



CRAVEarts
**ALL AMERICAN
HIGH SCHOOL
FILM
FESTIVAL**

OCTOBER 20TH – OCTOBER 22ND
• NEW YORK CITY •

**2023 EDUCATOR
FEST GUIDE**

     @hsfilmfest

WWW.HSFILMFEST.COM



2023 EDUCATOR FEST GUIDE

The All American High School Film Festival offers a wonderful opportunity for video production programs to explore the creativity of the best student filmmakers from around the world. For many students, the festival experience is life-changing. It's the biggest weekend of their life, a chance to showcase their work, celebrate their accomplishments and connect with others who share their passion. And for the teachers, the festival offers an unparalleled opportunity to see where the bar is set, generate new ideas for the classroom, connect with peers and discover relevant and accessible resources. In this document you will find useful information related to planning your festival weekend so that you can be sure to get the most out of your festival experience.

Festival Events, Dates, Times and Locations:

We work hard to curate a robust variety of programming for ALL attendees, focusing on equal parts education and entertainment. On the first page you'll find an overview of our 2023 Event Schedule. Leading up to the festival, we will continue to provide an up-to-date, comprehensive schedule of all festival events on our website. This will help you navigate the wide variety of events we offer so that you can plan an agenda that fits your schedule and budget. We strongly suggest reviewing the dates, times and locations of specific events that interest you so that you don't miss one minute of the action!

Ticketing Recommendations:

Most students purchase the All-Access or Elite All-Access Pass so that they can take advantage of all that the festival has to offer. The Elite All-Access Pass keeps the students immersed in activities throughout the weekend, beginning with the Friday Night Photo Walk and epic Dinner Cruise straight through the Teen Indie Awards Show on Sunday Night.

Many parents and family members also choose to attend the entire festival via the All-Access Pass. Although the entire festival experience is designed for the young filmmakers (providing a wide variety of resources, entertainment and networking opportunities to help them improve their craft and form meaningful and productive relationships to pursue their passion) we also provide many opportunities for parents to explore resources, including the vast higher education and career options available (We host the nation's largest film and media college fair, an interactive exhibitor and technology showcase and a variety of industry-insider panels and workshops). The festival is also a great way for you to connect with other parents and see the community of like-minded artists who share your child's passion. With the All-Access Pass, you can experience all of the events with your student artist, or give them the freedom to check things out on their own. The majority of our events are organized in ticketed, private locations, and students are actively engaged all weekend, so you can feel confident in letting them enjoy an independent festival experience while you plan a separate itinerary of the events and resources that interest you. Either way, it's easy to remain close and check in periodically.

Ultimately, your exact festival agenda is up to you. But you certainly won't feel out of place if you decide to soak it all in. We offer a wide variety of ticketing options so that you can enjoy some or all of our diverse events. Of course, the Opening Night Dinner Cruise and Teen Indie Awards Show are a great excuse to explore New York City, get dressed up and walk the red carpet as you celebrate the achievements of all of the amazing young artists we represent. To explore all of your ticket options, head over to hsfilmfest.com/tickets.

*All attendees must purchase tickets to attend events.

**The Opening Night Dinner Cruise includes a full buffet dinner and unlimited soft drinks!

***The College Fair includes lunch!



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Hotel Accommodations:

We have secured a special discounted room block at the Sheraton Times Square Hotel conveniently located a few blocks from the AMC Theater and steps away from all major public transit options. These rates are far cheaper than any you will find in NYC during October and we highly recommend taking advantage of our discounted room block to be fully involved in all festival activities.

*Hotel rates DO NOT include sales tax of 14.75% and \$3.50 per night state occupancy charge. Maximum of 4 per double room (quad occupancy).

NOTE: The discounted room block closes on September 29th and sells out early each year. If the Sheraton room block sells out, we will do our best to secure additional discounted rooms at another hotel property.

For the most up to date hotel information and to book your room, visit hsfilmfest.com/hotels.

Logistics and Travel Advice:

Whether you're flying in from Japan or jumping in the car for a family road trip, getting in and around New York City is easier than you think. Detailed maps (including directions) of all venues and locations will be posted on our website leading up to the festival weekend. We do our best to host the majority of our events in one-stop, centralized locations. This means less time traveling and more time enjoying festival events. That said, as our festival programming grows, we have had to expand to a few additional locations around the city, but all of these venues are easily accessible via public transportation and you can access all major transit lines right outside of the Sheraton Hotel.



