

FORT COLLINS, CO • APRIL 9 - 12, 2026

act. 11TH ANNUAL
HUMAN RIGHTS
FILM FESTIVAL

DIGITAL PROGRAM

@ACTFILMFEST



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FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

APRIL

9

THURSDAY

Filmmaker Panel

Lory Student Center, Room 390
2:00 - 2:50 PM

Opening Night Reception

Behavioral Sciences Building, Room 131
5:30 - 6:30 PM

Comparsa (79m)

Behavioral Sciences Building, Room 131
6:30 - 8:30 PM

Panel: Vickie Curtis, Olivia Ahnemann, Anna Hadingham, & Lesli Noemi Canela Perez

APRIL

10

FRIDAY

Community Safety Training

The Lyric Lobby | **9:30 - 11:00 AM**

Do You Love Me (75m)

The Lyric | **11:30 - 1:15 PM**

Craftivism

The Lyric Lobby | **1:00 - 2:30 PM**

CSU Student Films

The Lyric | **2:15 - 3:30 PM**

Unlisted, The D.E.I Documentary (2m)

Come into the Light (2m)

And My Soul Shall Be Healed: Reclaiming Christianity through the Transgender Experience (19m)

Wrath (5m)

Pop Punk Grandma (12m)

Heritage (3m)

Trypanophobia (4m)

Un Sueño Humilde (10m)

Black Water (82m) & Farfour: A War Diary from Gaza (14m)

The Lyric | 4:30 - 6:15 PM

Art Opening: CSU Student Poster Contest

The Lyric Lobby | 6:00 - 7:00 PM

A Quiet Love (96m) & Trip Ziggurat (14m)

The Lyric | 7:15 - 9:30 PM

In-person Q&A: Usama Alshaibi

Afterparty at Ace Gillett's

Ace Gillett's | 9:00 PM



APRIL

11

SATURDAY

Fiume o Morte! (112m)

The Lyric | 10:00 - 12:30 PM

Virtual Q&A: Igor Bezinović

Just Kids (93m)

The Lyric | 1:30 - 3:30 PM

In person Q&A: Jacqueline Toboni

Craftivism

The Lyric Lobby | 3:30 - 6:30 PM

Short Films Program - Echoes & Aftermath

The Lyric | 4:30 - 6:30 PM

Is it War? (6m)

Balance (Voltige) (20m)

We Were the Scenery (15m)

Children No More: Were and Are Gone (30m)

Creede U.S.A. (96m)

The Lyric | 7:30 - 9:30 PM

Panel: Kahane Corn Cooperman, Innbo Shim, Lexy Mead, Dan Mead, Kristeen Lopez, & Waverly Pearson

APRIL
12
SUNDAY

Coffee Hour

The Lyric Lobby | 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Short Films Program - Fault Lines & Floodplains

The Lyric | 11:00 - 1:00 PM

Pavilhão (13m)

Living Waters (ΔΛΣΓΔCΔ° ΔLΔ°) (14m)

Sallie's Ashes (39m)

In person Q&A: Brennan Robideaux

Wolobougou (66m) & And the Stars Are The Same (13m)

The Lyric | 2:00 - 4:15 PM

Panel: Raúl O. Paz-Pastrana, Alan Domínguez, Eulalia Pedro & Lucia Gaspar

Virtual Q&A: Camille Varenne

Craftivism

The Lyric Lobby | 4:00 - 5:30 PM

American Pachuco: The Legend of Luis Valdez (92m)

