

# Film Festival Sponsors

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Many volunteers have also donated their time and expertise. There are too many to list individually here, but the Committee would like to express our sincere gratitude for their extraordinary efforts.

[www.sanfordfilmfest.com](http://www.sanfordfilmfest.com)

# First Ever



## May 31-June 1, 2014

## Festival Program & Film Guide

[www.sanfordfilmfest.com](http://www.sanfordfilmfest.com)

# Saturday Film Schedule

	Curtis Lake Church	City Hall Auditorium	Nasson Little Theater
9:00	Check In/ BREAKFAST		
10:00	A Shoestring for Mackenzie	Love thy Neighbor*	(Venue opens at 1:00pm)
11:00	#YOLO		
12:00	LUNCH BREAK		
1:00	The Water in the Bay	3-1=0*	Fish and Chips
2:00		Half Empty	Still Life
		Parallaxis	Out of the Ash
		What if	Only Daughter
		Out of the Ash	
3:00	Fighting For the Futaleufú	In Danger of Being Discovered	
Despair and the Salt Air			
Worm Free Society			
4:00	How to Kill a Zombie*	How to Make Movies at Home	Normal*
5:00	Dystopia	Super Stache & Man, Beast & Machine	Dystopia
6:00	DINNER BREAK: Grab something out at one of many supporting restaurants!		
7:00	Reception: 6:30 p.m. at St. Ignatius Gym, corners of Riverside and St. Ignatius Street, Sanford, ME 04073		
8:00			
9:00	(Venue Closes at 9:00pm)	Say Goodbye*	Say Goodbye*
10:00		Mother*	Mother*
		NATAL*	NATAL*
		Buck Savage*	Buck Savage*
		Syrup*	Hollow's End*
11:00		The Hanover House	TEN*
12:00			

# Film Summaries, Continued

**The Water in the Bay** (Maine, USA) A dark comedy about a family who is coping with the repercussions of their teenage son's murder. Though the crime took place over a year ago, the accused killer has recently been exonerated and the case re-opened. It soon becomes apparent that all the affected parties have spent the past year in various forms of denial that range from desperately comical to simply desperate.

**What if** (Australia) What if you could change your life, would you be prepared for the consequences?

**Worm Free Society** (Rhode Island, USA) A suppressed office worker discovers that his job and co-workers are part of an experimental system that is designed for something much more malicious.

**#YOLO** (Maine, USA) Get a life Jenna, Humphrey, and Hannah-three seniors at the bottom rung of the social ladder-answer their misery and boredom by creating the list: a collection of pranks and dares they swear to do before school ends. Then Drew Tilton-the school bully-finds out about their plans... Will they form an uncouth alliance? Abandon their work altogether? Or forge onward with Drew, a thorn in their side. #YOLO is about friendship, living an adventure, and taking responsibility for our lives. We may only live once, but life is exactly what we make of it.

\*Film contains graphic content that may not be suitable for children under 17. All films are unrated and may contain adult themes and language. Young children should be accompanied by an adult.

## Letter from Festival Producer James Harmon

Thank you for playing a part in the first ever Sanford International Film Festival.

Two months ago, I pitched this crazy idea to hold a film festival in Sanford, Maine. Mayor Cote believed in my vision, and we assembled a dream team to fit a year's worth of planning into the last two months, bringing us all together to enjoy, share, and celebrate independent films from around the world, as well as around the block.

Building the festival has been a challenge and an adventure, and it all works because of a quilted community of filmmakers, movie-lovers, volunteers, generous business people and organizations. I've lived in Sanford for only six years, but I've come to learn that this is a community that cares! When this community cares about something the way it does about this film festival, it soars.

Every staff member is a volunteer, likely coming from a full-time work week to give their time to this effort. We are doing this to enrich our lives and our community. Your patronage is another service to that cause, and I thank you deeply for it. This could be the start of an artistic and cultural revolution in Sanford. I hope you enjoy the films, and every part of this weekend, as much as I've enjoyed putting it together. I hope you find many reasons to come back, and--like our City motto suggests--explore, create, and grow with us.

Please take our Audience Favorites survey (QR codes posted at each venue) so you can help us award our most deserving filmmakers, and let us know how we can improve the next Sanford international Film Festival.

~James Harmon  
Producer, Sanford International Film Festival

# Film Summaries, Continued

**Parallaxis** (Maine, USA) A couple retreats to an inland to escape a celestial catastrophe, only to have the madness follow them. The moon has been hit by an asteroid, throwing off its orbit and causing earthquakes and pandemonium on earth. A couple runs for their island cabin on a lake, but the impending doom begins to divide and pit them against each other, one looking for solace, and the other looking for a more primitive solution.

**Say Goodbye** \* (Maine, USA) A man who's afraid to leave his own house is starting to see things shortly after using an Ouija board. Is someone messing with him? Is he going crazy? or has something been unleashed upon him?

