



## DEAR FRIENDS OF FILM STREAMS,

"Welcome back!" This message has graced our screens since our reopening in late May of 2021, and the sentiment could not be more heartfelt. We missed our audiences, and they, in turn, missed us.

My most sincere thanks go to Casey Logan, who helmed Film Streams as Interim Executive Director for over a year, through a period of unprecedented change and instability. Thanks to Casey — now serving as Managing Director — along with Board Chair Mike Lebens and the rest of our dedicated board and staff, we were poised to successfully reopen our theaters shortly after my arrival as our organization's new leader.

The robust reopening was but one of many accomplishments. Later in the year, we were the only theater outside New York or Los Angeles to screen *Citizen Ashe*. We hosted the film's co-director, Rex Miller, who met with students from the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands. Even when travel was not possible, we ran personal introductions, recorded just for Film Streams' audiences, from directors like Todd Haynes (*The Velvet Underground*), Justine Bateman (*Violet*), and Julie Cohen (*Julia*). The talent of our programming team was evident throughout the year. If you attended even a handful of films in 2021, you likely noticed their work, including fun analysis videos that ran before *The French Dispatch* and *Nightmare Alley*.

2022 is a significant anniversary year for Film Streams: We're celebrating 5 years since reopening the Dundee Theater and 15 years of the Ruth Sokolof Theater. As we take stock of our growth over the years, we also want to remain committed to our core values. We are taking time this year for a deep inward look through the lens of equity, diversity, and inclusion, aided by Minneapolis-based consultants Team Dynamics. I invite you to join us on the journey as we build a foundation for the next decades of arthouse cinema in Omaha!

Warmest and best regards,



A stylized, handwritten signature in pink ink.

Deirdre Haj  
Film Streams Executive Director

My second and final year as Board Chair was also our second COVID-impacted year. Despite being closed for the first months of 2021, I feel that our organization accomplished a great deal. First and foremost, we successfully hired Deirdre Haj as our new Executive Director. Deirdre's film-industry pedigree and commitment to diversity and inclusion made her the obvious pick for our growing nonprofit. We were so thrilled she agreed to move to Omaha from Minneapolis to lend her vision and leadership.

We were also able to safely and successfully reopen in 2021. The Dundee Theater was first, welcoming patrons back in May. The immediate response was overwhelming. We consistently exceeded national per screen averages, meaning the Dundee was beating national chains at the box office.

After a significant remodel, the Ruth Sokolof Theater came back online in August. If you have not come downtown to experience our warmer spaces, new seats, and improved sound, you are in for a pleasant surprise.

I was heartened to see our members come back to our cinemas. During our closure, membership took an understandable dip. It is a testament to Film Streams' value to our community, and their recognition of our commitment to the art form of film, that so many rejoined when we opened our doors.

Looking toward the future, it is my joy to welcome our 2022-2023 Board Chair, Sarah Bay Yale. I can say with confidence that Sarah, Deirdre, and our talented board and staff are poised and ready to lead Film Streams into a new era of cinematic experience.



A stylized, handwritten signature in pink ink.

Mike Lebens  
Film Streams Board Chair, 2020-2021



**MISSION: TO ENHANCE THE CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE  
OMAHA-COUNCIL BLUFFS AREA THROUGH THE PRESENTATION AND  
DISCUSSION OF FILM AS AN ART FORM**



# 2021 Income & Expenditures

## Contributed Support (%)

Individuals	\$483,602
Corporations	\$86,000
Foundations	\$795,500
Government Grants	\$601,640
<b>Total Contributed</b>	<b>\$1,966,742</b>

## Earned Revenues (%)

Box Office	\$174,367
Concessions	\$128,644
Membership Dues	\$145,155
Program Service Fee & Misc	\$108,543
Sales Tax on Tax Revenues	-\$30,798
<b>Total Earned Revenue</b>	<b>\$525,911</b>
To/From Unrestricted Net Assets	-\$733,741

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,758,912</b>
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## Expense

General Programming	\$769,856
New Release Films	\$310,391
Repertory Films	\$25,782
Education Programs	\$85,281
Courses Programs	\$28,270
Comm Eng. & Special Programs	\$130,395

<b>Total Programming Expense</b>	<b>\$1,349,975</b>
(77%)	

<b>Management &amp; General</b>	<b>\$276,144</b>
(16%)	

<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>\$132,793</b>
(8%)	

<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$1,758,912</b>
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*\*Figures have not yet been audited at time of publication.*

NEW RELEASES



We continued to show the best in new independent, foreign, and documentary film **in our cinemas** and through **Film Streams @Home**. We reopened the Dundee Theater in May with Members Select winners *Nomadland* and *Minari*. The Ruth Sokolof Theater returned with *Annette*.