The Lyric | 5:30 - 8:00 PM
Virtual Q&A: David Alvarado

Closing Party

The Lyric | 7:30 - 8:30 PM

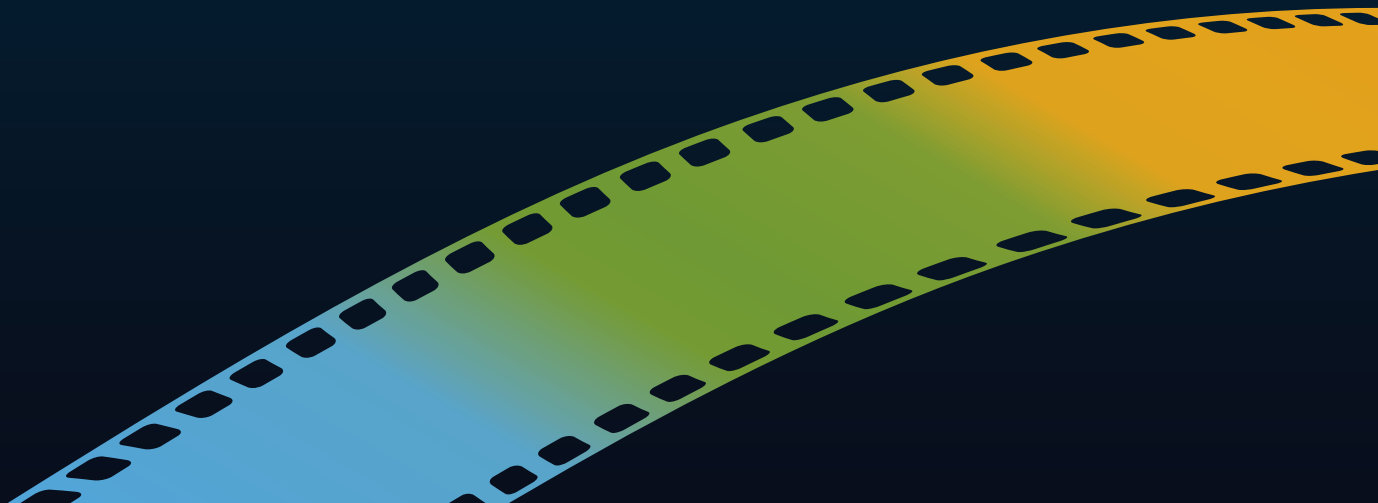


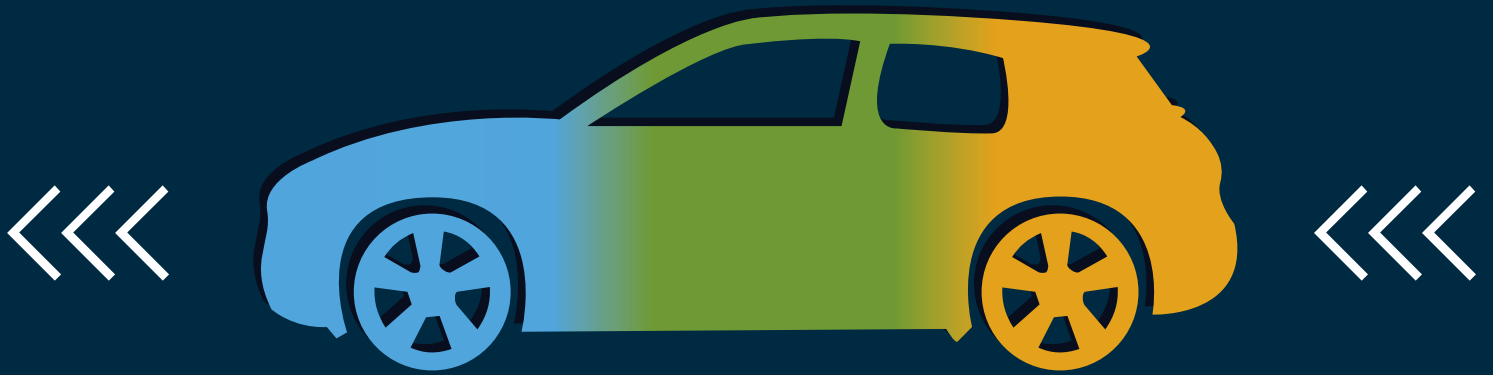
APRIL 13 - 19, 2026

MISS A FILM?

A selection of ACT 2026 titles will be available online for a limited time.

Visit actfilmfest.colostate.edu/fest/
Virtual access is available to Colorado viewers only.





Need a ride?

a rideshare code for you and your friends!

- **April 10 - 12**
- **Roundtrip from CSU to The Lyric**
- **Limited ride shares available**
- **Starting on April 10, reserve your Lyft code using your CSU Rams email address**
- **Limited to active CSU students only**



SLICE

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

OFFICIAL SELECTIONS OF THE 11TH ANNUAL ACT HUMAN RIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL



American Pachuco: The Legend of Luis Valdez (92m)

David Alvarado • 2026 • United States • English, Spanish

Against political resistance and industry skepticism, Luis Valdez pushes Chicano storytelling from the fields to the film screen with *Zoot Suit* and *La Bamba*, crafting iconic works that challenge, celebrate, and expand America's story.