**A Shoestring for Mackenzie** (Maine, USA) A 17 year old girl lives in a small town and has a personality which is quite contradictory to her surroundings. She has grown very much supported, yet very alone (but never lonely). Currently a senior in high school, Mackenzie wishes to move far away, but feels conflicted because of her desire to help her peers. She wants to help free them from their parents, negative influences, and what they have known as their life for the past 12 years.

**Simple Gifts** (Maine, USA) Simple Gifts: The Shaker Community of Alfred, Maine was produced by Olof and Sharyn Eckburgh of Westside Avenue Studios, and provides narration, photos, and historical research to tell the story of the 150 year old Shaker Community of Alfred, Maine, and its significance. The film features music by the Shakers of Sabbathday Lake and the Boston Camerata. Both Brother Arnold Hadd and Sister Frances Carr of the Shaker community in Maine have important roles in the video. Friends of the Alfred Shaker Museum expended hundreds of hours researching, developing, and shaping the content for the video and working with Westside Avenue Studio to produce it. FASM offers the video in appreciation of the Shakers in southern Maine, and in confidence that others too will come to know, understand, and appreciate their legacy.

**Still Life** (Rhode Island, USA) Based on a quote by Ira Glass, "Still Life" tells the story about a photography student who struggles with his thoughts about his creativity and talent.

**Super Stache** (Maine, USA) A young woman is saved during a late night stick up in a seedy alley, but is the masked vigilante who saved her all he's cracked up to be?

**Syrup** \* (Maine, USA) What begins as a quaint morning in New England becomes a nightmare over breakfast.

**TEN** \* (MA & Rhode Island, USA) Ten women find themselves in a vacant mansion on Spektor Island in December, 1972. As they are killed off one by one, it becomes clear that no one is who she seems.

**Things I Don't Understand** (New York, USA) A detached grad student forms a cathartic bond with a terminally ill girl she's interviewing for her thesis and the damaged bartender downstairs with a mysterious past as she faces eviction from the home she's built for herself with her artist roommates.

**Treasure Hunt** (Jerusalem) Despite loving each other dearly, Nadan's Dad and only sister Naama haven't met for the last 15 years. 'Treasure hunt' tells the story of Nadan's attempt to get these two unique characters back together, an optimistic mission which boils down to recreating one special event: Preparing a 'Treasure hunt' game for Naama's upcoming birthday – a long forgotten family tradition.

# Sunday Film Schedule

	SHS Cafeteria	SHS Chorus Room	WSSRTV Studio @ SHS
9:00	BREAKFAST BREAK		
10:00	Out of the Ash	A Shoestring for Mackenzie	Worm Free Society
11:00	Around	How to Make Movies at Home	TEN*
12:00	LUNCH BREAK		
1:00	Things I Don't Understand	In Danger of Being Discovered	Say Goodbye*
2:00			NATAL*
			Buck Savage*
			Syrup*
3:00	Treasure Hunt	Only Daughter	Hollow's End*
4:00	Simple Gifts		Super Stache & Man, Beast & Machine
		Simple Gifts	
5:00	Bridge and Tunnel	Farvel the Marvel	Parallaxis
		Half Empty	Still Life
		What if	Half Empty
		Out of the Ash	

## Saturday Venues:

Curtis Lake Church	38 Westview Drive, Sanford, ME 04073
City Hall Auditorium	919 Main Street, Sanford, ME 04073 (Floor 2R)
Nasson Little Theatre	457 Main Street, Springvale, ME 04083

## Saturday Evening Reception:

St. Ignatius Gym	25 Riverside Avenue, Sanford, ME 04073
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## Sunday films will all be screened at three locations within Sanford High School:

52 Sanford High School Boulevard, Sanford, ME 04073

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# Film Summaries

**3-1=0** \* (Spain) Make love in every corner of the house of your dreams before buying it. To live for the first time the experience of being a father. To touch your baby and feel it cold. The silence after the death and the death after the silence. Carlos wants to get rid of his past along with the house that once was a home. And if it's possible that a buyer appears for the house, the memories are not for sale.

**Around** (New York, USA) Doyle Simms grows up across the Hudson from NYC and flees his toxic family to attend a film program there. After a bumpy first year, he returns more determined than ever to become a storyteller and figure out his place. Financial setbacks force Doyle to find creative "rent-controlled living" and begin a dual life living out of Penn Station while going to school. Doyle begins to find a weird balance and begin to build a home, but the pressure of maintaining his worlds begins to crack the façade and he's forced to confront his past family demons and reconcile the person he wants to be with the person he is.

**Bridge and Tunnel** (NY, USA) A group of twenty-somethings struggle to cope with breakups, student debt and the transition to adulthood while living with their parents in suburban NYC.

**Buck Savage In: The City of the Damned** \* (Maine, USA) Mountain Man Buck Savage fights to reclaim the city that he once called home from the plague of the walking dead in this homage to 1980's zombie flicks.

