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SIDNEY & BERNE DAVIS ART CENTER



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CALUSA PLANETARIUM

MAY 14-18 2025

2025

# FORT MYERS FILM FESTIVAL

[www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com](http://www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com)  
[www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com)



# Events

The Fort Myers Film Festival's 15th annual is set to take place from MAY 14-18, 2025, in and around SWFL at venues including the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, IMAG, Alliance for the Arts, BIG ARTS, Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium, Babcock Ranch, Luminary Hotel and more.

■ **May 14: "Curveballs"** will kick off this year's festivities at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center with a star-studded red carpet rollout reception. The red carpet rollout starts at 6 p.m. The movie begins at 7 p.m. An afterparty will take place on the rooftop of SBDAC. The event will include high fashion, drinks, dancing, music, and filmmakers attending from around the world. Tickets are at [www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com).

The Florida film, produced and directed by John Biffar, follows our nation's only amputee baseball team, the Louisville Sluggers, in a heartwarming tale of resilience and indomitable spirit. Special appearances in the film include legendary one-handed MLB pitcher Jim Abbott. Stars from the film will attend a private reception prior to the screening and will participate in a Q&A session afterward. The evening will feature champagne toasts, paparazzi, delectable treats for VIP guests, and a rooftop afterparty at the SBDAC filled with music, dancing, and unforgettable memories. Tickets are at [www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com).

■ **May 15-18:** Join us for all of the programming at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, IMAG, Alliance for the Arts, BIG ARTS, Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium and Babcock Ranch. (Information on times and tickets are available at each venue, available online and in this brochure.)

■ **May 18:** Finish off the weeklong celebration with a filmmaker panel and discussion, champagne toast and awards ceremony starting at 6 p.m.

## About the Fort Myers Film Festival:

■ **WHAT:** The 15th Annual Fort Myers Film Festival

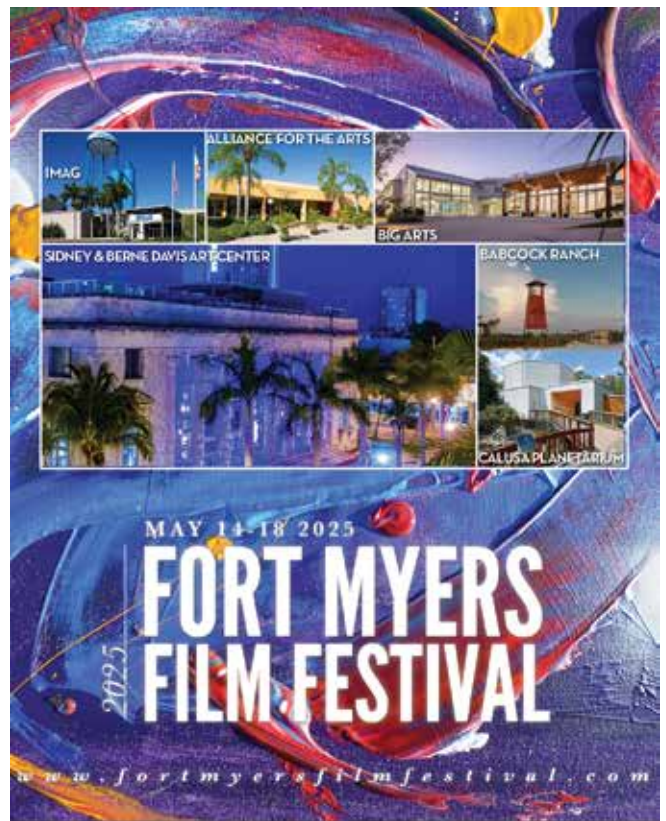
■ **WHEN:** MAY 14-18, 2025

■ **WHERE:** Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, IMAG, Alliance for the Arts, BIG ARTS, Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium, Babcock Ranch, Luminary Hotel, and more.

■ **TICKETS & INFO:** Opening night film is \$20 general admission or \$100 VIP party; Tickets for all other films are \$10-20 per location. Some day passes will be offered for not sold out blocks for \$20-30. For tickets and more information, head to [www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com). VIP memberships are still available, granting access to all private and public parties, panels and screenings. For more information, head to [www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com](http://www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com). For screenings at partner venues, see their websites.

■ **ABOUT:** The Fort Myers Film Festival was awarded the prestigious 2015 Chrysalis Award for Cultural Achievement by the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau and the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce Inc. at its annual Celebration of Business & Tourism Awards Luncheon and Trade Show at the Harborside Event Center in downtown Fort Myers. The Fort Myers Film Festival was founded by Eric Raddatz, the award-winning editor, founder and host of The Eric Raddatz show, as well as the executive director of The Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium where he's brought full dome films as an option to the FMFF. He is also the host of Fort Myers Film Festival's indie film show, "T.G.I.M." among other things.

■ **SUPPORT:** The Fort Myers Film Festival supports Lee County student filmmakers, United Way, Raddatz Foundation, SalusCare, Lighthouse of SWFL, ACT, Kimmie's Recovery Zone, Uncommon Friends, Charity Pros, #KindLee, FODASA, Family Initiative and Golisano's Children's Hospital. Sponsored by and partnered with The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium, Big Arts, Alliance for the Arts, Happenings Magazine, Luminary Hotel, Gulfshore Life Magazine, Seed & Bean, City of Fort Myers, Aux Delices Cafe, Downtown House of Pizza, Starbucks, Babcock Ranch, Pamela Templeton Unlimited, Captiva Spirits, IMAG, J. Bert Davis, Kearns Restaurant Group, Black Tie Tuxedos, Martin Law Firm, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, Notorious Productions Film Fund and the International Olympic Committee supported Fédération Internationale Cinéma Télévision Sportifs.







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Lounge twelve stories above the Caloosahatchee.



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Tee off at a Topgolf Swing Suite Bay.



### Dean Street Coffee & Retail

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### Ella Mae's Diner

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### Oxbow Bar & Grill

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# Welcome

When I first founded the Fort Myers Film Festival, I couldn't have imagined what 15 years would truly mean.

For those of you who have been with us since the beginning—you know what I'm talking about. We've seen stars walk our red carpet that we never dreamed would visit Fort Myers. We've witnessed independent films that moved us in ways we never expected. And we've watched a city evolve through the vibrant lens of an evolving event that brings together people who love great cinema—and love making it, too.

It's been a journey of unity, passion, and creativity.

Sure, we've had our fair share of controversies—that's what happens when you're open to bold ideas and fresh voices. But that's part of the beauty of this festival. We've watched thoughtful, intelligent audiences open their hearts to films that challenge their perspectives. We've learned from one another. We've grown together.

And somewhere along the way, we started making friends. Lifelong friends. Weekend friends. Friends who share popcorn and dreams. (Both kinds are equally cherished.)