54 first-run films shown in theaters

84 first-run films shown on our streaming platform, Film Streams @Home

29 different countries of origin

48 feature-length documentaries



- 3 — In the Heights
- 4 — The Green Knight
- 5 — Belfast
- 6 — Summer of Soul (...or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)
- 7 — Licorice Pizza
- 8 — Julia
- 9 — Dune
- 10 — CODA



Most Popular New Releases on Film Streams @Home

- 1 — The 2021 Oscar Shorts



54 first-run films shown in theaters

84 first-run films shown on our streaming platform, Film Streams @ Home

29 different countries of origin

48 feature-length documentaries

Most Popular New Releases in Theater

- 1 — Roadrunner
- 2 — The French Dispatch





CLASSICS



OMAHA STEAKS CLASSICS

Classic film returned to our theaters in 2021. We did the Time Warp again, spent an evening at the museum, and adventurous viewers enjoyed our first horror-movie marathon.



Interior Luxe:  
Art Deco in Three Films

Presented with Joslyn Art Museum  
Supported by Omaha Steaks  
& Sam Walker

- The Wizard of Oz (1939)
- Flying Down to Rio (1933)
- Grand Hotel (1932)

Outdoor screening of Trouble in Paradise (1932) at Joslyn Art Museum



Restorations & Revivals

- La Piscine (1969)
- The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992)
- White Christmas (1946) MEMBERS SELECT
- It's a Wonderful Life (1954)

Midnight Movies

- The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)

Film Streams: The Marathon

- I Know What You Did Last Summer (1997)
- The Wicker Man (1973)
- Evil Dead II (1987)



Art by Haunted Gauntlet

**EDUCATION**

Learners both young and grown engaged with film through our education programs in 2021. Middle school and high school students visited through our Daytime Education Program. We presented seminars for adult learners. And film lovers all over the world watched our videos on YouTube.

**THANKS TO**

- The Gifford Foundation
- Heider Family Foundation
- Ike and Roz Friedman Foundation
- John W. Carson Foundation through the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment



**Virtual**

**1,200 YouTube views**

- Narrative in Film: How the Story is Retold
- Impact: French Colonialism and African Film
- Animation: Style that Has Meaning
- How Environmental Films Urge Agency
- The Psychology of Happiness in Film
- Costume Design in Film: Can Clothes Communicate?
- The Horror of Light & Sound
- STYLE: Wes Anderson

**Courses: Deep Dives**

Girl Power: Girls to the Front!

**SEPTEMBER**

Culture Vultures: Paparazzi and Celebrity Culture

**NOVEMBER**

**Daytime Education Program 2021**

**13 screenings**

Attended by **554** students from **15** different schools

- Selma (2014)
- Persepolis (2007)
- No (2012)
- Woman at War (2018)
- Blackfish (2013)

Special Thanks to the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Nebraska Medical Center for supporting Film Streams' Student Night.





COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS & SPECIAL PROGRAMS

In theaters and online, we enhanced our programming with discussions, introductions, and special guests. Some filmmakers graced our cinemas with messages recorded just for Film Streams audiences.



