

Soo Film Festival

August 1&2, 2014

Soo Theatre

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan



Great Lakes, Great Movies!

Festival Guide

soofilmfestival.org

Welcome!

Welcome to the first ever Soo Film Festival!

Over two days we are showcasing the work of independent and emerging filmmakers from the Great Lakes of North America while bringing movies back to downtown Sault Ste. Marie and the historic Soo Theatre. We think you will enjoy this year's selection of narratives, documentaries, animation, and music videos, all with a Great Lakes connection.

Our inspiration for this festival is the historic Soo Theatre. It was a proud day in March of 1930 when the Soo Theatre opened her doors for the first time. More than two thousand patrons flocked to the theatre in its first few days and, for nearly seventy years, it provided the authentic small-town movie experience.

As the business of showing movies changed, the Soo Theatre changed with it. It was converted into a two-screen movie house in 1974 but, as so many downtown cinemas were forced to do, it closed in 1998.

After sitting vacant for a number of years, through tremendous local support, the building was purchased and reopened in 2005 as a venue for live theatre and music performance. Expansion was made possible through a state grant to build dance and music studios. A windfall donation of lights and sound equipment, rigging and curtains, and comfortable seats provided a giant boost to the theatre's ability to produce live theatre. The Soo Theatre has now become a bustling center for arts education and performance.

From the beginning with its stage and fly space, the Soo Theatre was a place for live shows. For most people, though, it was a place to go to the movies. Many people still want that movie experience in their beloved old theatre, and that's where we and you come in. In this first festival we hope to help the Soo Theatre begin to reclaim that part of her heritage and re-emerge as a movie theatre in the 21st century.

Silent films, "talkies," Technicolor, and even celluloid film itself have all come and gone. First-run movies are now released exclusively in digital format. While many mourn the passing of the 35mm format, digital technology has been a boon to indie filmmakers. YouTube has changed the way we look at ourselves. In the digital age people everywhere can now afford to tell their stories to a worldwide audience. Film festivals have proliferated so that people can share the experience of those stories together. We are pleased to be a part of it and we are excited to have you join us.

Enjoy the festival!

THE VENUE

All films will be screened at the Soo Theatre, located at 534 Ashmun Street in downtown Sault Ste. Marie.

PARKING

The Soo Film Festival coincides with Sault Ste. Marie's Sidewalk Sales and Ashmun Street will be closed to traffic from 9am to 6pm. The closest option for parking will be behind the theatre in the lots along Oaka Street and in the Parking Garage. Use the walkway next to the Avery Center to get to Ashmun Street. Festival goers will also be to park on Court Street and walk through the Sault Tribe Administration Building to get to Ashmun Street.

Tickets

TICKETS AND PASSES

Festival Pass \$30 (admission to all films and shorts programs)

Single Film Ticket \$5

TICKET ON-SALE DATES

Saturday, July 19

HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS

You can purchase all Soo Film Festival tickets and passes online by clicking on the “Add to Cart” buttons on the Tickets page or on the individual film pages. You can also charge by phone by calling the Soo Theatre Box Office at (906) 632-1930.

Individual film tickets at will call will be available at the Soo Theatre beginning 30 minutes before the film start time. You may pick up festival passes at the Soo Theatre box office Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or 30 minutes before the first screening you wish to attend.

TICKET FAQ

If I purchase a single film ticket, do I have a reserved seat?

Single film tickets are reserved for a screening of a specific film with a specific screening time and date; however, having a ticket does not guarantee you a seat. You must arrive at the Soo Theatre at least 15 minutes before the scheduled screening start time.

Are festival passes good for any screening?

Yes; however, please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the screening you wish to attend to assure yourself the opportunity to secure a seat.

If a screening sells out online, will tickets still be available?

Potentially – advance ticket sales do not cover 100% of the seating for a screening. To check on availability of tickets the day of a screening, simply show up at the venue 30 minutes before the screening begins and ask!

