

A Special Thanks to Our Judges!

After Hours Film Society goes to great lengths to recruit highly-qualified film professionals and film educators to serve as judges for the student film festival. These individuals are required to watch hours and hours of video in order to evaluate the work of the filmmakers. Each entry is rated on structure, creative approach, and technical excellence, with special consideration given to the academic level of the student. The judges' scores are calculated and the submissions earning the highest scores are presented at our festival. We would like to thank all of our participants – judges and student filmmakers – for enabling us to create this special program.



After Hours Film Society
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After Hours Film Society Presents

2023 Virtual anim8 student film festival



Premiering
Wednesday, November 8, 2023
afterhoursfilmsociety.com/student-film-fest.html

Thank you for joining us as we showcase the talents
of the award-winning student filmmakers of
After Hours Film Society's 2023
Anim8 Virtual Student Film Festival.

1. "Crumble" by Gabrielle Bautista

Award of Excellence | Undergraduate | Running Time: 2 Mins.

Emmeline, a high-achieving, ambitious young woman with a passion for baking, pursues her childhood dream of opening a café, despite the disapproval of her mother.

2. "Dog Days" by Hailey Bair

Award of Excellence | Undergraduate | Running Time: 3 Mins.

When a young boy wishes for a puppy on his eighth birthday, he is granted a balloon dog instead. Though hesitant at first, the boy soon embraces his new pet and experiences the joys and challenges of pet ownership while facing the unique circumstances posed by a balloon dog.

3. "Roadkill Jamboree" by Megham Graham

Best of Show - Undergraduate | Undergraduate | Running Time: 6 Mins.

This grim yet humorous story centers around a band of five undead animals that represent the many species found along Interstate Highway 5 in California. Each animal meets its demise in a different way, bringing awareness to the various circumstances surrounding the roadkills.

4. "Wish Kazoo" by Billie Witasik

Award of Excellence | Undergraduate | Running Time: 3.5 Mins.

A creature's day is turned around when a magical kazoo mysteriously flies into their window.

5. "Subway" by Robert Kuźniewski

Award of Excellence | Undergraduate | Running Time: 5 Mins.

A train journey becomes extraordinary when a mix of personalities begin to slowly agitate one another. In this contained and claustrophobic space, "Subway" explores the mundane through a peculiar lens that brings the simple premise an imaginative twist.

6. "Doodle" by Isaac Gazmararian

Secondary Filmmaker: Kheyal Roy-Meighoo

Merit | Undergraduate | Running Time: 8 Mins.

In an age of internet communication, Alex chooses to deliver a hand-drawn love note to a classmate. But will the classmate find it before he packs up at the end of the semester? See what happens when the doodled character on the note comes to life and tries to capture the attention of the intended reader.

7. "She's in the Walls" by Merritt Hill

Merit | Undergraduate | Running Time: 3 Mins.

This film, based on the eponymous song written by the director, grew into an investigation of one's relationship with childhood spaces, sensory experiences, and memory. "She's in the Walls" dives into the crossover of what we find comfort in and what scares us the most: memory.

8. "Pipe Dream" by Ronalyn Lourdez Olivares

Merit | Undergraduate | Running Time: 7 Mins.

An insecure and scarred doll is suddenly transported into the social media world, where it desperately finds a way to fit into the unrealistic online beauty standards.

9. "Pop!" by Ruby Wang

Merit | Undergraduate | Running Time: 2 Mins.

A student, experiencing exam anxiety, notices his panic-stricken classmates are coping poorly and facing disastrous results. Racing against time, he must finish the test before suffering the same fate.

10. "Always & Forever" by Dorothy Teng

Finalist | Undergraduate | Running Time: 5 Mins.

A whimsical story about two young girls who happen to meet in a vast world and develop a lifelong friendship with one another. Follow their journey as they go through life's ups-and-downs.

11. "A Garden Within" by Luka Hinic

Secondary Filmmaker: Tristan Wei

Finalist | Undergraduate | Running Time: 4 Mins.

Marshall, a spiritless but curious boy trapped in his destroyed city, is surrounded by loneliness in a colorless society. They enter the representational portal of their inner mind where they transform the desert into a magical, flower filled world. In this bliss, Marshall discovers the power of queer identity, and its ability to change the landscape. But once they leave this transitional space and return to the 'real,' will they be able to hold the hope they have found and bring it back to the outside world?

12. "The Mercenary Magpie" by Kieran Fitzgerald

Finalist | Undergraduate | Running Time: 10 Mins.

Magpie procures a cache of fine jewels, and revels in his new-found fortune. When the most precious diamond ring goes missing, he is quick to accuse his friends of the theft. Through a chain of events, Magpie experiences an epiphany and realizes what is most valuable in life.

13. "Squabble" by Christopher Nguyen

Award of Excellence | Graduate | Running Time: 4 Mins.

Two siblings fight for a TV remote and get zapped into the worlds of their TV.

14. "Be There" by Rachael Britton

Merit | Graduate | Running Time: 3 Mins.

When a young girl's father is unexpectedly absent from her solo ballet performance, she reflects on her relationship with him and his alcoholism. It isn't until she returns home with her mother that she discovers there is more to her father's absence than meets the eye.

15. "Overcast" by Aleksandar Mindov

Best of Show - High School | High School | Running Time: 3 Mins.

A cloud technician discovers the dangers of falling asleep at the wheel.

16. "Lost and Never Found" by Nicholas Buccarelli

Award of Excellence | High School | Running Time: 3 Mins.

An active fox loses his red ball and enters a nightmarish dreamscape while trying to find it.

17. "Not as Straight as This Line" by Marigny Adelman

Merit | High School | Running Time: 4 Mins.

Based on a true story, a middle schooler scribbles down a pun about being queer that they thought was funny. Later they realize they unintentionally outed themselves to their mom when she found and read the pun, causing them apprehension as they await her response to it.

18. "South Dakota Jones and the Lost Temple of RR" by Colton Pence

Award of Excellence | Elementary | Running Time: 6 Mins.

South Dakota Jones goes on an expedition to discover the secrets of the Lost Temple of RR.

19. "Superheroes" by Romeo Jennison

Secondary Filmmaker: Connor Smith

Merit | Elementary | Running Time: 2 Mins.

Three friends try to avenge a stolen bike and become superheroes by using their grandfather's Gamma Ray machine.