



14th ANNUAL

2023

September 29 – October 1

www.BlackHillsFilmFestival.org

Hill City • Hot Springs
in the magnificent Black Hills of South Dakota



SPONSORS

PRESENTING SPONSOR "STAR"



Support is provided with funds from the State of South Dakota, through the Department of Tourism and the National Endowment for the Arts



CONTRIBUTING SPONSORS "PRODUCER"



Stu Fromm

Neal & Brenda Larson Foundation

Miguel Apaza, Iverson Productions, Wild Idea Buffalo,
Krull's Market, Chris VanNess, Janet & Keith Bily

Welcome	4
Special Programs.....	5
REEL South Dakota Stories.....	7
Host Venues.....	9
Maps	9
Schedule	10
Panel Discussion	12
Official Selections	13

FESTIVAL PASSES



SPECIAL PASSES —

VIP Pass - \$50 which includes parties, seminars and access to all the sessions playing at any venue over the 3 days.

Hot Springs Venue Pass - \$25 for all movies playing in Hot Springs only, over the 3 days

SESSION TICKET — \$10

Includes all movies in any one session (as designated in the program) at any venue. Purchase all session tickets at the venue prior to the session

SEE WEBSITE FOR ALL THE LATEST INFORMATION

Follow us on Facebook [BlackHillsFilmFestival](#), Instagram: [@BlackHillsFilmFestival](#), Purchase Merchandise and learn more at: www.BlackHillsFilmFestival.org

Phone: 605-574-9454

Welcome to our “Roundup of Films” as we honor the magnificent American Bison of our home state. The 14th Annual Black Hills Film Festival premieres in a new season by sharing the fall weekend with the Custer State Park annual Buffalo Roundup which kicks off the festivities in the early morning hours of Sept. 29, 2023. After the roundup, come see films about Buffalo, Mustangs, Heroes, Outlaws and Badlands. Hill City features an Opening Night Party with Buffalo Chili, networking with filmmakers, and entertainment for all VIP Pass Holders.

The Black Hills Film Festival is an intimate celebration of cinema and the passionate individuals who do whatever it takes to tell their stories. The filmmakers who bring these stories to the screen are truly the heroes of our Festival. Saturday morning filmmaking seminars in directing and acting are conducted by industry professionals and presented as a gift from the Festival to anyone wanting to learn more about this great art.

We are excited and proud to share the large number of high quality South Dakota films included in the 2023 program. (See Reel South Dakota Stories) Award winning films like **Dances with Wolves**, **National Treasure: Book of Secrets**, **Dinosaur 13**, **Neither Wolf nor Dog**, and **Nomadland** prove we have great stories, great locations and a substantial filmmaking environment. To that end, the Black Hills Film Festival follows its mission - continuing its year-round advancement of the creative filmmaking community in South Dakota.

Whether you take in most of the 2023 Festival films and activities or just a few, we hope you leave inspired. THANK YOU for attending and supporting the Black Hills Film Festival.

Board Members: Randal Iverson, President • Rick VanNess, Vice President • Egija Hartmane-Salem, Secretary • Dan Dickey, Treasurer • Ryan Hall

Executive Director: Chris VanNess



“Directing for Film”
Saturday, Sept. 29, 10 am - 11 pm Hill City Center
Presented by: Ashley Avis

FREE to the PUBLIC



Directing Workshop with Ashley Avis

Writer, Director, Producer, and Editor Ashley Avis will take aspiring filmmakers through the step-by-step process of the creation of a real film, utilizing Disney’s BLACK BEAUTY as an example of process: from creative vision from the script stage, the road to production, composition and visual choices throughout principal photography, and a director’s involvement in post production. The presentation will be intertwined with a live Q&A with attendees. The workshop is open to anyone working on their technique as a director.

Ashley is a filmmaker and passionate, longtime equestrian. She is the writer, director and editor of BLACK BEAUTY (2020) for Disney+, starring Oscar winner Kate Winslet, Mackenzie Foy, and Iain Glen.

Black Beauty will mark Ashley’s fourth feature film, in addition to directing hundreds of commercials and branded content to date.

