



QUEENS WORLD FILM FESTIVAL

**Film Fest Fusion:
The Queens Edition**

A panel discussion dedicated to shining a spotlight on Queens' vibrant filmmaking community and its dynamic film festivals.

*Come meet representatives of
Queens World Film Festival, Astoria Film Club,
Hellenic Film Society, Festival of Cinema NYC,
Queens Underground International Film Festival,
Sunnyside Shorts & Conch Shell International Film Festival .
Join in the conversation!*

**JUNE 29, 2024
11am - 2pm**
Kaufman Astoria Studios
Zukor Theatre
34-12 36th Street
Astoria, NY, 11106


RESERVE YOUR
TICKET HERE!



BRUNCH SPONSORED BY **NYWIFT** | New York Women
in Film & Television

11am: Light Brunch sponsored by NYWIFT
12pm: Panel hosted by Katha Cato
Queens World Executive Director
1:30pm: Networking and Socializing

INDUSTRY PARTNERS
 Media & Entertainment

**Film Fest Fusion: The Queens Edition
A Panel with Film Festivals and Filmmakers from Queens
at the Historic Zukor Theatre
June 29, 2024 11M - 2pm**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Queens, NY - June 5, 2024 - The Queens World Film Festival (Queens World) is proud to announce Film Fest Fusion: The Queens Edition, a unique event celebrating the vibrant and diverse filmmaking community of Queens. This special gathering will take place on June 29 at the iconic Kaufman Astoria Studios' Zukor Theatre.

Film Fest Fusion will underscore the crucial role that film festivals play in the economic development and cultural enrichment of Queens and therefore NYC and beyond. By bringing together the leaders of the prominent Queens film festivals, Queens World is fostering a collaborative environment where ideas and strategies can be shared to elevate the profile of Queens in the international and national film industry.

"Queens World advocates for our local filmmaking community, recognizing the vital role festivals play in fostering economic growth and cultural diversity," said Queens World ED Katha Cato "Film Fest Fusion is an exciting step towards unifying our efforts to shine a spotlight on Queens as a hub for cinematic talent and creativity."

The session will begin at 11am with a light brunch, sponsored by New York Women in Film & Television (NYWIFT) a leading non-profit organization advocating for equality in the entertainment industry. Founded in



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1977, NYWIFT supports women in film, television, and digital media by providing educational programs, professional development opportunities, and networking events.

Following the networking brunch, the main event will feature a compelling discussion with the founders and directors of the film festivals in Queens. This 90-minute conversation will cover the following:

- Introduction and description of each participating festival
- Experiences and observations on the impact of film festivals on the local community and the city at large
- Strategies to amplify the voices of local filmmakers
- Promoting diversity and inclusivity within the film industry
- Attracting attention from industry professionals and global audiences

Join us at the historic Zukor Theatre for a day of inspiration, collaboration, and celebration of the thriving film scene in Queens!

Featured Festivals:

- **Queens World Film Festival**
 - The Queens World Film Festival is dedicated to providing a platform for filmmakers to present their work to a diverse audience, fostering a vibrant community that celebrates independent cinema. Through year-round programming and special events, QWFF champions the power of film to inspire, educate, and entertain.
- **Hellenic Film Society**
 - The Hellenic Film Society USA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization rooted in the belief that Greek cinema can—and should—be part of the American cultural landscape. We promote feature films, documentaries, and film shorts made by Greek filmmakers and those of Greek descent, and films that promote the cultures of Greece and Cyprus. Founded by Jimmy DeMetro and a team of devoted cinephiles with a track record of presenting Greek films in the US, the Hellenic Film Society was established to expand the reach of Greek film beyond a single annual festival in New York. In addition to our annual New York Greek Film Expo, we hold film screenings throughout the year and present monthly film screenings for sell-out crowds at the prestigious Museum of the Moving Image in New York City.
- **Festival of Cinema NYC**
 - Festival of Cinema NYC is a 10-day international film festival taking place annually, since 2017, at the Regal UA Midway in Forest Hills. The festival aims to establish a bridge between community, education, and advocacy through film exhibition by engaging the community with the work of upcoming emerging artists. As a not for profit charitable arts & culture organization, Festival of Cinema inc. is supported by The National Endowment for the Arts, NYSCA, and DCLA.
- **Rockaway Film Festival**
 - Rockaway Film Festival is a moving-image celebration that brings affordable, inclusive, and enriching cinema and cultural programs to the Rockaway peninsula, aiming to captivate and connect all members of our vibrant community. The festival is a 501c3 non-profit founded in 2018 by Sam Fleischner, Courtney Muller, and Greg Stewart.



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- **Astoria Film Club**

- The Astoria, Filmmakers Club, and their pool of collaborators and mentors create original content and teach each other how to do the same thing. The Triborough Film Festival showcases all of the completed works, and then the cycle repeats itself. A critical component of the Astoria Filmmakers Club is that all the content is 100% funded through donations and the filmmakers keep all the finances to hit their budget whereas with other crowdfunding platforms get a cut per campaign. It's not about what you know, but it's all about who you know. The Astoria Filmmakers Club is somewhat of a Chamber of filmmaking commerce that provides the general public the assurance as well as legitimacy to the filmmakers. Their motto is community, creativity and joy. The AFC understands to put the community first and utilize their creativity for the benefit of others and if they find joy in their creativity then we all will enjoy what they do.

- **Sunnyside Shorts**

- The Sunnyside Shorts International Film Festival is marching into its 19th year. We present films from all over the world. Our audiences have enjoyed films from Australia, Iran, the UK, Germany, France, Israel and of course, the USA. Our guests also enjoy a lovely intermission in the garden of the historic Sunnyside Reform Church.

- **Queens Underground Film Festival & Events**

- The Mission Of Queens Center Of The Arts is to Promote all of the arts, especially non-typical arts and to Promote those Artists, Filmmakers, Designers, Authors, Chefs, Bakers, Entrepreneurs, Poets, and Organizations who Create works of Art and/or support Creatives. We seek to Share Stories, Creations and the Creatives via our Unique Platform and Events, providing a wider and more expansive marketplace for Creatives, Consumers, Grantmakers, Distributors et al. Our "International" Vision represents the Underserved and Underrepresented as well as the first-timer and seasoned professions to capitalize on interest, economic development and tourism in Queens, NY. We are a "Networking" hub.