This year, we're proud to showcase 94 incredible films across six dynamic venues. Among them is our newest addition, the Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium, where I've had the honor of serving as Executive Director since last June. Did you know it houses the only planetarium within a 90-mile radius? This year, it becomes one of the few places on earth to screen indie dome films—a unique and immersive experience that feels like kismet, the stars truly aligning.

To our sponsors—you could not do this without you. If you see them, thank them. They help make the magic possible.

To our volunteers—you are the heartbeat of the festival. Thank you for showing up, guiding our guests, pouring the wine, and bringing the energy. We hope you enjoy the perks—screenings, parties, and yes, that coveted festival t-shirt!

This year, you'll find us at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, IMAG, Alliance for the Arts, BIG ARTS, Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium, Babcock Ranch, Luminary Hotel, and more. Explore. Discover. Enjoy.

A personal recommendation? Catch a block of shorts. You'll probably fall in love with at least one. They're expertly curated. And if one's not your thing—don't worry—it's short.

I also want to take a moment to remember the incomparable Leoma Lovegrove, at right, —a longtime supporter and dear friend. Her vibrant



spirit lives on through her artwork and through the documentary by John Scoular that captured her essence so beautifully. She will be deeply missed, but never forgotten.

A heartfelt thank you to the City of Fort Myers, and especially Liston Bochette, inset, for your unwavering support. And to my family and close friends, thank you for your patience and understanding when I'm up at 1 a.m. chasing the dream. This festival is my passion, and your encouragement means the world.

So take the week off—May 14–18, 2025. You'll be entertained, enlightened, and maybe even a little transformed.

Follow us on social media, tag us, post your favorite moments, and most of all—don't be shy.

Come say hi. We're just a big, passionate group of film lovers, and we're thrilled to share this celebration with you.

With gratitude,  
Eric





# I'm The Map



**Martin**  
**Law Firm** P.L.



# FMff Schedule @SBDAC



WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025

**SBDAC**  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

7 p.m.  
**CURVEBALLS**  
Red carpet VIP party

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

**SBDAC**  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

11 A.M.  
**COOL SHORTS**  
*Waves Water Wall*  
*Seeding, Blossoming, Fruiting*  
*Sombras Del Pasado*  
*Casting*  
12 p.m.  
**INTERNATIONAL SHORTS**  
33  
*A A Mamá*  
*The Ballad of Majestic Beasts*  
*Static*  
*Assassin*  
*The Space Between*  
1 p.m.  
**UNFORGETTABLE SHORTS**  
*In & Amongst (on Pell St)*  
*Songbird*  
*Bloodshot Eyes*  
*Mother Dig*  
2 p.m.  
**ULTIMATE CITIZENS**  
3 p.m.  
**ON SANIBEL: THE HURRICANE DIARIES**  
4:30 p.m.  
**SANIBEL**  
5:45 p.m.  
**SANIBEL ISLAND'S STORE**  
7 p.m.  
**MR. NOBODY AGAINST PUTIN**  
8:45 p.m.  
**LATE NIGHT SHORTS**  
*The Morgue*  
*Hearts Of Stone*  
*Whispers From The Soul*  
*Best Kept Shut*  
*The Mistakeout*

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025

**SBDAC**  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

12 p.m.  
**SHIELD: THE LIVING WALL OF THE CARIBBEAN**  
1:45 p.m.  
**WHERE THE COTTONWOODS GROW**  
3:10 p.m.  
**THE PERFORMANCE**  
5:00 p.m.  
**AWESOME SHORTS**  
*The Song of the Village*  
*Forgot*  
*Journey Back to Alcedo*  
*Somewhere Out There*  
6:00 p.m.  
**FUN SHORTS**  
*Father Nose Best*  
*In Tango*  
*Her Turn*  
*My Week With Charlie*  
7 p.m.  
**ALL THERE IS**

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025

**SBDAC**  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

11 a.m.  
**MORNING SHORTS**  
*Dead Air*  
*Restore*  
*Kleptocracy*  
*Alive*  
*Small Things*  
12:15 p.m.  
**OUR MOVEMENT STARTS HERE**  
1:45 p.m.  
**LAND OF MERMAIDS**  
3 p.m.  
**DON'T MISS SHORTS**  
*Walk of Generations*  
*Glitter Baby*  
*Rubbernecking*  
*Monch!*  
*Eat The Moon*  
*Love Eternal*  
*Yesterday I Found ...*  
*Red Light Green Light*  
3:45 p.m.  
**TOP FEST SHORTS**  
*My Guardian Angel*  
*The Audition*  
*A Life Well Examined*  
*Back To One*  
*Daniel, My Brother*  
*The Art of Pretending*  
*Everything is Fine*  
5 p.m.  
**MUST WATCH SHORTS**  
*Happy Life*  
*Read / Write*  
*Napkin Salesman*  
*Golden Years*  
*Attempt 101*  
*Trendsetters*  
6 p.m.  
**CLIMBING INTO LIFE**  
7 p.m.  
**CURVEBALLS**

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025

**SBDAC**  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

11 A.M.  
**SUNDAY SHORTS**  
*A City That Cares*  
*Culture War*  
12 p.m.  
**PELELIU; WWII'S MOST WELL PRESERVED BATTLEFIELD**  
1:10 p.m.  
**THE CONSCIOUSNESS CONNECTION**  
3 p.m.  
**ENVIRONMENTAL SHORTS**  
*Blue*  
*Urgent Sea*  
*Hold Our Ground*  
*Friends Not Food*  
*Yellowstone Voices*  
5 P.M.  
**FILMMAKERS PANEL**  
6 P.M. AWARDS CEREMONY AND AFTERPARTY ON THE ROOF

Visit our partner venues this year for films, parties, mixers and more!



For more information head to [www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com](http://www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com)

• Tickets can be purchased for individual films at each venue and at [www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com), [www.artinlee.org](http://www.artinlee.org), [www.bigarts.com](http://www.bigarts.com), [www.calusanature.org](http://www.calusanature.org), [www.theimag.org](http://www.theimag.org), [www.babcockranch.com](http://www.babcockranch.com) and [www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com](http://www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com). For more information head to [www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com](http://www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com). • Purchased VIP tickets will be available for pickup at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, 2301 First Street, Fort Myers FL 33901. Films and short film blocks are priced between \$10-20 at participating locations. • The Fort Myers Film Festival and any participating venues may ask any who aren't following safety or ethical standards to be removed at any time per their discretion. • For updates and voting on your favorite film of the festival go to [www.facebook.com/fortmyersfilmfestival](http://www.facebook.com/fortmyersfilmfestival). • All films are unrated—parents strongly cautioned.





