SOUVENIR PROGRAM



Laemmle NoHo Theatre

5240 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601 www.reelrecoveryfilmfestival.org

WRITERS IN TREATMENT

Writers In Treatment (WIT) offers free referrals to local and national treatment providers for individuals suffering from alcoholism or addiction. We publish the weekly Addiction/ Recovery eBulletin® and produce the national REEL Recovery Film Festival & Symposium® and the Experience, Strength & Hope Awards Show.®

Writers In Treatment produces and presents culturally significant events dedicated to improving the quality of recovery by reducing stigmas associated with alcoholism and addiction. We believe it's important for people in recovery, and those on the cusp, to have entertaining and culturally stimulating events that inspire enthusiasm for clean and sober living.

The REEL Recovery Film Festival & Symposium®

A multi-city event celebrating films that focus on addiction, alcoholism and sobriety. This festival and symposium offers direct interaction with filmmakers, addiction specialists, therapists and others who share an appreciation for films that honestly portray the journey through addiction to recovery, and the valuable life lessons learned.

Writers in Treatment:

Leonard Lee Buschel: Founder, Chairman Ahbra Schiff, Co-Producer Chris Lukather, Graphic Designer Elizabeth Narayan, Staff

P.O. Box 1745, Studio City, CA 91614 818-762-0461

www.writersintreatment.org



FRIDAY OCTOBER 11



OPENING NIGHT EVENT- \$25 AT THE DOOR

5:00 PM The No Matter What Club - LA Premiere ((2019) Friends, Susan and Maria, find a way to eat, NOT drink and be merry, on Susan's 28th sober anniversary. Directed by Susan Campanaro. 24 minutes IN PERSON: director and star Susan Campanaro



6:00 PM Opening Night Reception

Generously sponsored by New Directions for Women

The Federal NoHo

15303 Lankershim Blvd. (directly across from the Laemmle)



7:45 PM Through The Eyes of Our Children

(2018) Introduction by Sue Bright, Executive Director of New Directions for Women. Directed by Kevin Hanlon. 5 minutes

IN PERSON: Sue Bright, Exec. Dir., New Directions for Women



8:00 PM Rocketman (on the big screen)

(2019) The epic musical fantasy about the incredible human story of Élton John's breakthrough years. Directed by Dexter Fletcher. 121 minutes

IN PERSON: Bassist Paul ILLs (Pink, Juliette Lewis, Christina Aguillera)

SATURDAY OCTOBER 12



1:00 PM Roll With Me

(2017) After hitting rock-bottom, a paraplegic (Gabriel Cordell) goes on a 3,100 mile wheelchair trek across America. Directed by Lisa France. 90 minutes

IN PERSON: star Gabriel Cordell, producer Sharon Swart



DRAMATIC SHORTS

3:00 PM For Us

(2019) Scott desperately tries to save his wife, Angela from an addiction that threatens to destroy their marriage. Directed by Mona Bennett Johnson. 22 minutes IN PERSON: director Mona Bennett, writer/producer Kenya Hendricks, star Nona Yong, and editor Larry Person

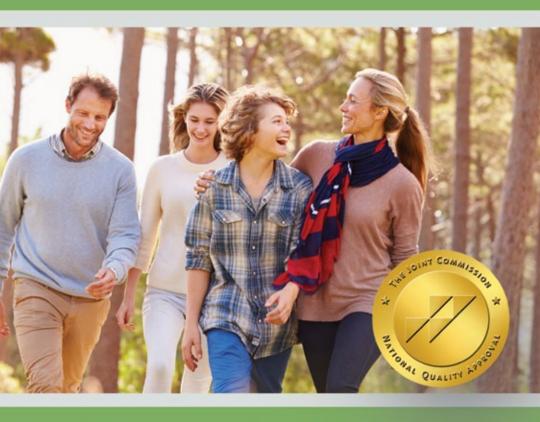


Courage

(2019) This ambitious Neo-Noir Western made by CSUN film students explores generational dysfunction, free will and character. 16 minutes