In Theater

Pre-recorded Intros

- Todd Haynes, director of *The Velvet Underground*
- Justine Bateman, director of *Violet*
- Julie Cohen, director of *Julia*
- Art Cullen, subject of *Storm Lake*

Special Intro

- CODA with Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing



[S] Science on Screen

- Gremlins with UNMC

Visiting Filmmaker

- Citizen Ashe with co-director Rex Miller
- Free tickets for Boys & Girls Club of the Midlands supported by Widman Youth Engagement Fund



Photo by Harrison Martin

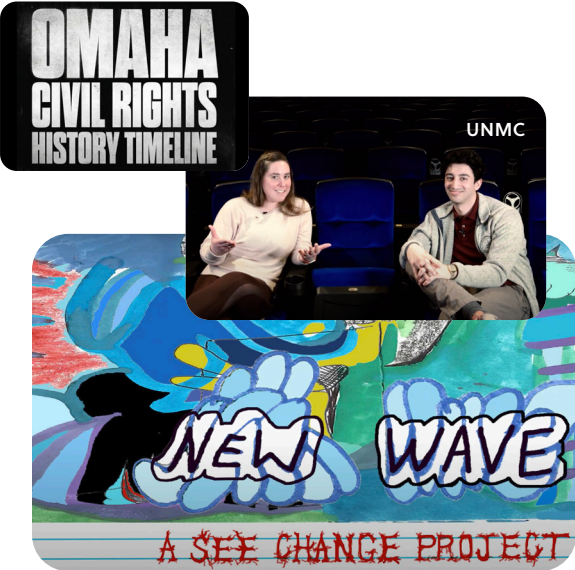
Local Filmmakers Showcase



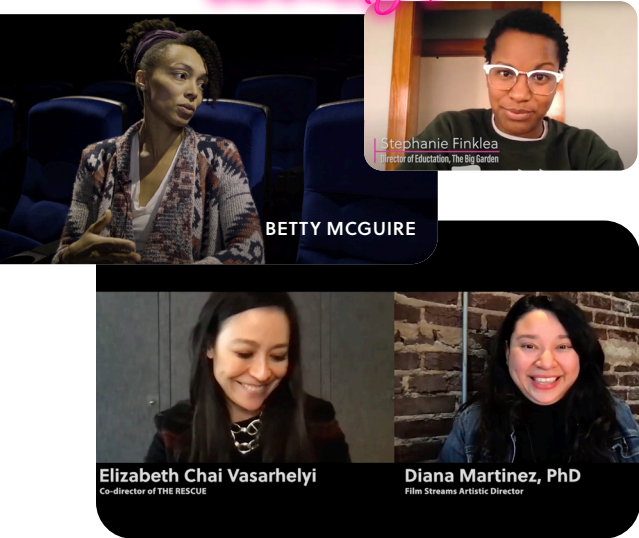
November 16 & 21  
Jurors: Paul Allen, Uroosa Jawed, Judy Kiagiri, Jade Rogers, Sharon Teo-Gooding, and Ken White

**The Program** | 8 films, 142 minutes  
Focus | Landon Fiscus (Omaha, NE)  
The Music of Erich Zann | Elijah Quinn (Lincoln, NE)  
20th Century Wallpaper | Wheeler Winston Dixon (Lincoln, NE)  
BLS: Black Liberation Space | Trevon Jakaar Coleman (Iowa City, IA)  
Remember the Drumstick | Cathy Lohmeier (Omaha, NE)  
Next of Kin | Marissa Vonn (Agency, IA)  
Student Spotlight: Take One | Kaylie Waite (Lincoln, NE)  
The Bright Side | Michael Anthony Huntington | Written by Demian Alan Mancino (Coralville, IA)

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS & SPECIAL PROGRAMS



COMMUNITY  
*connects*



Virtual

1,200 YouTube views

- Community Connects: Black History Month with Great Plains Black History Museum & NOISE
- Science on Screen: Ikarie XB 1 with SAC Aerospace Museum
- New Wave: ¡Presente! Media
- Community Connects: Women's History Month with House of Afros, Capes and Curls & Women's Fund of Omaha
- Science on Screen: Teknolust with UNMC
- Community Connects: Earth Day with the Big Garden & Omaha Public Library
- Jury Announcement: 2021 Local Filmmakers Showcase
- Science on Screen: Dope is Death with Betty McGuire
- Filmmaker Q&A: Oscar-winner Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi
- Top 21 of 2021: A Staff List



NOISE



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF THE MIDLANDS

¡Presente!  
MEDIA

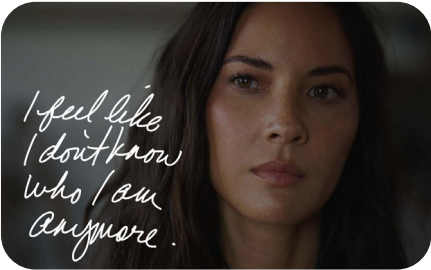


COMMITTED TO EQUITY

As part of our commitment to equity in our organization and community at large, in 2021 Film Streams began an 18-month engagement with Team Dynamics, a national strategy firm focused on helping leaders and workplaces live up to their potential through intentional and meaningful culture change.