The Sheraton Hotel is also the pick-up/drop-off location for our round trip Private Coach Bus transportation to and from the Kings Theatre in Brooklyn. The Kings Theatre is a bit further away than our other venues (about 40 minutes via bus or subway), but once you step inside you will understand why it is the ideal home for our Teen Indie Awards Show. You can purchase round trip tickets for the bus or choose to take the subway, taxi, Uber or Lyft. You can purchase your bus passes at hsfilmfest.com/tickets.

Airports: Both LaGuardia International Airport and Newark International Airport are less than an hour from the Sheraton Times Square Hotel and both offer a wide variety of airport/hotel transfer options depending on your budget. We suggest taking public transportation or exploring shuttle and ride share options as the most affordable transportation methods. Of course, you can always take a taxi, Uber or Lyft.

Ground Transportation: Real New Yorker's take the subway and that's for a good reason: It's cheap, fast and convenient. This is how our team gets around the city and with a little planning you'll find the experience easy to navigate. All of our venues are easily accessible via the subway system. Of course if you prefer, you can always take a taxi, Uber or Lyft.

DISCOUNTED SHERATON HOTEL RATE



TRADITIONAL GUEST ROOM

Max Guests: 2  

\$319

Average nightly rate
+Taxes & Fees

TRADITIONAL ROOM DOUBLE

Max Guests: 4    

\$319

Average nightly rate
+Taxes & Fees



COACH BUS TO TEEN INDIE AWARDS

\$40
Per person



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Dress Code:

The majority of our events are casual with the exception of the Opening Night Dinner Cruise and Teen Indie Awards Show. For most events, plan on wearing comfortable attire and comfortable walking shoes (keep in mind that you'll be watching movies and likely doing a lot of walking).

Our Opening Night Dinner Cruise does not have a formal dress code, but most attendees prefer to get a bit dressed up in "party" attire for the photo opportunities and networking. Think: Part dance party, part "I'm a hip young artist ready to show off my style." Our Teen Indie Awards Show is a formal event so be sure to dress to impress. We don't require black tie/tuxedos but all attendees are expected to wear formal attire. This typically means suits and ties and/or prom-type dresses. Don't be surprised if you see a fair amount of tuxedos and truly unique stylings!

Other:

Handicap Accommodations: All of our venues are handicap accessible but may require a little additional planning to make sure that you have the best possible experience. If you have unique needs please let us know and we will do everything we can to make your experience comfortable and convenient.

Food: Dinner is provided during the Opening Night Cruise and lunch is provided for all College Fair attendees on Saturday afternoon. Because the weekend is packed with activities, you'll likely be eating on the go. There are many options for dining in and around Times Square and concessions will be open at the AMC Theater throughout the weekend. Keep in mind that on Sunday events end at the AMC Theater at 3pm and the Red Carpet opens at the Kings Theatre at 6pm – this means a tight window to grab something to eat before the awards show. We suggest planning ahead to make sure that you have time to fuel up. The Kings Theatre does offer various food options for purchase from snacks to sandwiches as well as a variety of beverages (including alcohol for adults).

Official Festival Program: We provide detailed, digital programs to all festival attendees. These programs will provide a complete festival schedule of events, screening times and locations, maps and venue locations and additional helpful information. Of course, you can also use our website and follow us on social media for updates throughout the weekend.

Merchandise: We will have a variety of merchandise available for purchase at the AMC Theater throughout the weekend from commemorative t-shirts and sweatshirts to tote bags and stickers. Quantities and sizes are limited so we strongly suggest getting your 2023 merchandise early.

Networking: We offer a variety of networking events for students and parents throughout the weekend. These events are a great way for your child to make lasting connections with other artists from around the world and many of our attendees form strong bonds that result in tangible collaborations. So be sure to encourage your child to come out of their comfort zone as they explore these opportunities. We suggest that attendees bring business cards and/or some method of sharing contact information.

College Fair, Panels and Workshops: The colleges and universities attending our college fair are eager to share what makes their program unique. This is an unparalleled opportunity to explore the vast options available so that you can be sure to find a school that fits your unique needs. Plan ahead by visiting our College Corner on our website and be prepared to ask lots of questions, gather materials and share your contact information for further exploration. Our panels and workshops offer an additional chance to explore the many career options available in the media industry and to connect with working professionals. Each session includes time for Q&A and more informal discussion. Plan your schedule according to your specific interests and keep in mind that these events are first come, first served.