And the Stars Are the Same (13m)

Raúl Paz-Pastrana, Alan Domínguez • 2025 • United States
Spanish, Mayan

Eulalia Pedro, an Indigenous Mayan elder, fled Guatemala over 25 years ago to escape civil war. Now living in southern Colorado's San Luis Valley, Eulalia reflects on her journey and her enduring connection to the home she left behind.



A Quiet Love (96m)

Garry Keane • 2025 • Ireland • Irish Sign Language

Three love stories. One shared language. The first film told entirely through Irish Sign Language, *A Quiet Love* offers an intimate, life-affirming portrait of three Deaf couples navigating love, identity, and resilience to prove that true connection transcends sound.



Balance (VOLTIGE) (20m)

Luiza Cocora • 2024 • Canada • French, Russian, Ukrainian

Anna, a twelve-year-old Ukrainian gymnast, fled her war-torn country and settled in Montreal with her family. Confronted by a tragic loss, the challenges of exile, and her deep need for belonging, she seeks to rebuild her identity and regain her balance.



Black Water (82m)

Natxo Leuza • 2025 • Spain • Bengali

By 2050, rising seas will permanently submerge much of Bangladesh's southern coastline, displacing up to 30 million people. Lohki and her family are already among them, fleeing their flooded village for Dhaka in what may become the largest mass migration in human history.



Children No More: Were and Are Gone (30m)

Hilla Medalia • 2025 • Israel • Hebrew

In Tel Aviv, activists have gathered weekly since March 2025 to demonstrate their opposition to the war in Gaza with a silent vigil, holding pictures of all the children killed in Israeli attacks. Week after week, new names have been added, new photographs are printed and lifted high. And each week, more people step forward to join this quiet act of protest.



Comparsa (79m)

Vickie Curtis, Doug Anderson • 2025 • Guatemala, United States
Spanish with English subtitles

From the shadows of a Guatemalan barrio scared into silence, sisters Lesli and Lupe lead a luminous rebellion after the death of forty-one girls in a State-run “Safe Home”—unleashing joy, art, and radical truth in an epic fight for survival.



Creede U.S.A (96m)

Kahane Corn Cooperman • 2025 • United States • English

A small, historic mining town may seem far removed from the nation’s unrest, but Creede, Colorado is not immune to the polarization dividing the country. Every day spaces grow tense and neighborly bonds are tested. Yet, this uplifting film, and the people of Creede themselves, remind us that even in difficult times, finding common ground is still possible.



Do You Love Me (75m)

Lana Daher • 2025 • France, Lebanon, Germany, Qatar • Arabic, French, English

Constructed entirely from 70 years of film, TV, home videos, and photography, this audiovisual memory of Lebanon explores joy and intimacy, destruction and loss in a country without a national media archive, where creative expression becomes resistance, renewal, and a way to preserve memory.



Farfour: A War Diary from Gaza (14m)

Ahmed Deeb, Moaz Hosni • 2025 • Palestine, Turkey • Arabic

Amid the ruins of northern Gaza, Ibrahim clings to the only companion he has left: Farfour, a stray cat he adopted during the war.



Not to be (20m)

Melissa Lorraine • 2025 • United States • English

For five years, The Incarcerated Mass was a sanctuary for men serving de-facto life sentences in Illinois—an experimental theatre troupe with collective dreams of liberation. In July 2018 they staged their first and only performance, amplifying calls to restore parole in Illinois and across other states without pathways home.



Pavilhão (13m)

Victoria Fiore • 2025 • Brazil • Gujarati, Portuguese

Set in Rio de Janeiro, Aleksia wanders on a journey through time, unveiling the origins of samba and its emergence from resilience, joy, spirituality and resistance of her Afro-Brazilian community.



Sallie's Ashes (39m)

Brennan Robideaux • 2025 • United States • English

Faced with terminal lung cancer, 80-year-old Sallie Smith rallies an unlikely team of fellow Alabama grandmas to fight for the removal of toxic coal ash pit that threatens the waters of their beloved Mobile Bay.



Trip Ziggurat (14m)

Usama Alshaibi • 2025 • United States • English

A road trip to a Ziggurat in Colorado sparks connections between Arabs in the state. This pilgrimage to the Crestone Ziggurat intertwines with the stories of other Arabs in Boulder who find ways of bringing their homelands to Colorado.



We Were the Scenery (15m)

Christopher Radcliff • 2025 • United States, Canada • Vietnamese

Based on the real life experiences of writer Cathy Linh Che's parents, two Vietnam War refugees who, while stateless in a Philippine refugee camp in 1976, were unwittingly cast as background extras during the filming of Apocalypse Now.