Upcoming projects include writing directing CITY OF ANGELS for Warner Bros. & Perez Pictures, with Charles Roven and Paul Perez producing; as well as directing the time traveling love story THE SUMMER OF IMPOSSIBLE THINGS based on the novel by Rowan Coleman.

On the television side, Ashley is writing and show running the television series BREYER HOLLOW for Imagine Entertainment’s Executive Producers Ron Howard, Brian Grazer, and Stephanie Sperber.

An editor of over a decade, she cuts the majority of her own work, including Disney’s BLACK BEAUTY and her documentary, WILD BEAUTY. The wild horses of South Dakota along with Yvette Running Horse Collin, PhD an Oglala Lakota researcher and scientist, are at the forefront of wild horse DNA research.

In the fall of 2020, Ashley founded and launched The Wild Beauty Foundation— a nonprofit organization that hopes to illuminate key issues wild and domestic horses are facing today through entertainment, educational programs for children and teens, and on the ground rescue efforts of horses in need.

Ashley lives near the ocean with her husband and producing partner Edward Winters, and is the co-founder of Winterstone Pictures.

“Acting for Film”

Saturday, Sept. 29, 11 am - 12:30 pm Hill City Center
Presented by: Justin Johnson Cortez

FREE to the PUBLIC



Photo by Wes Klain

Acting Workshop with Justin Johnson Cortez

In his acting workshop, Justin Johnson Cortez will discuss his personal approach to acting. He will introduce the methods and techniques he uses when exploring new material and characters. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in the very exercises Justin utilizes to discover the heart of each character he takes on.

The Hispanic and Indigenous American actor/writer/director rose to prominence in 2022 as one of the year’s hottest new talents, starring in The CW’s highest rated new series “Walker Independence” from executive producer Jared Padalecki. Set in the late-1800’s as a prequel to The CW’s number one rated hit-series “Walker,” Johnson Cortez stars as Calian, an Apache tribe member working as a scout for the city of Independence, Texas.

Johnson Cortez worked directly with an Apache translator for the role, receiving blessings from Apache Elders for his commitment to authentic representation of the Native tribe indigenous to the Southwestern United States. In addition to script translations and overseeing Native storylines, he also performs his own stunts, marking his territory as an expert horse rider and action star in the making.

Johnson Cortez stars in the 2023 BHFF feature film “Gift of Fear,” highlighting a major crisis devastating Native populations. The film became a deeply personal and important project for the Native cast and crew as the film brings awareness to an epidemic vastly underreported in today’s media: the kidnapping and sex trafficking of young Indigenous women.

He has also guest-starred on such series as “911: Lone Star,” “Lucifer,” and served as actor/writer/director/producer in the short film “The Fall,” which was a 2020 Skins Fest official selection. A Santa Paula, California native of Yaqui Tribe descent, Johnson Cortez is a true handyman, adventure-seeking athlete and artist at heart. He enjoys using his hands to build custom furniture, riding motorcycles, and creating art and stencil work out of wood blocks; as well as spending time with his wife Rachel and two daughters, Olivia and Evelyn.



The Black Hills Film Festival strives to present rarely seen, non-mainstream stories about the people and cultures of this state and provide opportunities for South Dakota Filmmakers to showcase their art. Incredible landscapes and amazing stories demonstrate this is a great place to make movies!

CUP OF JOE

USA, Short Narrative, 4 min

Director/Writer/Producer: Max Hofer

Max Hofer is a writer and storyteller from Sioux Falls, SD. "Cup of Joe" is his second short film and was made in Sioux Falls, SD with local actors.

FRESH FACES

USA, Short documentary, 19 min

Director/Producers: Max Hofer and Tyson Shultz

Max Hofer is a filmmaker and Tyson Schultz is an artist, graphic designer and art curator, both are from Sioux Falls, SD. "Fresh Faces" is their first documentary. Film was made in Sioux Falls, SD, and celebrates the local art scene.

HOMEBODY

Aberdeen, SD, US, Short Narrative, 6 min.