IN PERSON: director Eric Wann, producer Elizabeth Narayan

paradigm TREATMENT CENTERS

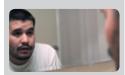


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SATURDAY - OCTOBER 12













Addict Named Hal

(2019) An unflinching, personal look at a young heroin addict's journey through addiction, incarceration, and getting clean. Directed by Lane Michael Stanley. 7 minutes. US

TWO DOCS THAT ROCK

4:15 PM Live or Failure

(2018) A young journalist is forced to leave her job producing TV news in Washington, D.C. when her liver starts to fail. Directed by Andrea Gonzales-Paul. 51 minutes. US

IN PERSON: director Andrea Gonzales-Paul

How I Got Sober

(2019) A moving documentary about two alcoholics, Warren and Katie that follows their lives from addiction to sobriety. Directed by Maddie Kitchen. 16 minutes. UK IN PERSON: from the UK, Maddie Kitchen

6:00 PM Liquid Handcuffs

(2018) explores the intersection of **methadone** with race, class, social control, and stigma. Directed by Marilena Marchetti and Helen Redmond. 67 minutes. US IN PERSON: directors Marilena Marihetti and Helen Redmond

The Reason

(2019) What is your reason to quit? What is your reason to keep going? This film explores both. Directed by Anton Shtuka. 3 minutes. Ukraine

IN PERSON: from Ukraine, Anton Shtuka

8:00 PM Cracked Up

(2018) **Darrell Hammond**'s story of trauma, addiction, self injury and misdiagnosis while maintaining a brilliant comedic career on **SNL**. Directed by Michelle Esrick. 95 minutes. US

IN PERSON: director Michelle Esrick

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 13







NAMI SFV DAY

Triple Feature from Santa Monica College Film School

1:00 PM Hurt

(2013) A quiet, misunderstood high school outcast considers an unspeakable crime. Directed by Brandon Chang. 16 minutes. US

Valerie

(2019) Valerie, a 28-year-old office worker, experiences various transitions in her life while living with schizophrenia. Directed by Ronja Jansz. 8 minutes. US

Hinge

(2019) A lesbian couple's idyllic life is challenged by their mentally unstable neighbor. Directed by Lisa Ann Mayo. 23 minutes. US

IN PERSON: Ronja Jansz, Brandon Chang, producer Salvador Carrasco, Drew Davis and Lisa Ann Mayo

12 South Recovery is excited to Sponsor the REEL Recovery Film Festival in L.A. 2019





WE OFFER:

- Primary Mental Health
- Primary Substance Abuse
- MAT Options
- **EMDR**
- Pet Friendly
- Gender Specific Groups
- Adventure Therapy
- Alumni Program



12 South Recovery is an Outpatient PHP/IOP Primary Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Center in South Orange County.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 13























NAMI SFV DAY continues

2:30 PM Manuel

(2019) The persistence of memory; this film is surreal, moving and like Dali, from Spain. Director Javier Robles Alvarez. 9 minutes. Subtitled

My World – US Premiere

(2019) Will, a man kidnapped in an old house, develops Stockholm Syndrome. Director Alex Escudero. 15 minutes. Spain

Out of Mind – World Premiere

(2018) A young Armenian man deals with anxiety/depression AND the stigma of mental illness in his family and community. Directed by Tigran Nersisian. 12 minutes IN PERSON: director Tigran Nersisian

That's Life

(2018) A woman deals with life, depression and her inner demon. Director Carson Griffin. 5 minutes. US

IN PERSON: Director Carson Griffin, Producer Teri Griffin and stars Amber Herfurth & Justin Walters

The Sky Is Falling

(2019) A young woman faces the reality of hypochondria and the toll it is taking on her life. Directors Scott D. Clark and Frank Souter. 10 minutes. Australia

In My Head

(2018) When your head is full of insecurities, fear can rule reality. Director Dean Gild. 10 minutes. Australia

Mental Health Awareness in Relationships

(2019) Film cleverly uses movie references to explore modern dating. Director Johnny Tackitt. 9 minutes. US

