

**1. Best First Time Filmmaker**

- a. **Julianna Fox. Never Better (Dramady/Comedy) (Los Angeles California).**  
TRT 81 min. Terese is a recent college grad with Cystic Fibrosis living through the summer of 2020. She combats the time loop of quarantine with an unstoppable internal dialogue, a healthy dose of sarcasm, and lots of beer. When her self-interested roommate returns and fails to practice safe social distancing, Terese finds that boredom may be the least of her worries.  
[https://www.instagram.com/neverbetter\\_film/](https://www.instagram.com/neverbetter_film/)

**2. BEST DRAMA Feature**

- a. **The Whole Lot. (DRAMA) Director Connor Rickman. Writer Mathew Ivan Bennett, Producer Themba Moyo, Lindy Stokes, Key Cast: Sarah McLoney, Blake Webb, Aaron Kramer. (Salt Lake City, Utah) TRT 75 min.** A woman, her husband, and her estranged brother meet at their late father's property to divide his estate and confront an uncomfortable family history.  
<https://www.instagram.com/thewholelotfilm/>

**3. BEST Thriller Short:**

- a. **JUGANDO CON FUEGO. (Thriller) Director, Writer Nicholas Ortiz, Writer, Robert Jefferson, Producer Mark Wiley, Tayari Casel, Key Cast: Robert James Samuels, Hector Soria, Jose Manuel, Tora Aledia, Rosaliinda Vasquez, Armando blackguard, Juanita Reyes, Miguel Alexandro Peralt. (NY, NY) TRT 38 min.** Follow one man's blood soaked pursuit of revenge through the dark underbelly of Mexico. Sometimes Justice is Revenge !!  
<http://bit.ly/3U0Ftu9>

**4. BEST Documentary FEATURE:**

- a. **Blind Eye Artist. (Documentary) Featuring Justin Wadlington. Producers Jonathan Korn & Ashwiin Chaudbury. Director Ashwin Chaudbury. Director of Photography Jonathan Korn. (Brooklyn, NY) TRT 91 min.** In March of 2020, artist Justin Wadlington was about to unveil his latest acrylic painting, a large-scale self-portrait, when a global pandemic brought the world to a halt. For Justin, adversity was nothing new, and he decided to make the best of the situation by starting another painting in quarantine called "Black American Dream." The film flashes back to how Justin's life was changed forever when a tragic accident left him blind in one eye at the age of 5. Growing up without parents in the inner city of Philadelphia, Justin's youth was a constant struggle to survive, as he lived in emergency shelters and group homes throughout his school years. <http://blindeyeartist.movie>

**5. BEST Documentary SHORT:**

- a. **Is This Art? Director Stuart Fordyce, Writer Stuart Fordyce, Producer Bruno Kohfield-Galeano, Producer, Key Cast Brooke Larsen. (Los Angeles, CA/Philadelphia PA USA) TRT 26:14 min.** In 1974, Atlantic City, New Jersey,

received its first modern art sculpture by artist Brooke Larsen. The sculpture became a controversial issue and began a long, arduous battle to demolish Brooke's sculpture. <http://bit.ly/3EC7ToM>

**6. Best HORROR Feature**

- a. **Landlocked. Director, Writer, Producer Paul Owens. Key Cast: Mason Owens. (San Francisco, CA). TRT 74:41 min.** Summoned to his soon-to-be demolished childhood home, Mason discovers an old VHS camera that can see into the past, driving him to record as many memories as possible before the doomed house is destroyed.

[https://www.instagram.com/landlocked\\_film/](https://www.instagram.com/landlocked_film/)

**7. Best HORROR Short**

- a. **The Birth of Destruction. Director, Writer, Producer Grady R. Jones. Producer Darryl Gresham, Earl Brooks. Key Cast: JodyAnn McIntosh, Ryan Irving, Kennedy Amber. (New Castle, DE) TRT 6:20 min.** A pregnant woman wakes up tied to a bed surrounded by 4 strangers. They tell her she is about to give birth. The problem is, she's only 4 months pregnant. Why isn't she in the hospital and who are these people? The Birth of Destruction.

**8. Best Music Documentary**

- a. **Rhythms of Migration. Director, Writer, Producer Stephen McNally, John Wassel. (Los Angeles, CA) TRT 55:33 min.** Rhythms of Migration follows a group of African youth migrants living in Sicily as they create a musical album about their migration experiences. Working with producer Alex Polydoroff and migrant activist Ramzi Harrabi, their music touches on everything from their hopes for their new lives in Europe to the horrors they experienced as teenagers in war-torn Libya.

