

48th ANNUAL AMERICAN INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL® | 2023 NOMINEES

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – The American Indian Film Institute (AIFI) is proud to announce the nominees for the 48th annual American Indian Film Festival. The awards will be presented at the annual AIFF Film Awards Night on Saturday November 11, 2023 at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco.

The AIFF Film Awards Night (established in 1978) has recognized individuals for their achievements in film and acting. Ten prestigious awards will be recognized to those with outstanding accomplishments, including Best Film, Best Director, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress, Best Documentary Feature, Best Documentary Short, Best Live Short, Best Animated Short, and Best Music Video.

2023 Awards Nominees are as follows:

BEST FILM

Bones of Crows, Marie Clements, Director
Café Daughter, Shelley Niro, Director
Rosie, Gail Maurice, Director

BEST DIRECTOR

Gail Maurice, *Rosie*
Jack Kohler & Katy Dore, *Gift of Fear*
Marie Clements, *Bones of Crows*
Shelley Niro, *Café Daughter*

BEST ACTRESS

Grace Dove (Aline Spears), *Bones of Crows*
Isa Antonetti (Mili Longrunner), *Gift of Fear*
Meadow Kingfisher (Rosie), *The Beehive*
Melanie Bray (Fred (Frédérique), *Rosie*
Star Slade (Yvette Wong), *Café Daughter*

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Keris Hope Hill (Rosie), *Rosie*
Laura Vallejo (Kokonew) *Gift of Fear*
Michelle Thrush (January Spears), *Bones of Crows*
Sera-Lys (Katherine Wong), *Café Daughter*

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Justin Johnson Cortez (Manny Donovan) *Gift of Fear*
Phillip Forest Lewitski (Adam Whallach) *Bones of Crows*

BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

Aitamaako'tamisskapi Natosi: Before the Sun, Banchi Hanuse, Director
Sacred Dog "Sunka Wakhan" Jeremy Williams, Director
Tough Skin, Montana Cypress, Director

BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

Cara Romero: Following the Light, Kaela Waldstein, Director
Fire Tender Roni Jo Draper, Marissa Lila, Directors
O'šhO' (What They've Been Taught) Brit Hensel, Director

BEST LIVE SHORT

Calling Jacob R. Pratt, Director
Metal Belt Blackhorse Lowe, Director
Ohskennón:ten Owí:ra (Little Dear) Jonathan Elliott, Director
Redlights Eva Thomas, Director

BEST ANIMATED SHORT

A Bear Named Jesus, Terril Calder, Director
Grape Soda In the the Parking Lot, Megan Kyak-Monteith, Director
Heart Like a Pow Wow (Niimidi'iwin Ode'), Chief Lady Bird, Director
No More Kíyâm, Lese Skidmore, Director
Tiny, Ritchie Hemphill, Ryan Hache, Directors

BEST MUSIC VIDEO

Walk With Me feat. Adrian Sutherland, Brian Gregory, cont. RoseAnna Schick, and Kash Taken, Directors
Wallowing Bull, Noam Sol Azouz, Dan Lior, Directors
Wiping the Tears, Dipankar Mukherjee, Director