Thank you to our sponsors, partners and friends of FMff



# FMff Schedule @CALUSA @ALLIANCE



**CALUSA PLANETARIUM**  
3450 Ortiz Ave.  
Fort Myers, FL 33905

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

3:15 p.m.  
**DOMES SHORTS 1**  
*Immersive Destin*  
*Exo-Cortex 3.0*  
*Next*

4 p.m.  
**DOMES SHORTS 2**  
*Allies of Ascension*  
*Entre dans la danse*

4:45 p.m.  
**DOMES SHORTS 3**  
*Emersive*  
*Microverse*  
*Machine Visions: Mojave*

5:30  
**VIP PARTY (BY INVITATION ONLY)**

7 p.m.  
**ASTEROID QUEST**

8 p.m.  
**ANTARCTIC URUGUAY 40 YEARS**

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025

**CALUSA PLANETARIUM**  
3450 Ortiz Ave.  
Fort Myers, FL 33905

3:40 p.m.  
**DOMES SHORTS 4**  
*Cosmonaute 360: Time to Fly*  
*I Saw The Future*  
*Recoding Entropia*

4:30 p.m.  
**THIS IS NOT A CEREMONY**

5 p.m.  
**THE JOURNEY**

5:45 p.m.  
**THE EARTH ABOVE: A DEEP TIME VIEW OF AUSTRALIA'S EPIC HISTORY**

6:30 p.m.  
**TOTAL ECLIPSE: CHASERS OF THE LOST SLEEP**

7 p.m.  
**THE GREAT SOLAR SYSTEM ADVENTURE**

7:45 p.m.  
**TEMPORAL**



**ALLIANCE FOR ARTS**  
10091 McGregor Blvd. Fort Myers, Florida 33919

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

11:00 AM  
**ALLIANCE SHORTS 1**  
*In Tango*  
*Culture War*  
*The Audition*  
*Somewhere Out There*

12:00 PM  
**OUR MOVEMENT STARTS HERE**

1:30 PM  
**ALL THERE IS**

3:30 PM  
**WHERE THE COTTONWOODS GROW**

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025

**ALLIANCE FOR ARTS**  
10091 McGregor Blvd. Fort Myers, Florida 33919

11:00 AM  
**CLIMBING TO LIFE**

12:00 PM  
**SANIBEL ISLAND'S STORE**

1:15 PM  
**ALLIANCE SHORTS 2**  
*Friends Not Food*  
*MONCH!*  
*Kleptocracy*  
*Yellowstone Voices*  
*Blue*

2:30 PM  
**ALLIANCE SHORTS 3**  
*Love Eternal*  
*Happy Life*  
*Back to One*  
*Trendsetters*  
*Walk of Generations*  
*Golden Years*

3:30 PM  
**CURVEBALLS**

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025

**ALLIANCE FOR ARTS**  
10091 McGregor Blvd. Fort Myers, Florida 33919

10:00 AM  
**SANIBEL**

11:15 AM  
**PELELIU: WWII'S MOST WELL PRESERVED BATTLEFIELD**

12:30 PM  
**MR. NOBODY AGAINST PUTIN**

2:15 PM  
**ALLIANCE SHORTS 4**  
*The Song of the Village*  
*Restore*  
*Alive*  
*Read/Write*  
*Forgot*  
*Mother*  
*Casting*

3:30 PM  
**ALLIANCE SHORTS 5**  
*Assassin*  
*Songbird*  
*Static*  
*Bloodshot Eyes*  
*Dig*  
*The Morgue*  
*Red Light Green Light*  
*Dead Air*  
*Best Kept Shut*

Visit our partner venues this year for films, parties, mixers and more!



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# @BABCOCK @BIG ARTS @IMAG



**BABCOCK RANCH**  
43281 Cypress Pkwy,  
Punta Gorda, FL 33982



**BIG ARTS**  
900 Dunlop Rd,  
Sanibel, FL 33957



**IMAG**  
2000 Cranford Ave, Fort  
Myers, FL 33916

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

5:00 p.m.  
**MY GUARDIAN  
ANGEL**

**YELLOWSTONE  
VOICES**

5:45 p.m.  
**CLIMBING INTO  
LIFE**

7:00 p.m.  
**CURVEBALLS**

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

7 p.m..  
**SANIBEL**

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025

**BIG ARTS**  
900 Dunlop Rd,  
Sanibel, FL 33957

7 pm  
**CURVEBALLS**

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025

**BIG ARTS**  
900 Dunlop Rd,  
Sanibel, FL 33957

7 pm  
**JOURNEY BACK  
TO ALCEDO**

**CLIMBING INTO  
LIFE**

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025

12 p.m.  
**SHORTS BLOCK 1**  
*The Ballad of Majestic  
Beasts*  
*Hold Our Ground*  
*Read / Write*  
*My Week With Charlie*  
*Yellowstone Voices*

1 p.m.  
**PELELIU: WWII'S  
MOST WELL  
PRESERVED  
BATTLEFIELD**

2:30 p.m.  
**LAND OF  
MERMAIDS**

3:15 p.m.  
**CLIMBING INTO  
LIFE**

Visit our partner venues this year for films, parties, mixers and more!



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# Films

Official selections for the 15th annual Fort Myers Film Festival to be held MAY 14-18, 2025 at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center unless otherwise noted. For offsite films check [www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com](http://www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com). \*Times and schedule are subject to change. Please check the website for all upcoming events.

## Wednesday 5.14.25

@ Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901  
[www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com)

Tickets are \$20 GA / \$100 VIP

### 7 P.M. Curveballs

*Directed by John Biffar*  
1 hr 30 min

Synopsis: The inspiring story of America's only amputee baseball team, The Louisville Sluggers. *Feature, Strictly Local, United States, SWFL*

## Thursday 5.15.25

@ Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901  
[www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com)

Tickets are \$10 GA / \$100 VIP

### 11 A.M. WavesWaterWall

*Directed by Barbara Peikert 8 min*

Synopsis: A castaway is transformed into a tsunami by monstrous waves. *Shorts, Switzerland*

### Seeding, Blossoming, Fruiting

*Directed by Junsong Ling 16 min*

Synopsis: Ailing mother kills a vagrant to save her son; a story of exploitation and violence. *Shorts, China*

### Curveballs

5.14@7p.m.  
SBDAC

5.15@7p.m.  
BABCOCK

5.16@3:30p.m.  
Alliance

5.16@7p.m.  
BIG ARTS

5.17@7p.m.  
SBDAC



### Sombras Del Pasado

*Directed by Samuel Correa, Juan Martinez 14 min*  
Synopsis: Claudia, an ordinary mother, struggles with her extraordinary past and uncertain future in pursuit of the American Dream. *Student, United States*

### Casting

*Directed by Victor Devesa 8 min*  
Synopsis: An actress auditions for a leading role. *Shorts, Spain*

### 12 P.M. 33

*Directed by Drew Cook 5 min*  
Synopsis: Before Samara Morgan, there was God. *Short Shorts, United States*