Director: Brian Hoelsing

Brian Hoelsing was born and raised in Aberdeen S.D. and has been making films since childhood. As an adult; his films include "Duffy's Jacket", "Auger-Hole", and "Homebody". Other film credits include: "Dust of War", "Bonejangles", "Destroyer", and "Until Forever". The film was shot entirely in South Dakota.

KITMAN

SD, USA, Short Feature, 2 min

Director/Writer: Max Hofer Producer: Max Hofer and Taylor Yocum

Max Hofer is a writer and storyteller from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. "Kitman" is his first "official" short film and made in Sioux Falls, SD.

KOLA

SD, US, Short Narrative, 19 min.

Director: Kit Wilson, Writer: William Michael Paul, Producer: Katie M Wilkinson
Lakota Standing Rock Reservation. Dedicated to Grandmother, a Full Blooded Lakota.

ON THE RIDGE

US, Feature Doc, 1 hr. 32 min.

Directors: Ishma Yusuf Valenti I, Denis Paul Circo

A story of the Oglala Lakota people filmed 95 % on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in SD.

REMEMBER THE CHILDREN

USA, Short Documentary, 22 min

Director: Arlo Iron Cloud, Producer: Jim Warne

The story of the Rapid City Indian Boarding School (1898-1933) filmed entirely in South Dakota. Most of the film crew was from the Lakota Nations in the State of South Dakota. Many of the people interviewed are also from South Dakota.

RIDE AWAY

SD, US, Short Narrative, 6 min.

Writer/Director: Justin Koehler

Justin lives in South Dakota working with projects airing on PBS, History, and Discovery channels, as well as his own films such as "The Buffalo King" and "Floating Horses: the life of Casey Tibbs." His grandfather was born and raised in central South Dakota, and this film is based on a story he told Justin's mother during lunch. The film was shot entirely on the family ranch.

SANCTIFIED

ND, US, Feature Narrative, 1 hr. 30 min.

Director: Nickolaus Swedlund

Some of the crew was from South Dakota and it was filmed in Badlands of North Dakota.

THE PIZZA PLACE

Rapid City, SD, US, Short Narrative, 30 min.

Director: Reed William Langer

Filmed in Rapid City, SD

THE POMP ROOM: A ROCK N ROLL BAR STORY

Sioux Falls, SD, US, Feature Doc, 1 hr. 40 min.

Directors: Austin Kaus, Jesse Yost

Yost played in the bands The Glory Holes and 12 ½ Charlies which performed at the bar, while Kaus would travel from Wessington Springs in high school to see the bands GWAR, Blink-182 and Neurosis perform.

THE STATION

Sioux Falls, SD, US, Short Narrative, Student Film, Short Narrative, 9 min.

Director: Aiden Hurley, Producers: Amy and Cornelius Hurley

Aiden Hurley was born in Sioux Falls, SD and was only 18 years old when he made this film. He will be attending film school at the University of Texas at Austin, Moody College of Communications - Radio Television and Film program in the fall of 2023. Amy and Cornelius Hurley went to high school in Sioux Falls and Yankton.

WANIYETU WOWAPI – WINTER COUNT

US, Short Doc, 35 min.

Director: Richard Steinberger

The story of the Cheyenne River Youth Project, a Native-led, grassroots, nonprofit organization on South Dakota's Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation.

WOUNDED KNEE SURVIVORS RUN (2023)

Eagle Butte, SD, US, Short Doc, 12 min.

Director: Seth Brings Plenty

Seth is a filmmaker eager to highlight his community's history, environment, and issues, and was born into the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in Eagle Butte, South Dakota. Filmed from Wounded Knee to Bridger in South Dakota.



HILL CITY HIGH SCHOOL THEATER
488 Main Street, Hill City
325-seat theatre, High Definition digital projection.
Use back Theatre entrance on Railroad Ave. side



HOT SPRINGS THEATRE
241 North River Street, Hot Springs
www.Facebook.com/HotSpringsTheatre
220-seat historic theatre, DLP digital projection
and surround sound.



HILL CITY CENTER
227 Walnut Ave, Hill City, SD 57745
Location of the opening night VIP Chili feed Friday
Sept. 29 from 6 – 8 pm and also BHFF free seminars
on Saturday Sept. 30 from 10 am to 12:30 pm.