Can ticket purchases be refunded or exchanged?

We regret that tickets cannot be refunded except in the case of a cancelled screening. Exchanges, when possible, will be subject to a \$1.00 processing fee per order.

I lost my tickets. What should I do?

In the event that you have misplaced your Soo Film Festival tickets, please contact the Soo Theatre Box Office at (906) 632-1930. Soo Film Festival personnel will locate your ticket order in our system by order number or the last name of the purchaser.

Films – Narrative Features

All films are in English and produced in the U.S. unless otherwise noted.

CONSIDERATION – SNEAK PREVIEW

Narrative Feature, 2014, 73 min



A young woman drowning in student loan debt enters into an arrangement with a wealthy older man. But what's supposed to be a stopgap until she gets a law job, soon becomes complicated when she falls for a more age-appropriate man, and the line between arrangement and relationship begins to blur.

This is SNEAK PREVIEW screening of a work-in-progress.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in southeast Michigan. One scene was shot on the Detroit River.

Director: V. Prasad

Producer: Barbara Twist

Screenwriter: Amy Butler

Cinematographer: Alan Torres

Editors: Steven Wang and Kevin Birou

Composers: Chris Dupont and Kastor Podgorski

Cast: Claire Richards, Mark Boyd, and Phil Maxwell

Director's Bio: Writer/director V. Prasad's produced work includes Ocean of Pearls. He has an MFA from the American Film Institute and teaches screenwriting at the University of Michigan.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 6:00PM

SOO THEATRE

Films – Narrative Features

DOGMAN

Narrative Feature, 2012, 90 min



Hanklin Purvis enjoys the outdoors, and he loves to hunt. He and his wife, Dorothy, live on a farm in the rural mid-west. For some reason, during the season before autumn, things start happening. The first victims are family pets, then wild animals. But it's not until people are injured that the police get involved. The attacker is not human, that's for sure, and it needs to be stopped. Then they discover that the wounds have a deadly bacteria and the clock is ticking for those infected. Enter Hanklin's neighbor, Francis Wellman, a Native American who believes she has discovered an ancient antidote. And will they ever find the perpetrator of these horrifying attacks? They do.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in Benzie County, Michigan.

Includes a special post-film Q&A with filmmaker Rich Brauer.

Director: Richard Brauer

Producer: Richard Brauer

Screenwriter: Richard Brauer

Cinematographer: Richard Brauer

Editor: Robert L. Tomlinson

Composer: Grant Floering

Cast: Stars Larry Joe Campbell (*According to Jim*), Mariann Mayberry (*War of the Worlds*), and Kimberly Guerrero (*Seinfeld*).

Director's Bio: Rich Brauer has produced hundreds of award-winning commercial and educational projects for clients as diverse as The History Channel, Subway Sandwiches, the U.S. Coast Guard, and many others. Brauer served as Director of Photography on the Jeff Daniels comedies *Escanaba in da Moonlight* (also Interim Producer) and *Super Sucker*, as well as on a remake of the classic Ambrose Bierce Civil War tale, "An Occurrence at Owl Creek." Brauer has been producing feature films since 1993, including *The Lost Treasure of Sawtooth Island* with Ernest Borgnine and *Barn Red* starring Ernest Borgnine and Kimberly Norris Guerrero.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 10:00PM
SOO THEATRE**

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Narrative Features

DOGMAN 2: THE WRATH OF THE LITTER – SNEAK PREVIEW

Narrative Feature, 2014, 86 min



It's one year later; the offspring of the Dogman have grown to massive size, and they've developed a very bad attitude. An expanding series of attacks force Hanklin, Dorothy, Meg, and Frances to come face-to-face with their worst nightmares - multiplied by seven.

Dogman II, The Wrath of The Litter, is the second installment in Rich Brauer's phenomenal *Dogman* series. The original leading cast returns, including Michigan native Larry Joe Campbell, Marianne Mayberry, Stacy Hadgikosti, and Kimberly Norris Guererro. For everyone who saw the original *Dogman* and wished for more face time with the creature...be careful what you wish for.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in Benzie County, Michigan, the site of many reported Dogman sightings.