### A A Mamá

*Directed by Juan Escribano Tamayo 4 min*  
Synopsis: A marriage, a daughter, a new cell phone, and a weekend - who is in charge? *Short Shorts, Spain*

### The Ballad of Majestic Beasts

*Directed by Dhimas Nugraha 9 min*  
Synopsis: A forbidden love story between a lion and a white deer in the wilderness. *Shorts, Indonesia*

### Static

*Directed by Drew Cook 5 min*  
Synopsis: A father and daughter try to survive during an emergency. *Short Shorts, United States*

### Assassin

*Directed by Debra Markowitz, 9 min*  
Anthony's apocalyptic beliefs push his wife to leave, but his son intervenes when an intruder forces Anthony to take action. *Shorts, United States*

### The Space Between

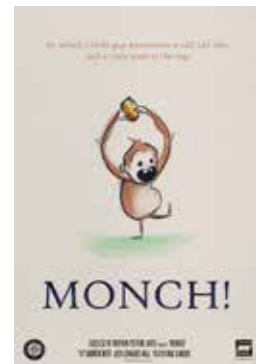
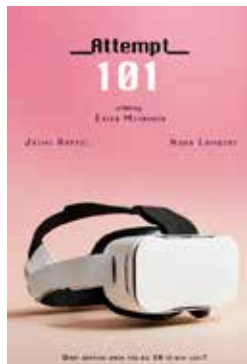
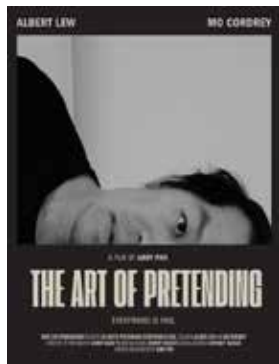
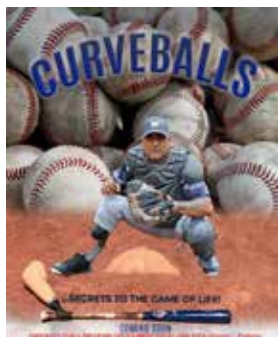
*Directed by Luke Baker 19 min*  
Synopsis: Two college students from different worlds form a deep connection. *Shorts, United States*

### 1 P.M. In & Amongst (on Pell St)

*Directed by Ben Wolf, 4 min*  
This short film explores the relationship between a person and their neighborhood as time passes and changes unfold. *Short Shorts, United States*

### Songbird

*Directed by Jonathan Horton 17 min*  
Synopsis: A jazz singer's revolutionary lyrics capture the attention of 1930s Harlem and the FBI. *Student, United States*





## Bloodshot Eyes

Submitted by Munisa Usarova 5 min

Synopsis: A horror short about a disturbing event.

Shorts, Student, Uzbekistan

## Mother

Directed by Pablo Olewski 11 min

Synopsis: A middle-aged actress faces conflict with a top director in a tense professional and personal clash.

Shorts, Spain

## Dig

Directed by Jandro 12 min

Synopsis: A man is digging a clandestine grave in the forest when he's discovered.

Shorts, Spain

2 P.M.

## Ultimate Citizens

Directed by Francine Strickwerda 52 min

Synopsis: Jamshid, an Iranian guidance counselor in Seattle Public Schools, impacts refugee children with his fiery, funny, and loving attitude, proving that "love wins."

Documentaries, United States

3 P.M.

## On Sanibel: The Hurricane Diaries

Directed by Laura Jane DeBruce 1hr 22 min

Synopsis: The story of Hurricane Ian and its aftermath, focusing on residents' efforts to rebuild their lives on Sanibel Island.

Documentaries, Strictly local, Environment, United States

4:30 P.M.

## Sanibel

Directed by Herbert James Winterstern, 1h 6 min

A documentary about seashells, grief, and a community devastated by Florida's largest storm.

Documentaries, United States

5:45 P.M.

## Sanibel Island's Store

Submitted by Janine Zeitlin 57 min

Synopsis: Sanibel Island's Store traces the journey of a family, a small business, and an island determined to rebuild and thrive after Hurricane Ian in 2022.

Strictly local, United States

7 P.M.

## Mr. Nobody Against Putin

Directed by David Borenstein 1 hr 30 min

Synopsis: A Russian teacher documents his school's transformation into a war recruitment center during the Ukraine invasion.

Feature, Russia

8:45 P.M.

## The Morgue

Directed by Majid Farzolah 1 min

Synopsis: A zombie girl emerges from the morgue, horrified by The Ring on the TV.

Shorts, Iran

## Hearts Of Stone

Directed by Tom Van Avermet, 30 min

A street artist searches for her beloved stone sculpture, only to find it replaced, leading her on a frantic journey to revive it.

Shorts, Belgium, Croatia

## Whispers From The Soul

Directed by Gareth Rockcliffe, 4 min

A short about listening to the voice within, guiding us toward our true path.

Short Shorts, United States

## Best Kept Shut

Directed by Gabriel Lopez 13 min

Synopsis: A young woman discovers a hidden, locked door in the house where her father has gone missing.

Shorts, Student, United States

## The Mistakeout

Directed by TL Westgate 5 min

Synopsis: Strictly local, United States

Friday 5.16.25

@ Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center

2301 First Street,

Fort Myers, FL 33901

www.sbdac.com

Tickets are \$10 GA / \$30 ALL DAY

12 P.M.

## Shield: The Living Wall of the Caribbean

Directed by Mario Cuesta Hernando, 1hr 30 min

A documentary on the vital role of mangroves and coral reefs in protecting the Caribbean, and the fight to preserve them.

Environment, Spain

1:45 P.M.

## Where the Cottonwoods Grow

Directed by Dale Hildebrand, 1h 10 min

The story of Mennonites' 1874 migration from Imperial Russia, enduring trials in the West.

Documentaries, Canada

3:10 P.M.

## The Performance

Directed by Stephen Wallis, 1hr 40 min

A drama about an actor preparing for a one-night-only performance, reflecting on his life and regrets.

Features, Canada

5:00 P.M.

## The Song of the Village

Directed by Zhehan Zhang, 6 min

A student documentary on Wengding, China's last primitive village, preserving oral histories and fading traditions.

Documentaries, Shorts, Student, China

## Forgot

Directed by Jiahe Guo, 5 min

A boy's visit to his grandmother with Alzheimer's reveals the contrast in care between family and a compassionate caregiver.

Short Shorts, China

## Journey Back to Alcedo

Directed by Gianna Haro Vallazza, 25 min

Two 70-year-old friends return to the Galápagos Islands to continue their work in conservation, highlighting the need for more women in science.