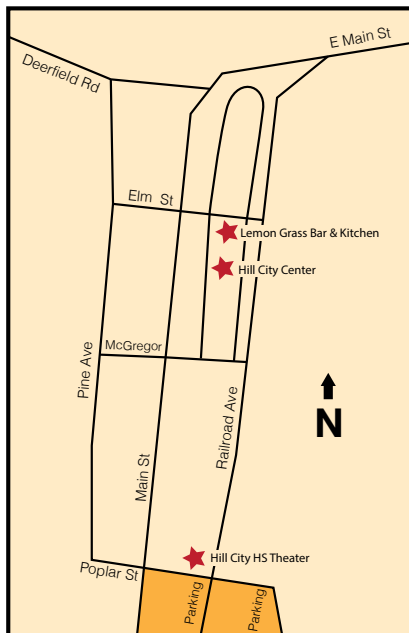
LEMONGRASS BAR & KITCHEN
243 Elm St, Hill City, SD 57745
Located right next door to the Hill City Center.
Host of the Friday night after party 8 – 11pm
featuring a full bar and live music.

MAPS

HOT SPRINGS




HILL CITY




BLACK HILLS
FILM FESTIVAL

FRIDAY Sept 29 Hill City	SATURDAY Sept 30 Hill City	SUNDAY Oct 1 Hill City
Hill City Center	Hill City High School Theatre	Hill City High School Theatre
Welcome Gala 6:00 - 11:00 pm VIP Passes Required	Film Session A 10:30 am - 12 pm	Film Session E 10:30 am - 12 pm
Buffalo Chili Dinner 6:00 - 8:00 pm	Monstr - 6 m	Out of Order - 5 m
FILM: Bring them Home - 18 m	An Island Drifts - 19 m	The Ides of May - 8 m
Live Entertainment at Lemongrass next door 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm	Swing - 18 m	Bird Lady - 17 m
	There is Hope - 30 m	Cara Romero - Following the Light - 27 m
SATURDAY Sept 30 Hill City	Film Session B 1:00 - 3:00 pm	Film Session F 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Hill City Center	South Dakota Shorts	Queer Fish in God's Waiting Room - 11 m
Seminars 10:00 am - 12:30 pm	Homebody - 5 m	Heartbreak Country - 25 m
Directing Seminar 10 - 11 am	Fresh Faces - 20 m	Loren & Rose - 1 hr 22 m
by Ashley Avis	Waniyetu Wowapi - Winter Count - 35 m	
Acting Seminar 11 am - 12:30 pm	The Pizza Place - 30 m	
by Justin Johnson Cortez	Ride Away - 6 m	
	Film Session C 3:15 - 5:45 pm	Film Session G 3:15 - 5:45 pm
	Cup of Joe - 4 m	Soldier - 22 m
	Gift of Fear - 1 hr 46 m	Wild Beauty - Mustang Spirit of the West - 1 hr 39 m
	Q&A with Special Guests	Q&A with Special Guests
	Break 5:45 - 7:00 pm	
	Film Session D 7:00 - 10:00 pm	
	Kitman - 3 m	
	Rocks 4 Sale! - 16 m	
	End of the Rope - 2 hr 18 m	

14TH ANNUAL SEPT. 29 - OCT. 1 2023

FRIDAY Sept 29 Hot Springs	SATURDAY Sept 30 Hot Springs	SUNDAY Oct 1 Hot Springs
Historic Hot Springs Theatre	Historic Hot Springs Theatre	Historic Hot Springs Theatre
Film Session I 7:00 - 9:30 pm	Film Session II 7:00 - 9:30 pm	Film Session III 2:00 - 5:00 pm
Faces from the Interior - 40 m	Kitman - 3 m	Native American Stories
Wild Beauty - Mustang Spirit of the West - 1 hr 39 m	The Station - 9m	Remember the Children - 23 m
	Kola - 19 m	Panel Discussion with Jim Warne
	Sanctified - 1 hr 30 m	Wounded Knee Survivors Run - 12 m
		On the Ridge - 1 hr 32 m
		Break 5:00 - 7:00 pm
		Film Session IV 7:00 - 9:30 pm
		Rocks 4 Sale! - 16 m
		The Pomp Room: A Rock N Roll Bar Story - 1 hr 40 m

FESTIVAL NOTICES

- * NO PHOTOGRAPHS or RECORDINGS of the films are permitted in any theater.
- * Please silence your watch alarms, pagers, and cell phones.
- * No Smoking or vaping in any Festival venue.
- * Please be respectful of others who are enjoying the films.
- * Please deposit trash in waste receptacles.
- * NOTICE: you may be captured on video or in still photography at any Festival venue for advertising and archival purposes.



