

FILM INDEPENDENT SPIRIT AWARDS

2026 Nominees

Film Categories

BEST FEATURE

(Award given to the producer)

PETER HUJAR'S DAY

PRODUCERS: Jonah Disend, Jordan Drake

THE PLAGUE

PRODUCERS: Derek Dauchy, Joel Edgerton, Roy Lee, Lucy McKendrick, Steven Schneider, Lizzie Shapiro

SORRY, BABY

PRODUCERS: Mark Ceryak, Barry Jenkins, Adele Romanski

TRAIN DREAMS

PRODUCERS: Michael Heimler, Will Janowitz, Marissa McMahon, Ashley Schlaifer, Teddy Schwarzman

TWINLESS

PRODUCERS: David Permut, James Sweeney

BEST FIRST FEATURE

(Award given to the director and producer)

BLUE SUN PALACE

DIRECTOR: Constance Tsang
PRODUCERS: Sally Sujin Oh, Eli Raskin, Tony Yang

DUST BUNNY

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER: Bryan Fuller
PRODUCERS: Basil Iwanyk, Erica Lee

EAST OF WALL

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER: Kate Beecroft
PRODUCERS: Shannon Moss, Melanie Ramsayer, Lila Yacoub

LURKER

DIRECTOR: Alex Russell
PRODUCERS: Galen Core, Archie Madekwe, Marc Marrie, Charlie McDowell, Francesco Melzi D'Eril, Duncan Montgomery, Alex Orlovsky, Olmo Schnabel, Jack Selby

ONE OF THEM DAYS

DIRECTOR: Lawrence Lamont
PRODUCERS: Deniese Davis, Poppy Hanks, James Lopez, Issa Rae, Sara Rastogi

JOHN CASSAVETES AWARD

(Award given to the best feature made for under \$1,000,000; award given to the writer, director, and producer)

THE BALTIMORONS

DIRECTOR/WRITER/PRODUCER: Jay Duplass
WRITER/PRODUCER: Michael Strassner
PRODUCERS: David Bonnett Jr., Drew Langer

BOYS GO TO JUPITER

DIRECTOR/WRITER: Julian Glander

EEPHUS

DIRECTOR/WRITER/PRODUCER: Carson Lund
WRITER/PRODUCER: Michael Basta
WRITER: Nate Fisher
PRODUCERS: David Entin, Tyler Taormina

ESTA ISLA (THIS ISLAND)

DIRECTORS/WRITERS/PRODUCERS: Cristian Carretero, Lorraine Jones Molina
WRITER: Kisha Tikina Burgos

FAMILIAR TOUCH

DIRECTOR/WRITER/PRODUCER: Sarah Friedland
PRODUCERS: Alexandra Byer, Matthew Thurm