Shorts, Environment, Ecuador

## Somewhere Out There

Directed by Julio Aceituno, Barkın Öztürk 13 min

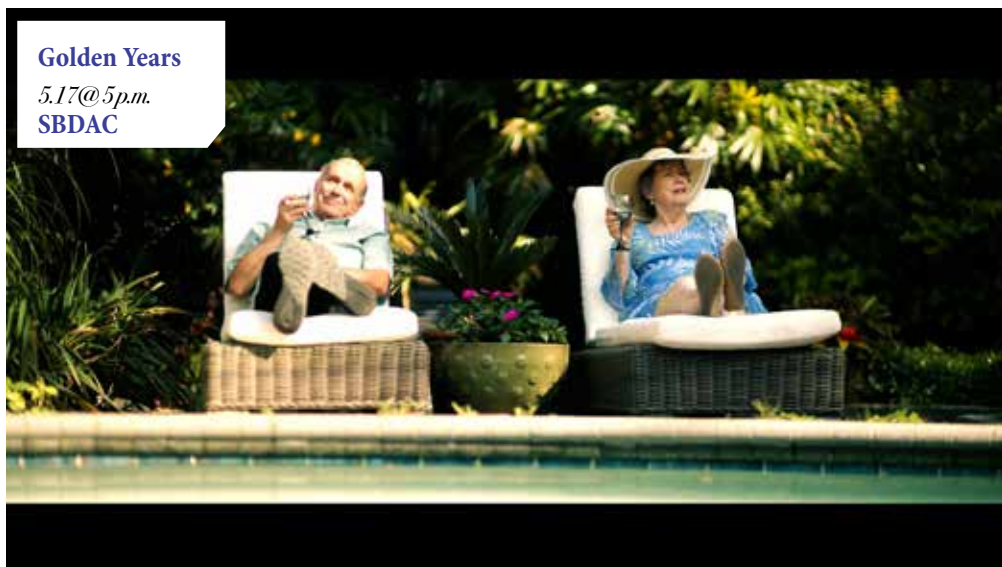
Synopsis: A Virginia artist who becomes legally blind finds acceptance through an unlikely muse.

Student, United States

## Golden Years

5.17@5p.m.

SBDAC





## Friday 5.16.25

@ Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901  
www.sbdac.com  
Tickets are \$10 GA / \$30 ALL DAY

6:00 P.M.

### Father Nose Best

*Directed by Wendy J. White 10 min*

Synopsis: A dentist must save his girlfriend and the world from a mysterious virus that causes people to stop laughing.

*Strictly local, United States*

### In Tango

*Submitted by Marilu Garbi 9 min*

Synopsis: A widow, stuck in the past, finds healing through the dance of tango.

*Shorts, United States*

### Her Turn

*Directed by Melissa Skirboll 15 min*

Synopsis: A devoted wife/mother faces her past as she downsizes her family home, discovering unexpected turns in her life.

*Shorts, United States*

### My Week With Charlie

*Directed by Matthew Villegas 9 min*

Synopsis: Matt embarks on a transformative journey of bonding with his friend Sam's dog, Charlie.

*Shorts, United States*

7 P.M.

### All There Is

*Directed by Kit Williamson 1 hr 52 min*

**Starring:** Jason Priestley, Mena Suvari, Laurel Marsden, Elsie Fisher, Nick E. Tarabay, Shiv Pai  
Synopsis: A teenager's life unravels when a tragedy is blamed on her filmmaker father's controversial sci-fi movie. \*Contains suicide theme, parents cautioned.

*Feature, United States*

## Saturday 5.17.25

@ Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901  
www.sbdac.com  
Tickets are \$10 GA / \$30 ALL DAY

11 A.M.

### Dead Air

*Directed by Brad Etter 14 min*

Synopsis: A woman hears mysterious messages from a vintage radio and tries to convince her dismissive husband.

*Shorts, United States*

### Restore

*Submitted by Vyky Saiz 7 min*

Synopsis: A post-apocalyptic drama about the last man on Earth using holographic tech to recreate memories with his partner.

*Student, United States*

### Kleptocracy

*Directed by Alexander Flores 7 min*

Synopsis: A young campaign planner uncovers a devastating secret about her candidate, forcing her to decide between compliance and exposing the truth.

*Student, United States*

### Alive

*Directed by Daniel Ortiz, Sharetha Davis 6 min*

Synopsis: A man buys an AI robot to help with daily needs, but the robot realizes it is alive and no longer wants to be a "Toy Robot."

*Shorts, United States*

### Small Things

*Directed by Angela Andronache 12 min*

Synopsis: Sarah's anxiety grows as small worries overwhelm her, leading her to confront a mysterious surprise outside her door.

*Shorts, United States*

12:15 P.M.

### Our Movement Starts Here

*Directed by John Rash, Melanie Dang Ho 1hr 22 min*

Synopsis: A rural community raised awareness of deadly environmentally racist practices, inspiring the environmental justice movement in North Carolina.

*Environment, United States*

### All There Is

5.16@ 7p.m.

SBDAC

5.15@ 1:30p.m.

ALLIANCE





## Yellowstone Voices

5.18@3p.m.

SBDAC

5.16@1:15p.m.

ALLIANCE

5.15@5p.m.

BABCOCK

5.17@12p.m.

IMAG



1:45 P.M.

### Land of Mermaids

*Directed by Sergio B Figuera, 60 min*

Explores the cultural and financial impact of mermaids in Florida.

*Documentaries, United States*

3 P.M.

### Walk of Generations

*Directed by Delaney Mann 2 min*

Synopsis: A young artist at a thrift store discovers a magical pair of Dr. Martens that connect her to the boots' previous owners.

*Short Shorts, Student, United State*

### Glitter Baby

*Directed by Kathleen Renee Krenitsky, 3 min*

A whimsical short blending lullaby and dance, evoking the magic of childhood and dreams.

*Short Shorts, United States*

### Rubbernecking

*Directed by E. K. M. Watson 3 min*

Synopsis: Anna is commuting to work when she comes across a disturbing car accident.

*Short Shorts, United States*

### Monch!

*Directed by Mia Rae Sunday 3 min*

Synopsis: A tiny orangutan tries to get a mango dangling high in a tree.

*Student, United States*

### Eat The Moon

*Directed by Majid Farzolahy 1 min*

Synopsis: A monster eats the moon.

*Short Shorts, Iran*

### Love Eternal

*Directed by Dominic Czarnota 13 min*

Synopsis: A husband becomes obsessed with a virtual reality simulation of his deceased wife, leading him through grief and technology.

*Student, United States*

### Yesterday I Found ...

*Directed by Kinga Klajbor 2 min*

Synopsis: A surreal animated short about things from daily life.

*Short Shorts, Poland*

### Red Light Green Light

*Directed by Corey Grispo 2 min*

Synopsis: A mysterious man presses green and red buttons.

*Short Shorts, United States*

3:45 P.M.

### My Guardian Angel

*Directed by Nya Chambless, 22 min*

Synopsis: A schoolgirl befriends a unique classmate and unravels the mystery of her bullied existence.