“Remember the Children: A Panel for Truth and Reconciliation”

Sunday, Oct. 1, 2 pm session

Historic Hot Springs Theatre

Moderated by: Jim Warne



The Black Hills Film Festival presents the film “Remember the Children” about the Rapid City, SD boarding school (see film description in Official Selections) and hosts a panel discussion following the film. Jim Warne moderates and will be joined by several special guests from the film.

Educator-Advocate-Filmmaker Jim Warne is a member of the Oglala Lakota (Sioux) Nation. He is the Community Engagement & Diversity Director at University of South Dakota (USD) Center for Disabilities, Oyáte Circle Sanford School of Medicine and an Instructor for USD Pediatrics. He is also President of Warrior Society Development, LLC. and consults for various government agencies, organizations, Tribal Nations, academia including the Arizona College of Medicine Sonoran Center. Jim is a Motivational Speaker & Advocate. Experience includes Congressional Testimonies, Cultural Diversity, Workforce Inclusion, Film Production, Actor/Stuntman, Professional Football, Youth Athletic/Life Skill Camps,

Grant & Organizational Development including Higher Ed Administration.

Jim’s WSD Productions Film Division produced “7th Generation” an Award-Winning Documentary and the Emmy-nominated short film, “Oyáte un Itówapi - Pictures of my People.” His latest production is “Remember the Children” (2022).

OPENING NIGHT PARTY
FRIDAY SEPT. 29
FREE to VIP Pass Holders
 Buffalo chili feed at the Hill City Center 6 - 8 pm
 Networking, live music, cash bar, at Lemongrass 8 - 11 pm





Smart Advice. Service from the Heart.

605-574-1752
 PO Box 194
 Hill City, SD 57745

Christy Hawthorne, CFP®
 Wealth Advisor, Owner
www.heartlandwis.com

CA Insurance License
 40233176



Securities offered through J.W. Cole Financial, Inc (JWC)
 Member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through J.W. Cole Advisors, Inc. (JWCA). Heartland Wealth & Insurance Services and JWC/JWCA are unaffiliated entities.

AN ISLAND DRIFTS

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 10:30 am session
 Singapore, Short Narrative, 19 min.

Director: Vivian Ip

Set in Singapore, a young teacher presses for the truth from a maladjusted student, the act leads to devastating results and they suffer the ignominy of losing everything that matters to them. The story holds a mirror up to society, where a mistake can derail a life in an overly pressurized world.



BIRD LADY

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hill City High School Theatre – 10:30 am session
 US, Student Film, Short Doc, 17 min.

Director: Carter Rostron

FAMILY FRIENDLY

For years, an assortment of small ceramic birds and other figures have appeared around the base of a statue that has become known as the “Bird Lady.” The documentary explores the mystery surrounding what’s been happening, what it means, and how it has become a beloved part of neighborhood folklore.



BRING THEM HOME

Friday, Sept. 29, Hill City Center (during opening party) – 6 pm
 US, Short Doc, 19 min

Director: Daniel Glick

An intimate documentary about the only indigenous tribal-led buffalo drive in North America. It follows members of the Blackfeet Nation as they experience the power of the American bison while driving their herd through rough terrain and hostile weather to their winter pasture – a rare ritual of stewardship that brings hope for a modern-day cultural rebirth.



CARA ROMERO: FOLLOWING THE LIGHT

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hill City High School Theatre – 10:30 am session

US, Short Doc, 27 min.