BEST DIRECTOR

CLINT BENTLEY - *Train Dreams*

MARY BRONSTEIN - *If I Had Legs I'd Kick You*

LLOYD LEE CHOI - *Lucky Lu*

IRA SACHS - *Peter Hugar's Day*

EVA VICTOR - *Sorry, Baby*

BEST SCREENPLAY

MICHAEL ANGELO COVINO, KYLE MARVIN - *Splitsville*

ANGUS MACLACHLAN - *A Little Prayer*

JAMES SWEENEY - *Twinless*

CHRISTIAN SWEGAL - *Sovereign*

EVA VICTOR - *Sorry, Baby*

BEST FIRST SCREENPLAY

ANDREW DEYOUNG - *Friendship*

ELENA OXMAN - *Outerlands*

ALEX RUSSELL - *Lurker*

SYREETA SINGLETON - *One of Them Days*

CONSTANCE TSANG - *Blue Sun Palace*

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

ALEX ASHE - *Peter Hugar's Day*

NORM LI - *Blue Sun Palace*

DAVID J. THOMPSON - *Warfare*

ADOLPHO VELOSO - *Train Dreams*

NICOLE HIRSCH WHITAKER - *Dust Bunny*

BEST EDITING

BEN LEONBERG - *Good Boy*

CARSON LUND - *Eephus*

FIN OATES - *Warfare*

SARA SHAW - *Splitsville*

SOFÍA SUBERCASEAUX - *The Testament of Ann Lee*

BEST LEAD PERFORMANCE

EVERETT BLUNCK - *The Plague*

ROSE BYRNE - *If I Had Legs I'd Kick You*

KATHLEEN CHALFANT - *Familiar Touch*

CHANG CHEN - *Lucky Lu*

JOEL EDGERTON - *Train Dreams*

DYLAN O'BRIEN - *Twinless*

KEKE PALMER - *One of Them Days*

THÉODORE PELLERIN - *Lurker*

TESSA THOMPSON - *Hedda*

BEN WHISHAW - *Peter Hugar's Day*

BEST SUPPORTING PERFORMANCE

NAOMI ACKIE - *Sorry, Baby*

ZOEY DEUTCH - *Nouvelle Vague*

KIRSTEN DUNST - *Roofman*

REBECCA HALL - *Peter Hugar's Day*

NINA HOSS - *Hedda*

JANE LEVY - *A Little Prayer*

ARCHIE MADEKWE - *Lurker*

KALI REIS - *Rebuilding*

JACOB TREMBLAY - *Sovereign*

HAIPENG XU - *Blue Sun Palace*

BEST BREAKTHROUGH PERFORMANCE

LIZ LARSEN - *The Baltimorons*

KAYO MARTIN - *The Plague*

MISHA OSHEROVICH - *She's the He*

SZA - *One of Them Days*

TABATHA ZIMIGA - *East of Wall*

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BEST DOCUMENTARY

(Award given to the director and producer)

COME SEE ME IN THE GOOD LIGHT

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER: Ryan White

PRODUCERS: Jessica Hargrave, Tig Notaro, Stef Willen

ENDLESS COOKIE

DIRECTOR: Peter Scriver

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER: Seth Scriver

PRODUCERS: Dan Bekerman, Alex Ordanis, Jason Ryle, Chris Yurkovich

MY UNDESIRABLE FRIENDS:

PART I - LAST AIR IN MOSCOW

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER: Julia Loktev

THE PERFECT NEIGHBOR

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER: Geeta Gandbhir

PRODUCERS: Sam Bisbee, Nikon Kwantu, Alisa Payne

THE TALE OF SILYAN

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER: Tamara Kotevska

PRODUCERS: Jean Dakar, Anna Hashmi, Jordanco Petkovski

BEST INTERNATIONAL FILM

ALL THAT'S LEFT OF YOU, *Palestine, Jordan, Germany, Cyprus* - Cherien Dabis

ON BECOMING A GUINEA FOWL, *Zambia, UK, Ireland* - Rungano Nyoni

A POET, *Colombia* - Simón Mesa Soto

THE SECRET AGENT, *Brazil* - Kleber Mendonça Filho

SIRÂT, *Spain* - Oliver Laxe

ROBERT ALTMAN AWARD

THE LONG WALK

DIRECTOR: Francis Lawrence

CASTING DIRECTOR: Rich Delia

ENSEMBLE CAST: Judy Greer, Mark Hamill, Cooper Hoffman, David Jonsson, Tut Nyuot, Joshua Odjick, Charlie Plummer, Ben Wang, Garrett Wareing

Emerging Filmmaker Awards

PRODUCERS AWARD

The Producers Award, now in its 29th year, honors an emerging producer who, despite highly limited resources, demonstrates the creativity, tenacity and vision required to produce quality independent films. The finalists are:

EMMA HANNAWAY

LUCA INTILI

TONY YANG

SOMEONE TO WATCH AWARD

The Someone to Watch Award, now in its 32nd year, recognizes a talented filmmaker of singular vision who has not yet received appropriate recognition. The finalists are:

TATTI RIBEIRO, director of *Valentina*

NEO SORA, director of *Happyend*

ANNAPURNA SRIRAM, director of *Fucktoys*

TRUER THAN FICTION AWARD

The Truer Than Fiction Award, now in its 31st year, is presented to an emerging director of non-fiction features who has not yet received significant recognition. The finalists are:

TONY BENNA, director of *André is an Idiot*

RAJEE SAMARASINGHE, director of *Your Touch Makes Others Invisible*

BRITTANY SHYNE, director of *Seeds*

FILM INDEPENDENT SPIRIT AWARDS

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Television Categories

BEST NEW NON-SCRIPTED OR DOCUMENTARY SERIES

(Award given to the Creator, Executive Producer, Co-Executive Producer)

CITIZEN NATION

CREATOR: Bret Sigler

EXEC PRODUCERS: Christopher Buck, Kyra Darnton

HURRICANE KATRINA:

RACE AGAINST TIME

EXEC PRODUCERS: Jonathan Chinn, Simon Chinn, Ryan Coogler, Myles Estey, Ted Skillman, Zinzi Coogler, Sev Ohanian, Peter Nicks, Kalia King, Carolyn Payne, Sean David Johnson

