



The Rome International Film Festival Celebrates the Magic of Cinema

We Began With Entertainment & Grew Into an Essential Community Partner

The Rome International Film Festival started 22 years ago with a group of friends gathering to enjoy art films. Since then, RIFF has grown into an event with international flavor that entices 1,500 art and film lovers to visit Rome annually and pumps more than \$350,000 into our local economy over one weekend. Beyond being a glamorous red carpet event, RIFF believes in using film to support the growth of Northwest Georgia. We are deeply tied to the education of our local high schoolers, affordable and fun family films, and convening our community to talk about tough issues. Great films elicit emotion and we create events around film that benefit everyone. We were honored to receive the 2023-24 Rome Downtown Development's *Quality of Life* Award for our community programming.

Our Signature Event: The 2025 Rome International Film Festival

Join us October 31 - November 3 for the 21st International Film Festival. Attendees will see the best documentaries, independent and short films, attend amazing parties, and meet visiting filmmakers. We showcase Georgia talent and you can count on surprise visits from celebrities. The Festival takes place in downtown Rome, and special hotel and Festival packages are available. We curate the experience so that sponsors and local community, government and community leaders can spend time together enjoying the Festival and building relationships.

Educating our Future: Local Students Envision New Career Opportunities

On October 31, more than 200 Northwest Georgia high school students will experience a day-long symposium, hands-on workshop, and film awards event at Georgia Highlands College in Rome completely free - thanks to scholarships, grants and sponsors. We'll teach students about career options - in front of and behind the camera - in the \$5 billion Georgia film and entertainment industry. This event highlights three RIFF partners - Berry College, Georgia Highlands College, and Georgia Northwestern Technical College - each offering degrees and programs to prepare students for careers in our growing creative economy.



RIFF specializes in serendipitous celebrity sightings. You could find yourself having a drink with Billy Bob Thornton, participating in a film talkback with Ethan Hawke and Danielle Deadwyler, standing beside Tim Blake Nelson on the red carpet, or laughing at haircuts from the 1980's with Judge Reinhold.

Family Fun Film Events: Dress Up & Sing Out!

There is nothing better than dressing up in 70's attire and belting out the ABBA songs in Mamma Mia with friends. Or gathering the kids for an Encanto sing-along. RIFF & our partner The DeSoto Theatre bring beloved family-oriented film events to our community along with fun activities like costume contests and dance-offs - all while serving up fresh ways to support our Downtown businesses.



RIFF "Film & Community Conversations"

Film's emotional power helps us talk about topics that are sometimes difficult to confront. Our "Film & Community Conversations" consider topics such as strength in diversity, why recidivism is so high in Georgia, how we transform hate, improving mental health, and increasing high school graduation rates. Georgia Power is our partner for 2025, helping bring together academic, community, business and non-profit leaders for these important discussions.

Producing Real Value for Our Partners

We seek to provide partners with value for their investment in RIFF. Value is defined *with* our partners, and could be measured through increased sales, connections that build stronger relationships with important audiences, or by demonstrating evidence of care for our community.



Investing in the arts is investing in the future of our community. The arts enhance our quality of life, attract businesses and residents, and enrich our collective lives.

Craig McDaniel, Mayor of Rome, Georgia



Seeing a film at The Historic DeSoto Theatre on Broad Street in downtown Rome is an enchanting experience. All part of the Festival's charm, along with Rome's restaurants, shopping, accommodations and especially, our people.

Our 2024 sponsors invested in our community by investing in RIFF. We encourage everyone to patronize these caring businesses.

★ 2024 RIFF Sponsors ★

Alpha Lit Rome	Lotus Skin + Brow
Andy Calvert	Lumina
Photography	Mike Crego of Benjamin F. Edwards
Altanta Film Society	F. Edwards
BevSouth	Moonshine Post Production
Berry College	National Endowment for the Arts
Blossom Hill Restaurant	North Broad Animal Clinic
Blush Salon and Blowdry Bar	One Community United
BusMax	OTR Engineered Solutions
The Canoe House	OuterElements
Chick-fil-A	PAM Studios
Cheeky Baby Boutique	PC&E Atlanta
City of Rome	Pies, Pies and More
The City Creamery	Publix Super Markets
Consulate General of Israel	RACA
Courtyard by Marriott	Ready or Not Productions
Dermaculture Skin & Spa	River City Bank
The DeSoto Theatre	River Remedy
Downtown Rome Development Authority	Riverside Auto Group
Do Good Boutique	Rome Little Theatre
Fairfield by Marriott	Rome News Tribune
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Georgia Film Office	Rome Shakespeare Festival
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Georgia Northwestern Technical College	Southeastern Medical Rep Group LLC
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