This training will involve every element of our work and will require the participation of all Film Streams staff, volunteers, and Board members. It will progress over three phases: an assessment period to evaluate what is and isn't currently in our awareness, creating equity goals and metrics, and a time of training focused on actionable skills and capacity building.

We hope to share more about how we are working toward an ever more inclusive Film Streams as our organization does this work.



## COMMITTED TO EQUITY



# SEE CHANGE

Launched in 2020, See Change is our initiative to reach gender parity among the directors of the films we show. It's no easy task — in 2021, just 12% of the top 100 films in theaters were directed by women.

39% women-directed films across all our programs, virtually and theatrically, in 2021

81 new releases by woman directors in 2021



### — **Julia**

our highest grossing woman-directed film in theaters

### — **Shiva Baby**

our highest grossing woman-directed film on Film Streams @Home

### — **Nia DaCosta's Candyman**

which screened at the Ruth Sokolof Theater — became the first movie directed by a Black woman to reach #1 at the national box office.



Learn more at [FilmStreams.org/SeeChange](https://FilmStreams.org/SeeChange).



## RE-RUTH!



In Spring 2021, we made a major investment in the future of our original venue, the Ruth Sokolof Theater.

- Roomier seats, additional sound-proofing, and fresh carpet installed in both theaters
- Sound systems in both auditoriums upgraded to 7.1 surround sound
- Hearing loop technology for the deaf and hard of hearing installed in both houses
- In the larger theater, The Mary, we demolished and rebuilt our stadium seating section to allow more leg room
- The smaller theater — now dubbed The Rachel — was dedicated in honor of our founding executive director, Rachel Jacobson

We reopened the Ruth in August with one of our favorite films of 2021, *Annette*



# FILM STREAMS SUPPORTERS

Many thanks to the following contributors for their support of our day-to-day operations.

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*In Memory of Sharon Ludwig*  
Michelle Ludwig

*In Honor of Film Streams Staff*  
Deirdre & Joseph Haj

*In Memory of David Jacobson*  
Lynn & Daniel Rubin

*In Honor of Katie Weitz*  
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*In honor of Rachel Jacobson and David Jacobson for their induction into the 2021 Aksarben Court of Honor*  
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*In Honor of the Reopening of Film Streams*  
Nancy Hornstein

*In Memory of Doug Marr*  
Laura Marr

*In Honor of Todd & Betiana Simon*  
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*In Memory of Judith Welk*  
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Jordana & Jim Glazer

*In Memory of Ramona Hamann*  
Jordana & Jim Glazer



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Charity Dorner  
*Shift Manager*  
Jazmine Duff  
*Shift Manager*  
Deirdre Haj  
*Executive Director*  
Crystal Hartford  
*Director of Operations*  
Patrick Kinney  
*Director of Marketing*  
Kenneth Laster  
*Programming Assistant*  
Aaron Lee  
*Shift Manager*  
Art Lehr  
*Projectionist*  
Casey Logan  
*Managing Director*  
Matt Maine  
*Lead Projectionist*  
Diana Martinez, PhD  
*Artistic Director*  
Sean Pratt  
*Operations Manager*  
Amélie Raoul  
*Production Specialist*  
Kevin Rooney  
*Lead Projectionist*  
Paul Sanchez  
*Education Coordinator*  
Bilgesu Sisman  
*Community Programming Manager*  
Connie White  
*Balcony Booking*

### Part-Time Operations Staff

Katie Alford  
Courtney Bierman  
Jacob Brown  
Sarah Budz  
Patrick Clark  
Efren Cortez  
Theresa Crnkovich  
Mitch Fey  
TJ Jones  
Bridget Lachowsky  
Colin McGrew  
Thalia Rodgers  
Jason Rumbaugh  
Ivy Sutton  
Travis Upshaw





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