

AFI FEST PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Opening Night Film and Gala – A star-studded red-carpet event held at the ArcLight's famed Cinerama Dome in the heart of Hollywood. A gala party immediately follows at a nearby Hollywood hot-spot. Recent Opening Night films have included premieres of Academy Award® nominees ANTWONE FISHER, BOBBY, THE CIDER HOUSE RULES, LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL and WALK THE LINE with the director and principle cast in attendance. Approximately 1,200 VIP guests attend.

Closing Night Film and Gala – A final glamorous event to end the Festival in style. A celebrity-studded premiere and gala for approximately 1,200 guests. Previous AFI FEST Closing Night Galas have included the world premieres of Academy Award® winners THE SEA INSIDE and MONSTER.

Centerpiece Premieres – Red-carpet galas of celebrated international offerings during the midpoint of the Festival. AFI FEST has recently featured BAD EDUCATION, HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS, THREE BURIALS OF MELQUIADES ESTRADA, A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT and VOLVER.

AFI FEST Tribute and Retrospective – An on-stage tribute and candid interview of an esteemed film artist, followed by a reception with the artist. A retrospective of the honoree's work is also presented during AFI FEST. Recent honorees include Pedro Almodóvar, Michael Caine, Penelope Cruz, Ang Lee and Johnny Depp.

Filmmaker Reception – The Festival's anticipated program line-up is announced and celebrated in The LOFT for 400 VIPs and press.

International Feature Competition – First and second-time feature filmmakers from the global filmmaking community present the US premiere of their films and compete for Grand Jury and Audience Awards.

International Documentary Competition – First and second-time documentary filmmakers from the global filmmaking community compete for Grand Jury and Audience Awards.

International Shorts Competition – Short filmmakers from the global filmmaking community compete for Grand Jury and Audience Awards.

Asian New Classics – Launched at AFI FEST 2000, this section features the newest work from up and coming Asian talent as well as established masters.

African Voices Cinema Series – New in 2006, this section amplifies the diverse voices of the African Continent through the work of artists from the African diaspora.

World Cinema – AFI FEST has become well known for this section which features the most anticipated new world cinema offerings.

Latin Cinema Series – Latin Cinema Series screenings are always packed at AFI FEST and feature eagerly awaited new films from the Latin world.

Special Screenings – Single special event screenings, presented in a prime-time slot, of some of the highly anticipated films of the year from celebrated directors featuring A-list talent. In recent years, special screenings have included THE DEAD GIRL, MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS, HISTORY BOYS, HOTEL RWANDA, MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS, THE QUIET AMERICAN, SPIDER, TRANSAMERICA, VENUS and THE WOODSMAN.

Dark Horizons – This screening series pushes the envelope and uses the tools of genre films to explore much deeper socio-political and human issues elevating the medium.

American Directions – American independent film is firmly integrated into the global film community at AFI FEST, with films showcasing the finest talent from around the country.

Screen Education – Over 1,000 Los Angeles Unified School District students are treated to exclusive screenings as special guests at AFI FEST. Student classroom curricula, morning film screenings and lively Q&A sessions cultivate an early appreciation for film art and expose students to other beliefs and cultures.

Kodak CONNECT Program – Well-established and increasingly renowned, the five-day CONNECT program provides artists with films at AFI FEST an unprecedented opportunity to meet with Hollywood's creative community in hundreds of pre-arranged, one-on-one meetings that offer fresh insight, establish working relationships and nurture careers.

Filmmaker Receptions – Hosted happy hours are held each evening in the Festival Headquarter's Cinema Lounge.

VIP Green Room – This invitation-only oasis provides an opportunity to reach celebrity and VIP clientele in a luxurious, exclusive, centrally located setting.

Cinema Lounge – The ultra-hip hospitality area at the Festival Headquarters adjacent to all the Festival theaters. There is ample space in this multi-functional area to host filmmakers, press, pass holders and VIP guests. The creative promotional opportunities are limitless.

Jury and Audience Awards Presentation & Reception – Grand Jury and Audience Awards are presented at this exciting event held prior to Closing Night. Over 300 press, sponsors, filmmakers and VIPs attend.

GRAND JURY AWARDS

International Feature Competition
International Documentary Competition
International Shorts Competition

AUDIENCE AWARDS

Best Feature Film
Best Documentary Film
Best Short Film