Break A Leg

(2018) A college student struggles with a leg injury and the strange way that people react to it. Director Carver Diserens. 12 minutes. US

IN PERSON: director Carver Diserens

4:30 PM This Is Crazy: Criminalizing Mental Health

(2015) Stories of people with mental illness who are in prison instead of getting proper care. 23 minutes

Healing Trauma: Beyond Gangs and Prisons

(2018) The inner struggle of former gang members whose abusive childhoods led them to a criminal lifestyle and prison. 23 minutes

Featuring Father Gregory Boyle

Sentencing Reform: Drug Addiction

(2018) Shelly and Keith–two hardworking individuals work to keep their sobriety after years in and out of prison. Director Robert Greenwald. Distributed by Brave New Films. 17 minutes. US. **Featuring Dr. Gabor Maté**

IN PERSON: Emily Chapa, George Nunez and Inez Salcido of Homeboy Industries

SUNDAY



OCTOBER 13





6:00 PM **Going Sane**

(2017) An exploration of problems with the flawed American mental health care system. Directed by Josh Sabey. 65 minutes. US

Q&A with NAMI SFV members

Quiet Storm: The Ron Artest Story

(2018) Addresses the up and down career of Artest, and the man and mental health advocate, World Peace (aka Metta) is today. Director Johnny Sweet. 116 minutes **IN PERSON: Producer Colleen Dominguez**

MONDAY



OCTOBER 14















1:00 PM **Ruined Wings**

(2018) Seventeen-year-old Callie Novak sets a high school ski record when tragedy strikes and she succumbs to addiction. Director Sabrina Stewart. 44 minutes. US

Family Day

(2018) After three months in her third stint in rehab her sobriety is tested by a visit from her distant mother and loving stepfather. Director Harry O'Reilly. 17minutes. US

Watermark

(2019) When Meg moves in with her longtime boyfriend, she is suddenly terrorized by memories of a past trauma. Director Rebecca Maddalo. 24 minutes. US.

TRIGGER WARNING: VIOLENCE AND SUGGESTED RAPE

No More Mommies and Daddies

(2019) A young girl haunted by the guilt and shame that she couldn't save her family turns to self-harm. Director Tamara Farsadi, starring Julia Garcia, 9 minutes, US

TRIGGER WARNING: INSTANCES OF SELF HARM

Milk Tea

(2019) A drama set in Taiwan about an 11-year-old girl, HSUAN, who is suffocated by her dysfunctional family. Director Chien-Ni Yang. 13 minutes. Taiwan, Subtitled

IN PERSON: Chien-Ni Yang

Max Fish

(2019) An introverted lyricist gathers inspiration to finish a song that may be the key to resolving past trauma. Director Hash Sesay. 14 minutes US

The People

(2019) Lina's all-consuming, destructive strive for perfection mirrors her familiy's and culture's demand for perfection. Director Dania Abu Hassan. 7 minutes. Qatar, Subtitled

3:30 PM Pooch Sitter: A Film That Will Give You Paws

(2019) A quirky pet sitter seeks complete love and adoration from other people's dogs, and a place to stay. Director Monda Webb. 15 minutes

IN PERSON: star Donna Deter



A wish that every teen lives a drug-free life.

Brandi's Wish Foundation was founded in March 2011 out of a personal tragedy and sudden death of 18 year old Brandi Shea Meshad due to accidental prescription drug poisoning. Our mission is to raise awareness through education and offer preventative solutions to teens and their families regarding the dangers of prescription drug misuse and abuse. We believe that every teenager can achieve their wishes and dreams for a healthy and successful future by living a drug-free life. We believe the deaths that occur from the misuse and abuse of prescription medications are preventable. We believe we must change the way communities perceive addition and the victims of the disease and proactively work to educate children, parents and community embers to remove the stigma associated with addiction.

Our Goals Are:

To actively work in changing state legislation and pass laws to protect our children from the dangers of prescription drug misuse and abuse.

To work with schools and create programs to educate families and teens to the danger of abusing prescription medications.