*Short, Strictly Local, United States*

### The Audition

*Directed by Victoria DeMartin, 6 min*

A short film by New York writer and director Victoria DeMartin, showcasing her filmmaking journey. The Audition was commissioned by Nikon for their Z6III camera campaign.

*Shorts, United States*

### A Life Well Examined

*Directed by Ralph Klisiewicz, 5 min*

A wife writes a letter about the rare individuals who guide us to examine our lives.

*Short Shorts, United States*

### Back To One

*Directed by Nathan Wallace & Victor H Muriel, 5 min*

A comedic short where directors continuously reset film sets in Fort Myers, Florida.

*Short Shorts, Strictly Local, United States*

### Daniel, My Brother

*Directed by Nicholas Markart, 11 min*

After a heart transplant, single father Steve Hilfiker embarks on an emotional journey to meet his donor's family.

*Documentaries, Shorts, United States*

### The Art of Pretending Everything is Fine

*Directed by Abby Pan 7 min*

Synopsis: John, overwhelmed by life's chaos, follows a self-help video teaching him to smile through the pain, but absurdity ensues.

*Student, United States*



## Saturday 5.17.25

@ Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901  
www.sbdac.com  
Tickets are \$10 GA / \$30 ALL DAY

5 P.M.

### Happy Life

*Directed by Sara Caldwell, 9 min*

A stop-motion animation about an elderly woman who overcomes loneliness with the help of three balloons and a mysterious stranger  
*Shorts, United States*

### Read / Write

*Directed by William Allen, 8 min*

A short film exploring how technology reshapes our patterns and agreements.  
*Shorts, United States*

### Napkin Salesman

*Directed by Christian X Pyles, 3 min*

A napkin salesman struggles with insecurities while trying to make a sale to his perfect customer.  
*Shorts, United States*

### Golden Years

*Directed by Tim Ritter 15 min*

Synopsis: An aging couple breaks into rich people's homes and throws themselves parties, but their retirement adventures may be coming to an end.  
*Shorts, United States*

### Attempt 101

*Directed by Erika Miyamoto 6 min*

Synopsis: Martyn replays his first date with his dream girl in virtual reality, learning that being himself is enough.  
*Shorts, United States*

### Trendsetters

*Directed by Alexis Baca 8 min*

Synopsis: Four famous clothing designers make a side bet that they can create off-the-wall fashion designs the public will wear.  
*Shorts, United States*

### Songbird

5.15@ 1p.m.

SBDAC

5.17@ 3:30p.m.

ALLIANCE



6 P.M.

### Climbing into Life

*Directed by Melissa J Davey, 52 min*

The inspiring story of Dierdre Wolownick, the oldest woman to climb El Capitan. Initially not athletic, she found her passion for running and climbing in her 60s, mentored by her son, Alex Honnold of Free Solo.  
*Documentaries, United States*

7 P.M.

### Curveballs

*Directed by John Biffar 1 hr 30 min*

Synopsis: The inspiring story of America's only amputee baseball team, The Louisville Sluggers.  
*Feature, Strictly Local, United States, SWFL*

## Sunday 5.18.25

@ Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center  
2301 First Street,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901  
www.sbdac.com  
Tickets are \$10 GA / \$30 ALL DAY

11 A.M.

### A City That Cares

*Directed by Aaron Hosé, 14 min*

A legal educator reflects on her journey along the US- Mexico border, highlighting compassion in a Texas community.  
*Shorts, United States*

### Culture War

*Directed by Celi Mitidieri 27 min*

Synopsis: A small Liberal Arts College in Sarasota, FL finds itself in a culture war against the government for the basic right of educational freedom. Now, the community must learn how to find resistance amid a reality they didn't sign up for.  
*Documentaries, Shorts, Student, United States*

12 P.M.

### Peleliu; WWII's Most Well Preserved Battlefield

*Directed by Tim Gray, 56 min*

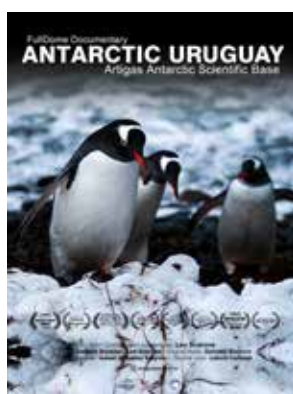
A documentary on the remote Pacific island of Peleliu, preserved as one of WWII's most dangerous and untouched battlefields.  
*Documentaries, United States*

1:10 P.M.

### The Consciousness Connection

*Directed by David C Beaty, 1hr 30 min*

A documentary exploring the mystery of consciousness, through research in biology, psychology, and quantum theory.  
*Documentaries, United States*





### 3 P.M. Blue

*Directed by Amy Cristina Lam 8 min*

Synopsis: A sea-turtle's tumor growth is believed to be human-induced, urging action.  
*Documentaries, United States*

### Urgent Sea

*Directed by Karlyn Hoon 8 min*

Synopsis: Researchers race to save coral nurseries from bleaching in the summer of 2023.  
*Environment, United States*

### Hold Our Ground

*Directed by Jaime Jacobsen, 10 min*

This documentary highlights the importance of soil health in the Rocky Mountain West. Featuring Colorado farmers and ranchers, it explores how they adapt to climate change and practice conservation agriculture.  
*Environment, United States*

### Friends Not Food

*Directed by Peter Stray, 30 min*

Rachel, a city worker, joins a struggling farm sanctuary, learning life lessons and working to save the sanctuary.  
*Shorts, Environment, United States*

### Yellowstone Voices

*Directed by Greg Cairns 12 min*

Synopsis: A political story about the mass slaughters of Yellowstone bison and potential solutions for managing wild bison populations.  
*Environment, United States*

### 5 P.M. FILMMAKERS PANEL

### 6 P.M. AWARDS CEREMONY AND AFTERPARTY



## Thursday 5.15.25 CNCP

@ Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium  
3450 Ortiz Ave.  
Fort Myers, FL 33905  
www.calusanature.org  
Tickets are \$15 GA

### 3:15 P.M. Immersive

*Directed by Jeremy Oury & Antoine Briot, 9 min*  
An immersive experience blending op art and minimalism, exploring illusions and perspectives.  
*Dome Film, France*

### Destin

*Directed by Jeremy Oury, 6 min*  
A 360° immersive experience envisioning a space journey through nebulae and celestial objects.  
*Dome Film, France*

### Exo-Cortex 3.0

*Directed by Jeremy Oury, 8 min*

A dreamlike introspective journey exploring human identity and digital evolution through immersive visuals.  
*Dome Film, France*

### Next

*Directed by Jeremy Oury, 6 min*

A predictive, nightmarish vision of humanity's future, depicting devastated landscapes and a changed environment.  
*Dome Film, France*

