradley Jackson, Dan Steele

A year after the tumultuous break-up of his band, Ben Garza sets off on his first ever solo tour. Life on the road is different now, as Ben learns alongside his ride-or-die tour manager, Rita and his spotlight-stealing opening act, Jessie. *Cast: David Ramirez, Leslie Grace, JOLENE, Jake McMullen, Rafael Casal, Abner Ramirez, Amanda Sudano Ramirez, Jerry Ferrara, Marc Menchaca, David Strathairn* (World Premiere)

The Man with the Big Hat

Director/Screenwriter: Austin Sayre, Producers: Stephanie Moore, David Broad, Aaron Colussi, Jay Newberg, Diana Zuniga, Cherry Brown, Austin Sayre

Experience the unraveling of fame's illusions as 1970's Texas singer-songwriter Steven Fromholz embarks on a soul-stirring journey of self-discovery and the true meaning of success. *Featuring Lyle Lovett, Ray Benson, Terry Lickona, Butch Hancock, Bobby Bridger, Mike Williams, Dan McCrimmon, Janey Lake, Darcie Jane Fromholz, Felicity Rose Fromholz* (World Premiere)

TV PROGRAM

TV SPOTLIGHT

Exciting new series from around the world

Woodstockers

Showrunner: Corbin Bernsen, Director: Oliver Bernsen, Producer: Zoe Rosenberg,
Screenwriters: Corbin Bernsen, Joshua Michael Stern, Henry Bernsen
When his marriage collapses and his best friend dies, an aging hippie who went to Woodstock in 1969 and never left must finally reckon with a life shaped by peace, love, and too much weed.
Cast: Corbin Bernsen, Stephen Tobolowsky, Barbara Hershey, Susan Ruttan, Maggie Lawson, Willie C. Carpenter, John Glover, Lee Wilkof, Lea Delaria, Jilian Medford
(World Premiere)

COMPETITION AWARDS

The Narrative Feature Competition, the Documentary Feature Competition, and Special Awards will be announced on Wednesday, March 18 along with all the Short Film Program winners, which are eligible for Jury Awards within their respective screening categories, and XR Experience Competition. 2026 Special Awards include the SXSW Best of Texas Award, Redbreast Unhidden Award, Vimeo Staff Pick Award, Agog Immersive Impact Award, and the Janet Pierson Champion Award presented by *Indiewire*. All film categories, except Special Events, will be eligible for category-specific Audience Awards, which will be certified by the accounting firm of Maxwell Locke & Ritter and announced via [sxsw.com](https://www.sxsw.com) the following week.

SXSW is proud to be an official qualifying festival for the Academy Awards® Short Film competition. Winners of our Best Animated, Best Narrative and Best Documentary Short Film categories become eligible for Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences awards (Oscars). Any British Short Film or British Short Animation that screens at SXSW is eligible for BAFTA nomination. Films are also eligible for the Independent Spirit Awards, more information on eligibility [here](#).

Press Links:

- **Film Stills can be found [HERE](#)**
- **Publicists for projects in the 2026 program can be found [HERE](#)**
- **[Film & TV Festival Helpful Links](#)**

About SXSW Film & TV Festival

Now in its 33rd year, SXSW Film & TV Festival brings together creatives of all stripes to experience a diverse lineup and access to the music and comedy festivals plus conference sessions with visionaries from all corners of the entertainment, media, and technology industries.

About SXSW

SXSW dedicates itself to helping creative people achieve their goals. Founded in 1987 in Austin, Texas, SXSW is known worldwide for conferences and festivals that celebrate the convergence of technology, film and television, music, education, comedy and culture. The annual event serves global professionals through sessions, showcases, screenings, exhibitions, and networking that consistently generates unexpected discoveries when diverse communities

come together. SXSW 2026 runs March 12-18 in downtown Austin, preceded by SXSW EDU March 9-12. Learn more at [sxsw.com](https://www.sxsw.com).

SXSW continues to connect creative communities around the world through its flagship event in Austin and SXSW London, which launched in 2025—reflecting SXSW’s commitment to fostering meaningful exchange across culture, technology, and creativity.

SXSW 2026 Driven by Rivian.

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Editor's Note: Media Registration for SXSW is open until Friday, February 13, 2026. Please go to <https://www.sxsw.com/press-center/press-accréditation> to apply.

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