This is SNEAK PREVIEW screening of a work-in-progress.

Includes a special post-film Q&A with filmmaker Rich Brauer.

Director: Richard Brauer

Producer: Richard Brauer

Screenwriter: Richard Brauer

Cinematographer: Richard Brauer

Editor: Robert L. Tomlinson

Composer: Grant Floering

Cast: Stars Larry Joe Campbell (*According to Jim*), Mariann Mayberry (*War of the Worlds*), and Kimberly Norris Guerrero (*Seinfeld*).

Director's Bio: Rich Brauer has produced hundreds of award-winning commercial and educational projects for clients as diverse as The History Channel, Subway Sandwiches, the U.S. Coast Guard, and many others. Brauer served as Director of Photography on the Jeff Daniels comedies *Escanaba in da Moonlight* (also Interim Producer) and *Super Sucker*, as well as on a remake of the classic Ambrose Bierce Civil War tale, "An Occurrence at Owl Creek." Brauer has been producing feature films since 1993, including *The Lost Treasure of Sawtooth Island* with Ernest Borgnine and *Barn Red* starring Ernest Borgnine and Kimberly Norris Guerrero.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 10:30PM
SOO THEATRE**

Films – Documentary Features

All films are in English and produced in the U.S. unless otherwise noted

BOMBS AWAY: GOODBYE GUARDIANS OF THE GREAT LAKES

Documentary Feature, 2008, 60 min



Michigan has been home to military installations since 1683; housing French troops, English soldiers, and eventually some of the first fighters ever built. These runways have not only trained the Tuskegee Airmen, but also launched the longest combat mission ever, striking Iraqi targets from half a world away.

Selfridge, Wurtsmith, Kincheloe, K I Sawyer. Join pilot/historian Ric Mixter as he not only chronicles the unique aviation history of these four Michigan airbases, but also flies the final B-52 flights from Wurtsmith and K I Sawyer. The film includes rare TV interviews with air crews, mechanics, World War II pilots, and a profile of Willow Run, the world's largest factory producing B-24 Liberator bombers during World War II.

Great Lakes connection: Airbases in Michigan.

Director: Ric Mixter

Producer: Ric Mixter

Screenwriter: Ric Mixter

Director's Bio: Ric Mixter is a Great Lakes diver, private pilot, and creator of documentaries that have found a worldwide audience on PBS, the Vision Network, and Outdoor Channel. He has been featured as an on-camera researcher for the Discovery Channel and History Channel, and is also an award-winning news reporter, working for stations all across Michigan. He created Airworthy Productions in 2000 and continues to produce industrial and fundraiser videos fulltime as a videographer.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 12:15PM
SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Documentary Features

A DIFFERENCE OF RIGHTS

Documentary Feature, 1980, 58 min



Does an 1835 treaty make Michigan Indians exempt from state fishing laws?
Has unregulated Indian fishing destroyed the fishery for sport fishing?
Should the State of Michigan control fishing in the interest of good management?
Is the controversy another example of broken treaty promises with Native Americans?

This 1980 film explores the history of the treaties, the interpretation by modern courts, and the claims made by sportsmen, Indians, and state officials. In the end, you will understand the commercial fishing business and the sport business, but you will have to weigh contradictory claims and judge them for yourself. The film does not take sides or offer judgments. It simply exhibits the evidence.

“Gill Net Film Not Bad Catch...As a piece of movie-making, it's remarkably good...A handsome film, the photography is crisp, sometimes gorgeous.” - Mike Hughes, film critic for the *Lansing State Journal*.

Great Lakes connection: Native American treaty fishing rights in Michigan on the Great Lakes.

Includes a special post-film Q&A with filmmaker BILL BLANCHARD. In addition, the filmmaker's paintings of people and scenes from the movie will be on display.