### 4 P.M.

### Allies of Ascension

*Directed by Pierre Lapointe, Andrea Gozzi 6 min*

Synopsis: A film that pays homage to transformative individuals, or 'allies of social ascension.'  
*Dome Film, Canada*

### Entrez dans la danse

*Directed by Julie Desmet Weaver, 18 min*

An immersive experience inspired by the 1518 Dancing Plague. Combining theater, dance, and cinema, the audience becomes part of the narrative, joining in the movement as they witness the distress of a population affected by rigid authorities.  
*Dome Film, France*

### 4:45 P.M.

### Emersive

*Directed by Jeremy Oury & Antoine Briot, 6 min*

A mesmerizing, futuristic journey through microcosms and vibrant visuals with a synthwave soundtrack.  
*Dome Film, France*

### Microverse

*Directed by Pat Clark, 6 min*

A visual exploration of microscopic structures, showcasing their beauty in a planetarium setting.  
*Dome Film, United States*

### Machine Visions: Mojave

*Directed by Steve F. Anderson, 6 min*

A hemispherical music video documenting the Mojave Desert using aerial 360° video and photogrammetry. The film blends real images with software models, exploring the fragile Joshua Tree ecosystem and technological perspectives of the landscape.  
*Dome Film, United States*

### 5:30

### VIP ONLY PARTY BY INVITATION ONLY

### 7 P.M.

### Asteroid Quest

*Directed by Bertrand Jack Daniel LOYER, 40 min*

Explore the science behind asteroids, their potential threats, and secrets they hold about the formation of the solar system. This documentary uncovers the work of space agencies sending unmanned missions to asteroids, collecting samples, and studying ways to deflect asteroids from colliding with Earth.  
*Dome Film, France*

### 8 P.M.

### Antarctic Uruguay 40 years

*Directed by Leo Scarone, 33 min*

A documentary filmed over four years at the Artigas Antarctic Scientific Base, focusing on the people, military crews, and scientists, as well as the region's fauna and landscapes. The first documentary filmed with 360 technology in Uruguay, aimed at reaching the entire country through immersive FullDome and VR.  
*Dome Film, Uruguay*

### My Guardian Angel

5.17@3:45p.m.

SBDAC

5.15@5p.m.

BABCOCK



## Friday 5.16.25 CNCP

@ Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium  
3450 Ortiz Ave.  
Fort Myers, FL 33905  
www.calusanature.org  
Tickets are \$10 GA / \$30 ALL DAY

3:40 P.M.

### Cosmonaute 360: Time to Fly

Directed by Jesús Pérez Irigoyen, 12 min  
Captain Bani and her crew embark on a thrilling time- traveling mission during the industrial revolution, racing against time to return a mysterious egg to its rightful place. The journey features extinct plants, animals, and breathtaking landscapes.

*Dome Film, Mexico*

### I Saw The Future

Directed by François Vautier, 6 min  
In 1964, Arthur C. Clarke shared his vision of the future, predicting the digital age, AI, and space travel. This experimental 3D virtual reality film immerses viewers in Clarke's futuristic predictions, reflecting on his impact on technology and space exploration.

*Dome Film, France*

### Recoding Entropia

Directed by François Vautier, 9 min  
In the vastness of space and time, an immense tetrahedron delivers a mysterious message through its changing form, offering an enigmatic journey through nothingness.

*Dome Film, France*

4:30 P.M.

### This is Not a Ceremony

Directed by Colin (Ahnahktsipiitaa) Van Loon 21 min  
Synopsis: In a dream-like world, two Indigenous trickster poets guide us through narratives that challenge our notions of personal responsibility while exploring the darker realities of Indigenous life in Canada.

*Dome Film, Canada*

5 P.M.

### The Journey

Directed by Jahna Perricone 22 min  
Synopsis: A visual music film for fulldome and VR, The Journey explores life's transformation from formless mystery to form and back. Featuring music from Michael and Jahna Perricone's upcoming album, it blends Tibetan singing bowls, world instruments, and ethereal vocals. The Perricones, seasoned performers, share their mindful music through soundbaths, retreats, and online experiences.

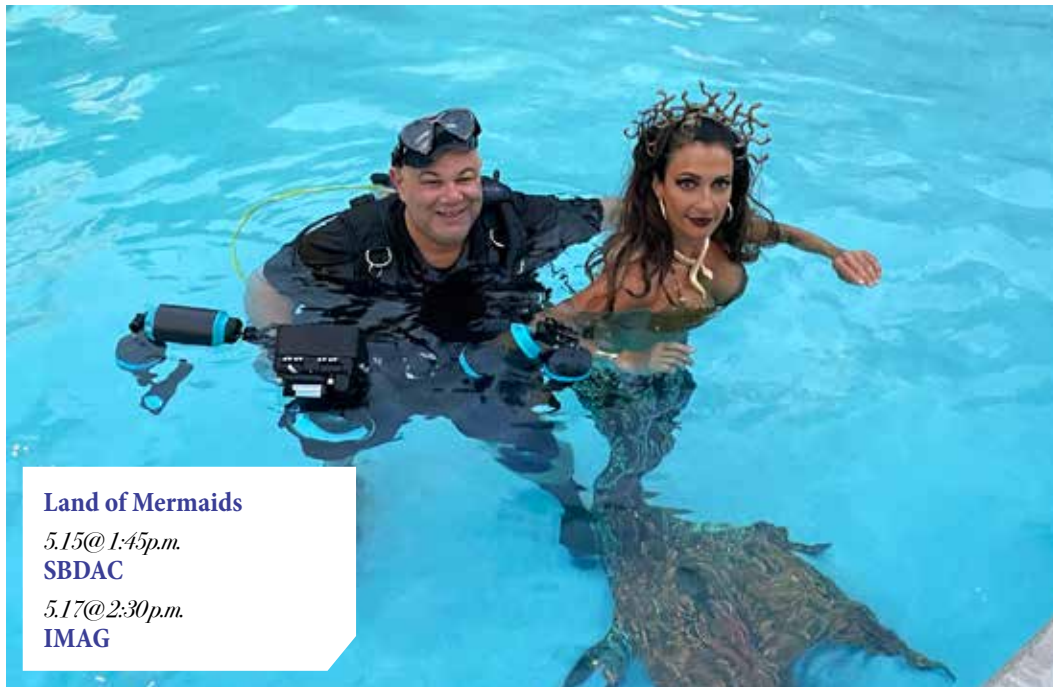
*Dome Show, United States*

5:45 P.M.

### The Earth Above: A Deep Time View of Australia's Epic History

Directed by Ruwe Collective, 28 min  
A full-dome show combining First Nations stories and scientific knowledge, exploring Australia's ancient history.

*Dome Film, Australia*



### Land of Mermaids

5.15@ 1:45p.m.

SBDAC

5.17@ 2:30p.m.

IMAG

6:30 P.M.