Director: Kaela Waldstein

An exploration of the work of contemporary fine art photographer Cara Romero, an enrolled citizen of the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe. Romero was raised between contrasting settings: the rural Chemehuevi reservation in Mojave Desert, CA and the urban sprawl of Houston, TX. Her photography is a blend of fine art and editorial photography, shaped by years of study and a visceral approach to representing Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural memory, collective history, and lived experiences from a Native American female perspective.



CUP OF JOE

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 3:15 pm session
 Sioux Falls, SD, US, Short Narrative, 4 min.

Director: Max Hofer

LANGUAGE

Joe, an office worker, goes out on a limb to get his co-workers coffee.

**END OF THE ROPE**

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 7 pm session
 Bismarck, ND, US, Feature Narrative, 2 hrs. 19 min.

Director: Charlie Griak

LANGUAGE, GRAPHIC SCENES, VIOLENCE

When a sociopathic hired hand murders an entire family, the town of Schafer, North Dakota rises up to take justice into their own hands. Based on the true story of the infamous Charles Bannan case of 1931.

**FACES FROM THE INTERIOR**

Friday, Sept. 29, Hot Springs Theatre – 7 pm session
 Stanton, ND, US, Short Doc, 40 min.

Director: Justin Deegan

In 1833 and 1834, Karl Bodmer, traveled along the Upper-Missouri as part of the Prince Maximilian expedition. The images that Bodmer sketched and painted are historical art documents that are iconic in present day America. The film addresses the impact of those inspired images among the direct descendants of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nations.

**FRESH FACES**

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 1 pm session
 Sioux Falls, SD, US, Short Doc, 20 min.

Directors: Max Hofer, Tyson Shultz

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Follow Untitled.10 (Tyson Schultz & Levi Sternburg) as they prep for their 4th pop-up art gallery "Fresh Faces" in Sioux Falls, SD.

**GIFT OF FEAR**

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 3:15 pm session
 US, Feature Narrative, 1 hr. 46 min.

Directors: Katy Dore, Jack Kohler

LANGUAGE, GRAPHIC SCENES

Mili watched in horror as her mother was murdered 11 years ago, becoming another Missing and Murdered Indigenous statistic. Now 17, Mili's former crew kidnaps her girlfriend after Mili chooses her MMA team over the gang. Tribal cops and an agent from the Federal Missing and Murdered Unit are on the case, but Mili waited for the authorities once...she won't wait this time.



HEARTBREAK COUNTRY

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hill City High School Theatre – 1 pm session

US, Short Doc, 26 min.

Director: Edward Tyndall

GRAPHIC SCENES

The remains of thousands of undocumented immigrants lie undiscovered in the remote and inhospitable landscape of one of the poorest counties in the US, Brooks County, TX. The bodies were often buried in poorly marked graves, many interred in trash bags and other makeshift containers. The non-profit organization Operation Identification and the South Texas Human Rights Center attempts to locate, exhume, and identify the dead along with the search and recovery efforts of the Texas State Guard and the apprehension efforts of the Border Patrol Tactical Unit.



HOMEBODY

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 1 pm session

Aberdeen, SD, US, Short Narrative, 6 min.

Director: Brian Hoelsing

When a girl goes out with friends for the night, the man who is living in her walls is free to live his secret life in the home. But when the girl returns home early; things get out of hand.



KITMAN

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre - 7 pm session

Saturday, Sept.30, Hot Springs Theatre – 7 pm session

Sioux Falls,SD, US, Short Narrative, 3 min.

Director: Max Hofer

Curiosity kills when a world-renowned hitman faces his greatest adversary yet.



KOLA

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hot Springs Theatre – 7 pm session

SD, US, Short Narrative, 19 min.

Director: Kit Wilson

VIOLENCE

Native secrets from the Past. Broken lives healed. Lakota Standing Rock Reservation.



LOREN & ROSE**Sunday, Oct. 1, Hill City High School Theatre – 1 pm session***US, Feature Narrative, 1 hr. 22 min.**Director: Russell Brown***LANGUAGE**

Rose is a legendary actress trying to revive her career. Loren is a promising filmmaker. Over the course of their many encounters, a deep friendship evolves as their love of art, understanding of grief, and faith in life's potential guide them through personal and creative transformations. Jacqueline Bisset and Kelly Blatz star with a chemistry that is at once authentic and intoxicating.