**Despair and the Salt Air** (Maine, USA) Highlights the beautiful and haunting art of James Groleau, focusing on his work in the medium known as mezzotint, an engraving technique developed in the seventeenth century. The film covers time he spent in war-torn Guatemala, which inspired a series of colored-pencil drawings and a book, and delves into his discovery of mezzotint and eventual mastery of the process.

**Dystopia** (Maine, USA) Capitol City was once a beacon of hope to a world recovering from a global plague. Now it stands broken in ruin as a battle ground between the corrupt Parliament that rules, and the dwindling rebellion known as The Resistance.

**Farvel the Marvel** (Maine, USA) Phil Kosnitsky, better known as Farvel the Marvel, won the comedy magic category at the 1975 SAM Convention after leaving the furniture business to pursue his passion. His charm and slightly off sense of humor have been captured in this touching short film.

**Fighting For the Futaleufú** (USA/Chile) Fighting For the Futaleufú is the story of what many consider 'The World's Best River.' For years, Chileans in Patagonia viewed the Rio Futaleufú with awe and apprehension. In the 1980's as kayakers and rafters successfully navigated the river, eco-tourism flourished, bringing vibrant opportunities and jobs to the community. Fighting for The Futaleufú explores the fierce natural beauty of the river, and follows the lives of Chilean rafter Robert Currie, his son Robert Jr and locals as they work and protect the area.

**Fish and Chips** (MA, USA) An elderly couple deals with the advanced stages of Alzheimer's.

**Half Empty** (Providence RI) After hearing her parents arguing about her, young Daisy decides to run away from home, and ends up in the forest lost. There she meets Lily, another young girl, who may just be a figment of her imagination...

**The Hanover House** \* (Maine, USA) Returning from his father's funeral, Robert Foster is faced with the unimaginable: he hits a young girl with his car. In a desperate attempt to save her life, he seeks help at a nearby farmhouse. Little does Robert know that the house has been waiting for him his entire life. Once inside its walls, Robert must overcome his own personal demons in an attempt to save both his wife and himself. But there's a problem: only one may leave the Hanover House alive.

# Film Summaries, Continued

**Hollows End** \* (England, UK) Four friends take a short vacation into the English countryside only to find themselves stalked by an unseen evil. But all is not as it seems.

**How to Kill a Zombie** \* (Maine, USA) An overbearing militant father and teenage son hone their survival skills on a rural retreat, trying to find common ground in their comically-strained relationship when a zombie outbreak forces them to work together in this hilariously-explosive Zom-Com splatterfest!

**How to Make Movies at Home** (Maine, USA) Are you and your friends making movies? If not, are you crazy? The wall between "pro" and "am" has crumbled to the ground and a new wave of folk cinema is rolling in, big time! But don't worry, it's never too late to start! See "How to Make Movies at Home", and be peppered with lessons on the craft of filmmaking both subtle and overt! Marvel at the mysteries of Screen Direction! Gasp and the wonders of Lighting! Delve into the inner workings of a new-wave folk cinema band at their hour of greatest challenge... Walk in an absolute neophyte, walk out with a gleam in your eye! Ten real, substantial lessons woven through the story, and untold others lurking in the subtext!

**In Danger of Being Discovered** (New Hampshire, USA) A Documentary about the thriving underground music scene in 1990s Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Includes interviews with members of Groovechild, Thanks to Gravity, Dropkick Murphys, Fly Spinach Fly, Choosy Moms, Jupiter 2, Harpoon, Heavens to Murgatroid, Say Zuzu and more.

**Love Thy Neighbor - L'Amour de son prochain** \* (France) Alain meets Estelle in unsettling circumstances. They'll then have to share a heavy secret. What they don't know is that a witness, Balthazar, is watching them... On the verge of film noir and dark burlesque, a dramatic fantasy about lonelines bumping into each other.

**Man, Beast, Machine** (Maine, USA) This short documentary explores the synergy between two "low impact" logging methods.

**Mother** \* (Maine, USA) A Mother reads her little girl a bedtime story to help her get to sleep.

**Mother Bird** (Maine, USA) In a world where humans have some new neighbors, not everyone is happy about it. A sci-fi short created for the 48 hour film festival from Fabulous Nutz Productions.

**NATAL** \* (Maine, USA) After Carissa's recent suicide attempt, four friends head to an isolated Maine cabin for a weekend of fun. When she starts hearing scratching in the walls, she begins questioning her own sanity as her world spirals out of control.

**Normal** \* (MA, USA) Jim - an apartment superintendent, is replaying his tortured past. Through a series of flashbacks, and interactions with the mysterious tenants, we not only learn of his dark secrets, but also what it means to be normal.

**Only Daughter** (New Hampshire, USA) Raised by a single mother in a rural New Hampshire town, 18 year old Dawn Cowley sets out to find the father she has never known and discovers the devastating secret that had torn her family apart.

**Out of the Ash** (Scotland) After being robbed at gunpoint a man turns the tables on his mugger but, in trying to teach the attacker a lesson, ends up confronting his own devastating memories of a childhood lost.