**9. BEST Music Video:**

- a. **I Gets No Sleep. Writer, Director, Producer, Key Cast: JD Ferenc. A music video director moonlights as talent during the pandemic. A 14 minute film told through song. (Tarrytown, NY) TRT 14 min.** "The artist captured a moment when a lot of artists were starving to artistically create".

<http://beatwatch.net>

**10. BEST WEB SERIES:**

- a. **Complete Time Travel Guide / Denboran Bidaiatzeko Gida Osoa. Director Oliver Mend, (Spain / Basque) TRT 15 min.** Three friends meet at their usual bar and a severe confinement is declared, one which will force them to stay inside the bar the whole night. But when they smoke in the back part and come back to the bar everything seems to have changed: they have traveled in time!

**11. BEST ANIMATION:**

- a. **Miracle. (Animation) Director Shaofu Zhang (China/USA) TRT 7:10 min.** In modern day Xian, two siblings will have the most memorable adventure of their lives. Silkma, a curious and naughty boy and his adorable younger sister Lingmi are visiting their Grandma's house. <http://bit.ly/3i9kb0n>

**12. BEST Comedy Feature**

- a. **12 months (Comedy). Director: Clinton Cornwell. Cast: Elizabeth Hirsch Tauber, Michael James Kell. (Idaho/Hawaii, USA). TRT 97 min.** With a fully improvised script, "12 Months" candidly portrays moments that are commonly experienced but rarely shown as it follows the story of Ellie and Clark, a millennial couple, navigating the peaks and valleys of a new relationship while not shying away from topics of sexism, racism, and mental health as they arise, "12 Months" is a love story rooted in the real world, not in a Hollywood fairytale. <https://www.12monthsfilm.com>

**13. Best COMEDY Short**

- a. **\$TACK\$. (Comedy) Director, Writer, Producer Gerald Webb. Producer Mark Christopher Lawrence, Meredith Thomas. Key Cast: Mark Christopher Lawrence, Diahanna Nicole Baxter, Calvin Winbush, Tarnue Massaquoi, Jamie Burton-Oare, Jadarrel Beiser. (Burbank, California) TRT 7:26 min.** Unprecedented times force two fierce rivals to come face to face, for the first time in over a decade, to close a deal for the most valuable substance on earth. Featuring the Daytime Emmy nominated performance of Mark Christopher Lawrence as Hector, \$TACK\$ is a sarcastic plea for every viewer to be responsible for the attitudes, assumptions and judgments buried deep inside themselves. Its timely message taunts, teases and dares the audience to discover the film's hidden twists and clues before their own biases and assumptions lead them down the wrong path. <https://www.stacksmovie.com/>

**14. Best VR/Augmented Reality**

- a. **Uka Pachu (VR/Augmented Reality). Director Diegobonilla, Writer TRT .** In an old van crossing the Andes, three unknown passengers share a secret. A person has committed suicide, the victim of false news spread on social media, and someone blames them for it. You are the fourth passenger and witness of their journey through the Uku Pacha seeking to return the natural order, the order of the Andean worldview. Each trip is a different story, a recurring dream where events never happen in the same way or in the same order: an opportunity for salvation or condemnation.

**15. BEST FILM SCORE:**

- a. **Blueberry Hall. Director, Writer, Producer Keshav Tyagi. Producer Ty Dixon Producer Sean Patrick Eaton. Key Cast: Mat Holmes, Chris Lam, Josh**

**Bonzie, Cinematographer: Samuel Calvin, Editors: Mark Sult, Michael Mazzola, Casting Director: Chris Freihofer, Sound Mixer: Brian Gililand. (Edmond, Oklahoma) TRT 81 min.** Ian's golden ticket to Harvard Law School is winning the Debate National Championship, but when funding falls through, he and his friends sell prescription drugs as they snowball into a world of crime, drugs, and politics. <https://blueberryhalfilm.com>