**MONSTR****Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 10:30 am session***Canada, Short Narrative, Animation, 6 min.**Director: Tank Standing Buffalo*

How do you go on living when everything is taken from you in the blink of an eye? A young artist confronts his inner demons while apprenticing with a northwest totem carver after the death of his beloved.

**ON THE RIDGE****Sunday, Oct. 1, Hot Springs Theatre – 2 pm session***US, Feature Doc, 1 hr. 32 min.**Directors: Ishma Yusuf Valenti I, Denis Paul Circo*

An inspirational story focusing on the success and triumph of the Oglala Lakota people. A look at the amazing programs, customs, and people that are making positive change on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

**OUT OF ORDER****Sunday, Oct. 1, Hill City High School Theatre – 10:30 am session***US, Student Film, Sci-Fi, Dystopian, 5 min.**Director: Mason James Gillard*

A starving survivor in an apocalyptic wasteland struggles to stay alive and must gather enough currency to use a vending machine.

**QUEER FISH IN GOD'S WAITING ROOM****Sunday, Oct. 1, Hill City High School Theatre – 1 pm session***US, Short Narrative, 11 min.**Director: Adrian Pasdar***LANGUAGE, ADULT CONTENT**

Two Brothers. One Landlady. Zero Common Sense. Based on Lee Henshaw's bestselling novel of the same name. Adrian Pasdar's comedic romp follows two young brothers on holiday from London, England to Coney Island, NY, where they meet up with a kooky landlady who runs a low rent B&B that is more Alice-in-Wonderland than just a place to rest your head. Shot by legendary cinematographer Barry Markowitz and stars Jesse Spencer, Jackson George, and Amanda Righetti.



REMEMBER THE CHILDREN

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hot Springs Theatre – 2 pm session

Rapid City, SD, US, Short Doc, 23 min.

Director: Arlo Iron Cloud; Producer: Jim Warne

The story of the Rapid City Indian Boarding School, kept alive through the elders... the grandmothers that never forgot and continued to share the stories of the forgotten children. As a result of the work of historians, community advocacy and partners that want positive change, the Children's Memorial in Rapid City is now a reality.



RIDE AWAY

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 1 pm session

SD, US, Short Narrative, 6 min.

Director: Justin Koehler

Based on true events, a young man pens a heartfelt letter before leaving for the Vietnam War.



ROCKS 4 SALE!

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 7 pm session

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hot Springs Theatre – 7 pm session

US, Short Doc, 16 min.

Director: David Dibble

FAMILY FRIENDLY

A slice-of-life look at how kids in the former mining town of Silverton, Colorado stay busy in the summer by "mining" and selling rocks to tourists. Through this time-honored rite of passage, these "rock stars" learn history, social skills, and become little entrepreneurs while delighting tourists from around the world.



SANCTIFIED

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hot Springs Theatre – 7 pm session

ND & SD, US, Feature Narrative, 1 hr. 30 min.

Director: Nickolaus Swedlund

LANGUAGE, GRAPHIC SCENES, VIOLENCE

An outlaw is rescued from death by a nun who is traveling through the Badlands. She nurses him back to health in exchange for him guiding her to a Church in Williston. A deep friendship develops between these two unlikely people as they learn to work together to survive their dangerous journey.



SOLDIER

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hill City High School Theatre – 3:15 pm session

US, Short Doc, 22 min.

Director: Justin Zimmerman

LANGUAGE, GRAPHIC SCENES

SOLDIER focuses on Daniel Krug: a heroic firefighter, father of five, SWAT trainer and armored combat enthusiast. Daniel is also a former sniper, with ten years of combat, security, rescue and recovery



experience in Iraq. And over the past decade, he's lost 11 of his close military friends - and almost lost himself - to PTSD.

SWING

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 10:30 am session

US, Short Narrative, 18 min.

Director: Brock Forrette

ADULT CONTENT

A mysterious package arrives at Paul and Terri's door. What it contains could either save or end their passionless marriage.