To offer referral services and guidance to those families in need of rehabilitative and substance abuse recovery programs.

To help families in need of financial assistance if they have a teen in crisis and cannot afford the cost of rehabilitative programs.

At Brandi's Wish Foundation we strive to conquer and overcome the fear and helplessness caused from the disease and brain disorder of addiction and to empower teens and their families through awareness, education, support and compassion.

Thank you for embracing Brandi's Wish Foundation. Together we will save lives.

Lisa Brandv

President and loving mother of Brandi Shea Meshad

MONDAY



OCTOBER 14



















(2018) One woman's journey to overcome Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) through

the help of her service dog, Paddington. Director Derek Ho. 10 minutes. Australia

The Good Buoy

Beautifully, Positively Different

(2019) A woman struggling with mental health and addiction issues, reaches a turning point. Director Sam Hedden. 12 minutes. US

Through the Eyes of Our Children

(2019) Melissa is a brave young woman who came to treatment with her Mom when she was 9. Director Kevin Hanlon, 5 minutes, US **Presented by New Directions for Women**

Curtains

3:30 PM

(2019) A young woman suffering from chronic trauma and abuse enters a dissociative state. Director Katie Waldron. 5 minutes. US IN PERSON: director Katie Waldron

In My House

(2019) A young boy's brother tries to shield him from his mother's worsening addiction. Director Zackary Centrella. 4 minutes. US

5:00 PM **Screenagers Next Chapter: Uncovering Skills for Stress Resilience**

(2018) Explores the impact of social medial and screen time on young people's mental and emotional well being. Director Delaney Ruston. 69 minutes. US

6:30 PM **Five at 6:30** 5 films by Kids In The Spotlight Q&A with "Kids" following the films

Staying True

(2018) "Different" kid bullied at new school is saved from suicide which leads all the students to have a change in attitude. 8 minutes

Kurupted

(2018) A school shooting is seen from 5 different perspectives. 14 minutes

System Failure

(2018) What happens when a system set up to support a student, lets him down? 10 minutes

Saving Da'Lenzi

(2018) Drugs, sex trafficking, courage and hope. 8 minutes

Love Just Is

(2018) All we need is love and a little laughter. 6 minutes

All films written by and starring kids in the LA foster care system and directed by industry pros. For more info https://www.kitsinc.org

MONDAY - OCTOBER 14



8:00 PM Surviving Lunch

(2019) "Brilliantly written, filmed and acted, it captures the torture of abuse and the power we each have by modeling compassionate behavior and speaking up with heart and support." Director KT Curran. 75 minutes IN PERSON: stars Clayton Royal Johnson & Francesca Phillips

TUESDAY OCTOBER 15

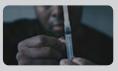














1:00 PM Crystal City

TRIGGER WARNING: DRUG USE, DRUG PARAPHERNALIA, SEX

(2019) Meth has reached"epidemic levels within the gay community." The reasons for that, and the ways some addicts are pursuing sobriety, provide the subject matter of this powerful film. Director Terrence Crawford. 89 minutes US

Hope Served Fresh – Recovery Friendly Employment

(2019) A pizzeria owner in Oneonta New York decides to create a "sober and recovery friendly" workplace. Director Jessica Vecchione. 15 minutes. US

Opioid Scare

(2019) A family affected by the opioid crisis struggles to stay together. Director Steve Cadigan. 6 minutes. US

Don't Worry Don't Watch

(2019) A graduate helps her drug-addicted brother overcome his addiction and reconnect with his family. Director Benjamin McGregor. 9 minutes. US

Son To Son

(2017) A late-night meeting between a father and son reveals an shocking secret lurking beneath the surface. Director Taron Lexton. 9 minutes. US

Smack Edd

(2018) Heroin addict Edd unexpectedly turns up to his son Patrick's eighth birthday celebration. Director Greg Hall. 7 minutes. UK

RE-REHAB

(2018) A man, desperate to find his wife, searches for answers through the technology that may have caused her disappearance. Director Daeli Kim. 10 minutes. US