**16. BEST FOREIGN FILM:**

- a. **Nightline (Thriller) Director & Writer Robert Sedlacek, Producer Jiri Tucek, Key Cast: Karel Roden, Barbora Bockova, Vilma Cibulkova, Igor Bares, and Denisa Baresova. (Czech Republic) TRT 94 min.** A bittersweet tale around a live interview radio broadcast that changes the lives of several innocent people. After lying low in the USA for almost 20 years Radek makes a surprise visit to his home city of Prague. Tech savvy he manages to avoid revealing all forms of his identity and location to tell his story on a late night radio phone-in show hosted by ambitious young journalist Eva. <https://donartfilm.com>

**17. BEST Science Fiction Feature:**

- a. **Alchemy of The Spirit (Sci-fi, Supernatural, Gothic, Mystery) Director Steve Balderson, Writer Sarah Clarke, Elizabeth Spear, Steve Balderson, Xander Berkeley. (USA) TRT 90 min.** The Great American artist Oliver Black (Xander Berkeley) wakes to discover his wife Evelyn (Sarah Clarke) has died in their bed overnight. Brimming with magical realism, we enter a world in which the misconceptions of our belief in a solid reality are revealed. Space and time bend in a way to challenge the audience with what is real, what is illusion, and what is beyond. <https://www.dikenga.com/alchemy-of-the-spirit>

**18. BEST Science Fiction Short:**

- a. **Cognition. (Sci-Fi). Director, Writer Ravi Ajit Chopra, Writer Gavin McClenaghan, Key Cast: Andrew Scott, Jeremy Irvine, Wolf Kahler, Lucy Russell. Sound, Stuart McCowan. Music, Samuel Karl Bohn. Music Score, BBC Concert Orchestra. Visual Effects, Peerless, Territory Studios, Foundry (Industry Nuke Software), Chocolate Tribe. (London, UK) TRT 25 min.** We are immediately thrown into a dystopian world beautifully created by director, and first-time writer, Ravi Ajit Chopra. From bio-tech chips in necks, soldiers in strict formation and sophisticated spaceships, the intricate details and care given to this aesthetic are apparent from the short film's first frame.

**19. BEST POLITICAL short:**

- a. **Emoticon. Director Padrick S Ritch (Boston, MA USA) TRT 2:11.** 16mm and Super 8 film. **\*\*NO WEBSITE AVAILABLE\*\***

**20. Best Experimental Film**

- a. **Night Mother. (Experimental)** Director John Patrick Lowrie, Writer Ellen McLain, Producer Sheila Houlahan & Sarah Parsons. Key Cast: Sheila Houlahan & Ellen Lain, Director of Photography Trevor Roach, Editor Adriana Guiman, Soundtrack John Patrick Lowrie, Set Photography Eli Reed. (Seattle, Washington) TRT 64 min. Set amidst the COVID-19 pandemic during a Zoom conversation between a mother and daughter, Jessie (Sheila Houlahan) tells her mother Thelma (Ellen McLain) that she will commit suicide within the hour. Exploring the concentric circles of isolation, grief, and suicide, this hybrid film based on Marsha Norman's Pulitzer Prize-winning play portrays a poignant and haunting picture of the current state of mental health care in America. **\*\*NO WEBSITE AVAILABLE\*\***

#### 21. Best Local Film - Feature

- a. **Turbo Cola. (Drama)** Director Luke Covert, Writer Samantha Oty Writer, Luke Covert, Matthew Kiskis, Producer Brandon Scott Keeton. Key Cast: Nick Stoesser, Jared Spears, Jordyn Denning, Landon Tavernier, Brooke Maroon, Anthony Notarile, Erin Nordseth. (Harrisburg, PA USA). TRT 90 min. AUSTIN MORRIS is foregoing the biggest party of the year to work overtime at the Quality Mart, much to the chagrin of his new girlfriend, Mary Jane. What his friends don't know, however, is that his true plan is to rob the store's ATM with his stoner side-kick, SWEARSKY, so that he can be with the girl of his dreams. This New Year's Eve...1999...will change everything.  
<https://www.covertfilm.com/turbocola>

#### 22. Best Local film - Short

- a. **The Time Thief. Director - Kyra Knox, Simone Holland. Producer, Kyra Knox. Director of Photography, Simone Holland. (Philadelphia, PA USA) TRT 4:49 min.** THE TIME THIEF showcases the work of software engineer turned artist Steven Taylor who uses his photography to capture authentic moments that give credence to the beautiful legacy of blackness and black culture in Philadelphia and the world at large. Steven opened the first black-owned, single artist fine art photography gallery in the United States to create creative conversation in his majority-black community of Germantown.  
<https://www.instagram.com/kyraknox/>