THE IDES OF MAY

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hill City High School Theatre – 10:30 am session

US, Student Film, 7 min.

Director: Jack Rahill

An aspiring actor has less than 24 hours to submit an audition tape. He can't find a reader, so he decides to take a more creative route.



THE PIZZA PLACE

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 1 pm session

Rapid City, SD, US, Short Narrative, 30 min.

Director: Reed William Langer

LANGUAGE

Determined to get off work on time, Kevin hustles throughout Rapid City delivering pizza to its colorful inhabitants. That is, if the heat doesn't get him first.



THE POMP ROOM: A ROCK N ROLL BAR STORY

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hot Springs Theatre – 7 pm session

Sioux Falls, SD, US, Feature Doc, 1 hr. 40 min.

Directors: Austin Kaus, Jesse Yost

LANGUAGE, ADULT CONTENT

The Pomp Room, South Dakota's most legendary music venue, opened in Sioux Falls, SD in 1958 and closed in 1998. The music (and madness) influenced the lives of multiple generations of SD music fans. It was a place for live music and a "coming of age" for young folks, featuring bands like Aerosmith, Metallica, and Jonny Lang. When The Pomp Room had its final show, The Glory Holes sent the club out in funky style.



THE STATION

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hot Springs Theatre – 7 pm session

Sioux Falls, SD, US, Student Film, Short Narrative, 9 min.

Director: Aiden Hurley

A teenage boy and an outlaw find themselves on an abandoned steam train and discover that one of them does not belong there.



THERE IS HOPE

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 10:30 am session

Ukraine, Short Narrative, 30 min.

Director: Oleksandr Yatsentyuk

The writer called Death for a long time and it came. But it turns out that it is not so easy to leave this world, especially when Talent has recently returned to you. To die peacefully, you must first destroy it. But Talent is not ready to give up. Fear also joins the fight against Death, forcing the Writer to take a shovel and go digging...



WANIYETU WOWAPI - WINTER COUNT

Saturday, Sept. 30, Hill City High School Theatre – 1 pm session

US, Short Doc, 35 min.

Director: Richard Steinberger

The story of the Cheyenne River Youth Project, a Native-led, grassroots, nonprofit organization on South Dakota's Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation. Come into the heart of the circle, and meet the kids, parents, elders, artists, and partners. Discover why art is so central to Lakota culture. Experience the reclaiming of spaces in the community and learn how they are revitalizing language, ceremonies, and life ways through a contemporary version of the Winter Count.



WILD BEAUTY: MUSTANG SPIRIT OF THE WEST

Friday, Sept. 29, Hot Springs Theatre – 7 pm session

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hill City High School Theatre – 3:15 pm session

US, Feature Doc, 1 hr. 39 min.

Director: Ashley Avis

An immersive journey into the world of wild horses, Wild Beauty illuminates both the profound beauty, and desperate plight currently faced by the wild horses in the Western United States. Filmmaker Ashley Avis (Disney's Black Beauty) and crew go on a multi-year expedition to uncover the truth in hopes to protect them, before wild horses disappear forever.



WOUNDED KNEE SURVIVORS RUN (2023)

Sunday, Oct. 1, Hot Springs Theatre – 2 pm session

Eagle Butte, SD, US, Short Doc, 12 min.

Director: Seth Brings Plenty

A powerful story about the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890, a tragedy that still resonates in the hearts of many Native Americans today. It follows the journey of runners who, every year, travel from Wounded Knee to Bridger in South Dakota, retracing the steps of the massacre and saying prayers as they go. The film captures the beauty of the land, the emotion of the runners, and the solemnity of remembering a tragedy that affected so many lives. It is a story of remembrance, healing and hope for a better future.





Lemongrass
Dine & Drink Here

Full Bar & Restaurant, Live Music

(605) 391-3534 Fall hours:

Mon - Fri 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Saturday 11:30 am - 8:30 pm

243 Elm St, Hill City, SD 57745

EMH Consulting, Inc.

Eileen Hamm CPA

TAX SERVICE
BOOKKEEPING
PAYROLL

(605) 574-4684
HILL CITY, SD

We take care of the details
while you focus on the
"BIG PICTURE"