### Total Eclipse: Chasers of the Lost Sleep

Directed by François Guinaudeau & Sébastien Carrière, 25 min

Join scientists as they venture to remote lands to observe the rare and beautiful total solar eclipse. The film captures the excitement of this celestial event and its cultural significance around the world.

*Dome Film, France*

7 P.M.

### The Great Solar System Adventure

Directed by Max Crow, 26 min  
Join "The Great Schiaparelli" on a thrilling space adventure through the Solar System.

*Dome Film, United Kingdom*

7:45 P.M.

### Temporal

Directed by Jean-François Ethier, Dominic St-Amant 39 min

Synopsis: Fleeing imminent death from an incurable disease, an astronaut takes refuge in a slower space-time continuum in the hope of returning to see his young daughter grown to adulthood.

*Dome Film, Canada*



## Thursday 5.15.25 AFTA

@ Alliance for the Arts  
10091 McGregor Boulevard Fort Myers, Florida 33919  
ArtInLee.org  
239-851-2520

Tickets are \$10 GA / \$20 ALL DAY (only Matinees)

11:00 AM

### In Tango, Culture War, The Audition, Somewhere Out There

12:00 PM

### Our Movement Starts Here

1:30 PM

### All There Is

3:30 PM

### Where the Cottonwoods Grow

## Friday 5.16.25 AFTA

@ Alliance for the Arts  
10091 McGregor Boulevard  
Fort Myers, Florida 33919  
ArtInLee.org  
Tickets are \$10 GA / \$20 ALL DAY (only Matinees)

11:00 AM

### Climbing to Life

12:00 PM

### Sanibel Island's Store

1:15 PM

### Friends Not Food, MONCHI!, Kleptocracy, Yellowstone Voices, Blue

2:30 PM

### Love Eternal, Happy Life, Back to One, Trendsetters, Walk of Generations, Golden Years

3:30 PM

### Curveballs



## Saturday 5.17.25 AFTA

@ Alliance for the Arts  
10091 McGregor Boulevard  
Fort Myers, Florida 33919  
ArtInLee.org

Tickets are \$10 GA / \$20 ALL DAY (only Matinees)

10:00 AM  
**Sanibel**

11:15 AM  
**Peleliu: WWII's Most Well Preserved Battlefield**

12:30 PM  
**Mr. Nobody Against Putin**

2:15 PM  
**The Song of the Village, Restore, Alive, Read/Write, Forgot, Mother, Casting**

3:30 PM  
**Assassin, Songbird, Static, Bloodshot Eyes, Dig, The Morgue, Red Light Green Light, Dead Air, Best Kept Shut**



## Thursday 5.15.25 BR

@ Babcock Ranch  
43281 Cypress Parkway, Punta Gorda, FL 33982  
www.babcockranchliving.com  
Ticket Price: First Come I Free

5:00 P.M.  
**My Guardian Angel**  
*Directed by Nya Chambless | 22 min*  
*Short, Strictly Local, United States*  
A bullied schoolgirl discovers friendship, mystery, and resilience in a classmate.

**Yellowstone Voices**  
*Directed by Greg Cairns | 12 min*  
*Environment, United States*  
Examining bison conservation, Indigenous perspectives, and wildlife management.

5:45 P.M.  
**Climbing Into Life**  
*Directed by Melissa J Davey | 52 min*  
*Documentaries, United States*  
The story of Dierdre Wolownick—the oldest woman to climb El Capitan—mentored by her son, Alex Honnold.

7:00 P.M.  
**Curveballs**  
*Directed by John Biffar | 1 hr 30 min*  
*Feature, Strictly Local, United States, SWFL*  
The uplifting journey of America's only amputee baseball team, The Louisville Sluggers.

### Mr. Nobody Against Putin

5.15@ 7p.m.

SBDAC

5.17@ 12:30p.m.

Alliance



## Thursday 5.15.25 BA

@ BIG ARTS  
900 Dunlop Rd, Sanibel, FL 33957  
BIGARTS.org

THURSDAY MAY 15  
7 PM  
**Sanibel**

## Friday 5.16.25 BA

@ BIG ARTS  
900 Dunlop Rd, Sanibel, FL 33957  
BIGARTS.org

7 PM  
**Curveballs**

## Saturday 5.17.25 BA

@ BIG ARTS  
900 Dunlop Rd, Sanibel, FL 33957  
BIGARTS.org

7 PM  
**Journey Back to Alcedo Climbing Into Life**



## Saturday 5.17.25 IMAG

@ IMAG  
2000 Cranford Ave,  
Fort Myers, FL 33916  
www.theimag.org

12 P.M.  
SHORTS BLOCK 1  
**The Ballad of Majestic Beasts**  
*Directed by Dhimas Nugraha | 9 min*  
*Shorts, Indonesia*  
A forbidden love story between a lion and a white deer in the wilderness.

### Hold Our Ground

*Directed by Jaime Jacobsen | 10 min*  
*Environment, United States*  
Farmers and ranchers in the Rocky Mountain West adapt to climate change through conservation agriculture.

### Read / Write

*Directed by William Allen | 8 min*  
*Shorts, United States*  
Exploring how technology reshapes communication, cognition, and relationships.

### My Week With Charlie

*Directed by Matthew Villegas | 9 min*  
*Shorts, United States*  
A heartwarming journey of friendship between a man and his friend's dog.

### Yellowstone Voices

*Directed by Greg Cairns | 12 min*  
*Environment, United States*  
Examining bison conservation, Indigenous perspectives, and wildlife management.

### 1 P.M. Peleliu: WWII's Most Well Preserved Battlefield

*Directed by Tim Gray | 56 min*  
*Documentaries, United States*  
An in-depth look at the Pacific's preserved battlefield—one of WWII's deadliest sites.

2:30 P.M.

### Land of Mermaids

*Directed by Sergio B Figuera | 60 min*  
*Documentaries, United States*  
Explores the cultural, historical, and economic impact of mermaids in Florida.

3:15 P.M.

### Climbing Into Life

*Directed by Melissa J Davey | 52 min*  
*Documentaries, United States*  
The story of Dierdre Wolownick—the oldest woman to climb El Capitan—mentored by her son, Alex Honnold.

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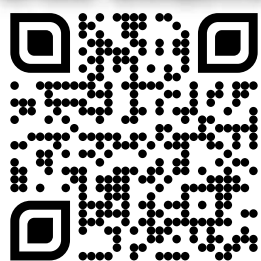


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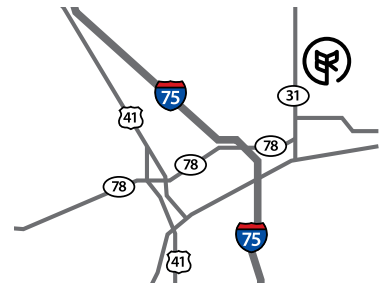
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