Wolobougou (66m)

Camille Varenne • 2025 • France • English

"Wolobougou" means "the place of compassionate birth" in Bambara, and it is also the name of the small bush maternity clinic where midwife Honorine Soma and her midwives in training work to revolutionize women's healthcare access in rural Burkina Faso, where every action taken is essential.



CSU STUDENT FILMS



And My Soul Shall Be Healed: Reclaiming Christianity through the Transgender Experience (19m)

Maren Unwin • 2025 • United States • English

In the shadow of Christian nationalism, a pastor, a professor, and a transgender woman testify to a faith that embraces gender diversity.



Come into the Light (2m)

Ashlyn Motsenbocker • 2025 • United States • English

A young lesbian woman finds community and identity as she deals with the lasting mental effects of her Southern Baptist education & upbringing.



Heritage (3m)

Zara Goore • 2025 • United States • English

A poetic meditation on anti-Semitism, genocide, and the painful journey from self-loathing toward self-acceptance.



Pop Punk Grandma (12m)

Grainne Dutter • 2025 • United States • English

One woman's love of music and craft brings people together and challenges assumptions about age, identity, and belonging.



Trypanophobia (4m)

Micah Sample • 2025 • United States • English

A transgender person navigates doubt, risk, and frustration, searching for the courage to continue their transition.



Un Sueño Humilde (10m)

Kimberly Mayorga • 2024 • United States
Spanish with English subtitles

A portrait of love, risk, and resilience in a couple's journey from Mexico to the United States with dreams of building a better life and a family.



Unlisted, The D.E.I Documentary (2m)

Jevon McKinney • 2025 • United States • English

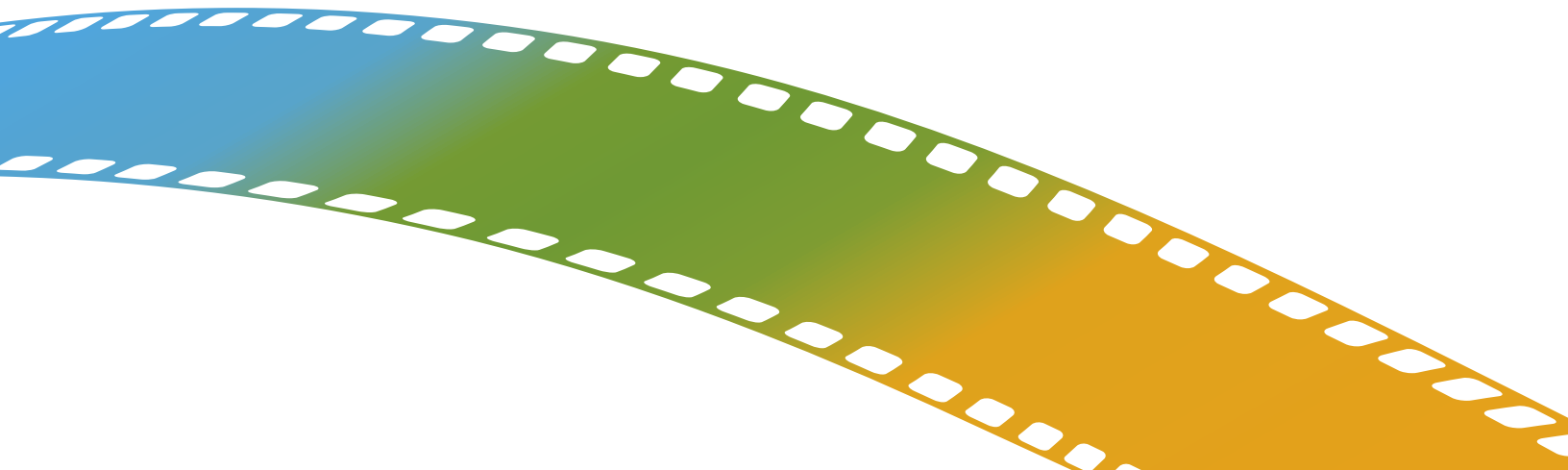
As universities dismantle D.E.I. initiatives, students and faculty confront the consequences.



Wrath (5m)

Will Settlage • 2024 • United States, Cambodia • English

A transnational adoptee confronts the loss of name, homeland, and memory in the shadow of genocide.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



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<https://give.colostate.edu/2026-act-human-rights-film-festival>



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