4:00 PM Fentanyl: A Street Battle In Town

(2019) An intensive look at the life of the most underprivileged people in 'Canada's poorest postal codes' called DTES (Vancouver Downtown-Eastside). Director Amir Payam. 41 minutes. Canada

TUESDAY



OCTOBER 15















4:00 PM **How Addiction Happens**

(2017) Alex died of an accidental heroin/fentanyl overdose on his 22nd birthday, in December, 2015. Our family produced this video to help teens and their families avoid the painful path of addiction. Directed by Alex's Family, 7 minutes, US

Burned Out Nurse

(2016) A perfect mother wife and registered nurse becomes addicted to opiates. Director Valerie Allevne-Udeozor, 24 minutes, US

IN PERSON: star Narlyia Sterling

(2019) "RAW" chronicles the journey of a young woman's struggle to reverse her descent into addiction and crime. Director Laurel Adler. 27 minutes US

IN PERSON: Laurel Adler and Heather Nicole Lesser

6:00 PM The First Day

(2019) Professional basketball player Chris Herren take a deeper look into the struggles facing our youth today. Director Jonathan Hock. 47 minutes. US

The Opioid Spoon Project

(2019) A film about the nationally recognized artist- and activist-driven initiative committed to informing and educating the public. Director Joshua Berman. 10 minutes, US

8:00 PM **American Relapse**

(2018) Recovering addicts Frankie and Allie spend their lives helping other addicts, but can they stay clean themselves? Directors Pat McGee and Adam Linkenheit. 105 minutes. US

IN PERSON: Pat McGee and star Allie Severino

WEDNESDAY 🗖 OCTOBER 16







HOLLYWOOD CLASSIC **Days of Wine and Roses**

(1962) "Folie a deux" An alcoholic marries a young woman, whom he systematically addicts to booze so they can share his "passion" together. This film received 100% rating on Rotten Tomatoes. Director Blake Edwards. Starring Jack Lemmon and Lee Remick, 117 minutes, US

(2019) "Absolutely one of the best films I've seen about alcoholism, pure genius" -Suzanne Payne. Director Luke Bradford. 3 minutes. UK

(2019) Voices is a story about the choice we make, to listen to our addiction or our higher self. Director Matthew Smith. 13 minutes. Australia

WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 16



3:30 PM Lifeline

(2019) Roy is a depressed war veteran; when he gets the news that he has contracted HIV he reaches out to his old girlfriend who works at a crisis response center. Director Jayson Johnson. 11 minutes. US



Behind Bars

(2019) Tobias, a lawyer by day and alcohol abuser by night, finds sobriety with a bartender battling his own painful addiction. Writer Kahla Franklin. 8 minutes. US



Lover Gone - World Premiere

(2018) A married couple leaves a party under the influence and ends up in the hospital after a head on car crash. Director James Bottom. 20 minutes. US



Reservations - LA Premiere

(2018) Mary confronts her mother about her drinking by driving her to an AA meeting instead of their regular restaurant. Writer/Producer Jeanine Flynn, director Neal Hemphill. 10 minutes. US



Matchstick Willie

(2018) An alcoholic rodeo clown goes to his estranged wife's funeral in hopes of reconnecting with the daughter he has not seen in over 20 years. Director D.R. Garrett. 14 minutes. US



4:45 PM How Do You Type A Broken Heart

(2018) Woken by a midnight phone call, new mother Becky, reaches into the depths her soul to help a friend. Writer Susannah Nolan, director Jeremiah Kipp. 13 minutes. US IN PERSON: Holly Curran



Recondition

(2019) A blue-collar story about a young man's recovery after a near fatal overdose. Writer Devon Coull, director Graham Patrick Martin. 21 minutes. US IN PERSON: writer Devon Coull and cast and crew



6:00 PM Skid Row Marathon

(2017) A criminal court judge starts a running club on L.A.'s notorious skid row comprised of homeless drug addicts, a recovering single mom and a paroled murderer. Director Mark Hayes, producer Gabriele Hayes. 85 minutes. US IN PERSON: Gabriele and Mark Hayes



8:00 PM Is Your Story Making You Sick?