CO-EXEC PRODUCER: Kelli Buchanan

PEE-WEE AS HIMSELF

EXEC PRODUCERS: Matt Wolf, Emma Tillinger Koskoff, Ronald Bronstein, Eli Bush, Benny Safdie, Josh Safdie, Paul Reubens, Candace Tomarken, Kyle Martin, Nancy Abraham, Lisa Heller, Sara Rodriguez

SEEN & HEARD: THE HISTORY OF BLACK TELEVISION

EXEC PRODUCERS: Issa Rae, Montrel McKay, John Magglio, Rachel Dretzin, John Ealer, Jonathan Berry, Dave Becky, Nancy Abraham, Lisa Heller, Sara Rodriguez
CO-EXEC PRODUCERS: Esther Dere, Zachary Herrmann

VOW OF SILENCE: THE ASSASSINATION OF ANNIE MAE

EXEC PRODUCERS: Ezra Edelman, Caroline Waterlow, Amy Kaufman, Jake Gyllenhaal, Riva Marker
CO-EXEC PRODUCER: Mark Becker

BEST NEW SCRIPTED SERIES

(Award given to the Creator, Executive Producer, Co-Executive Producer)

ADOLESCENCE

CREATORS/EXEC PRODUCERS: Jack Thorne, Stephen Graham

EXEC PRODUCERS: Philip Barantini, Brad Pitt, Dede Gardner, Jeremy Kleiner, Nina Wolarsky, Hannah Walters, Mark Herbert, Emily Feller
CO-EXEC PRODUCERS: Carina Sposato, Niall Shamma, Peter Balm

COMMON SIDE EFFECTS

CREATORS/EXEC PRODUCERS:

Joe Bennett, Steve Hely

EXEC PRODUCERS: Mike Judge, Greg Daniels, Dustin Davis, James Merrill, Sean Buckelew, Benjy Brooke, Kelly Crews, Suzanna Makkos

CO-EXEC PRODUCER: Dave King

FOREVER

CREATOR/EXEC PRODUCER:

Mara Brock Akil

EXEC PRODUCERS: Regina King, Susie Fitzgerald, Shana C. Waterman, Reina King, Anthony Hemingway, Judy Blume, Erika Harrison, Sara E. White
CO-EXEC PRODUCER: Jerron Horton

MR LOVERMAN

EXEC PRODUCERS: Lennie James, Hong Khaou, Jo McClellan, Faye Ward, Hannah Farrell, Hannah Price

NORTH OF NORTH

CREATORS/EXEC PRODUCERS:

Stacey Aglok MacDonald, Alethea Arnaquq-Baril
EXEC PRODUCERS: Garry Campbell, Anya Adams, Susan Coyne, Miranda de Pencier

CO-EXEC PRODUCERS:

Teresa M. Ho, Michael Goldbach, Kathryn Borel Jr., JP Larocque

BEST LEAD PERFORMANCE IN A NEW SCRIPTED SERIES

SYDNEY CHANDLER – Alien: Earth

STEPHEN GRAHAM – Adolescence

ETHAN HAWKE – The Lowdown

LENNIE JAMES – Mr Loverman

ANNA LAMBE – North of North

LOLA PETTICREW – Say Nothing

SETH ROGEN – The Studio

LOVIE SIMONE – Forever

MICHELLE WILLIAMS – Dying for Sex

NOAH WYLE – The Pitt

BEST SUPPORTING PERFORMANCE IN A NEW SCRIPTED SERIES

ARIYON BAKARE – Mr Loverman

BABOU CEESAY – Alien: Earth

SHARON D. CLARKE – Mr Loverman

TAYLOR DEARDEN – The Pitt

ERIN DOHERTY – Adolescence

STEPHEN MCKINLEY HENDERSON – A Man on the Inside

POORNA JAGANNATHAN – Deli Boys

XOSH ROQUEMORE – Forever

JENNY SLATE – Dying for Sex

BEN WHISHAW – Black Doves

BEST BREAKTHROUGH PERFORMANCE IN A NEW SCRIPTED SERIES

ASIF ALI – Deli Boys

WALLY BARAM – Overcompensating

OWEN COOPER – Adolescence

MICHAEL COOPER JR. – Forever

ERNEST KINGSLEY JUNIOR – Washington Black

BEST ENSEMBLE CAST IN A NEW SCRIPTED SERIES

CHIEF OF WAR

ENSEMBLE CAST: Charlie Brumbly, Luciane Buchanan, Cliff Curtis, Brandon Finn, Moses Goods, Te Ao o Hinepehinga, Benjamin Hoetjes, Siua Ikale'o, Keala Kahunui-Paleka, Mainei Kinimaka, Kaina Makua, Jason Momoa, Temuera Morrison, Te Kohe Tuhaka, James Udom