(2018) One cannot watch this film without pondering their own childhood, its impact on their life and the possibility of transformation. Award winning director Frances Causey, writer and star Mark Pirtle, 92 minutes

Featuring Dr. Gabor Maté
IN PERSON: writer, star Mark Pirtle

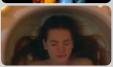
THURSDAY - OCTOBER 17



















1:00 PM Esteban

(2014) A depressed man doesn't know how to deal with his everyday life. Francois Albaranes. 8 minutes. France, subtitled

II Figlio

(2018) A man disguises himself as his dead sister to spare his mother the truth. Director Alessia Sambrini. 14 minutes. Italy, subtitled

Safety

(2019) Nap time turns deadly as a gym teacher must deal with an armed gunman. Oscar-winning director Fabrice Joubert. 14 minutes. US

Glimmers of Light

(2019) Carlo hasn't left home for 6 months because of panic attacks,but a phone call by his sister and a girl met while chatting will both trouble his daily routine. Director Lorenzo Borghini. 8 minutes. Italy, subtitled

And You Let Her Go - LA Premiere

(2019) A young woman travels through time and grief as she visits her suicided sister's room. Director Alexa Jade Houle, 10 minutes

Unmasking – LA Premiere

(2019) In a world where everyone wears masks to hide their true selves, a woman chooses whether to reveal herself to her boyfriend. Director Rob Comeau. 12 minutes. Canada

Shadow At the Door - LA Premiere

(2019) A troubled young woman searches for an intruder in her home. Director Roshni Bhatia. 4 minutes

IN PERSON: director Roshni Bhatia

The Good Stuff

(2017) A gambling addicted husband and his fed-up wife in the last day of their marriage. Director S.C. Smith. 4 minutes. US

Staving Ahead

(2018) Allan is a degenerate gambler trying to stay ahead of his estranged wife and bookie. Director Lee Kolinsky. 15 minutes. US

3:00 PM SLAW – LA Premiere

(2019) Examines the notion of casual sex and the needs and desires that the players of this game bring along as baggage. Directed by Leelee Stranger and Jake Sofaer. 24 minutes. US.

SEX AND NUDITY

IN PERSON: director and star Leelee Stranger

I Woke Up in the Mud and Picked Up a Camera Because of Jonas

(2019) Be it a friend in recovery who drinks again or a filmmaker who leaves a legacy, their ghostly memory lingers on in this experimental film. Director Devon Narine-Singh. 15 minutes. US

THURSDAY - OCTOBER 17











Six Gifts

2018) The story of six individuals from all walks of life, their battles with addiction and failure, to their recovery and triumph. Director Nick Tribuno. 43 minutes. US

Medicine In The Mind

(2019) Asks the question, 'If meditation is powerful medicine, why aren't we using it to treat illness and disease?' Director Michael O. Snyder. 40 minutes. US, India IN PERSON: Dr. Tom Bowling

A Long Series of Right Now

(2019) Follow Tim on his journey as he goes through rehab and reflects back on the pain he has caused his loved ones. Director Tara Salvesen. 25 minutes. US

6:00 PM City At Sea

(2018) A small time drug dealer, struggling with addiction, strives to escape his industrial port town. Director Christian Robertson. 93 minutes. Canada IN PERSON: director Christian Robertson

8:00 PM Dosed

(2019) A suicidal woman turns to alternative and illegal medicines, like Iboga and psychedelics to overcome her depression, anxiety, and opioid addiction. Director Tyler Chandler. Producers Nicholas Meyers, Tyler Chandler. 1 hour 22 minutes. US

Featuring Dr. Gabor Maté

Panel with Tara Rodriquez (PsychedeliaIntegration.org), Ash Booth (AwareProject.org), Ryan Munevar (Decrimca.org), and Brad Adams (lapss.org).

Schedule subject to change

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