Director: Bill Blanchard

Producer: Bill Blanchard

Screenwriter: Bill Blanchard

Cinematographers: Christine Fecteau and Mark Eifert

Editor: Steve Heldt

Composers: Keith Axtel, Michael Carenbauer, Roger Humphrey, Ray Kamalay, Jeff Sipe, Lorne Watson

Director's Bio: Award-winning filmmaker and teacher, Bill Blanchard, is a lifelong Lansing resident.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 8:00PM
SOO THEATRE**

Films – Documentary Features

THE MICHIGAN BEER FILM

Documentary Feature, 2013, 118 min



The Michigan Beer Film celebrates old core values in a new generation of community-conscious consumers and the proliferation of the Michigan craft beer industry. At the same time, the film addresses some challenges that brewers and entrepreneurs encounter in the midst of the industry's rapid growth.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in Michigan, a Great Lakes state.

Director: Kevin R. Romeo

Producer: Kevin R. Romeo

Editor: Nicholas Benitez-Zajac

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 5:30PM
SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Documentary Features

NORTHERN LIGHT

Documentary Feature, 2013, 105 min



Northern Light interweaves the lives of three families in the northwoods of Michigan.

Set against the backdrop of a town's annual snowmobile race, this cinematic, observational documentary explores the American working class experience. As racers and their families pin their hopes to a 500 mile-long test of endurance, small triumphs and giant sacrifices are made along the way.

From a frozen corner of the country emerge three American families.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Director: Nick Bentgen

Producer: Lisa Kjerulff

Cinematographer: Nick Bentgen

Editor: Yoonha Park

Music: Saunder Jurriaans & Danny Bensi

Festivals: Official selection of the 2013 True/False Film Festival, Hot Docs, BAMcinemaFest, American Film Festival; winner of Most Innovative Feature Film at 2013 Visions du Réel; winner of Best Cinematography at 2013 New Orleans Film Festival.

Critics' Pick: *Village Voice*, *New York Times*

Director's Bio: Nick Bentgen is a Brooklyn-based Director / Cinematographer. He was selected for IFP & Film Society of Lincoln Center's Emerging Visions Program at the 2011 New York Film Festival. As a DP, Nick lensed Matt Wolf's *Teenage* (Tribeca / Hot Docs 2013), and Daniel Carbone's *Hide Your Smiling Faces* (Berlin / Tribeca 2013). He has directed commercials (New York City Ballet, Swarovski), music videos (Small Black, Pitchfork's *Juan's Basement*), and contributed to installations (Matt Keegan, *I [Apple] NY*). He has photographed spots for Apple, Friends of the Highline, Google, and American Express. *Northern Light* is his feature directorial debut.

Films – Documentary Features

NORTHERN LIGHT (continued)

Director's Statement: The Upper Peninsula of Michigan means a great deal to me. My father grew up in Saint Ignace, and my family has lived there for five generations. I've always been fascinated by the region's frozen landscape and the lifestyle it fosters.

I spent two years in Michigan filming *Northern Light*. My filmmaking partner, Lisa Kjerulff, and I began photographing three families who were about to compete in the Sault Ste. Marie I-500, an annual snowmobile race in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

This race was unlike anything we'd ever seen—a rich and dramatic community gathering and an undeniably cinematic spectacle. Snowmobiles hurtled at breakneck speeds around a mile-long oval track of pure ice for 500 miles. A crowd of thousands stood on giant hills of snow, transfixed throughout the morning and into the freezing night. We quickly discovered that beyond the loud, explosive action of this race was a community marked by genuine devotion and hard work—breakfasts before dawn, prayers before dinner, and naps after the night shift.

We continued to film after the race, capturing intimate portraits of these families as they were making it through the day. As we kept filming, the effects of the financial crisis took hold of the country, and the lives of Walt, Marie, Emily & Isaac and their families began to change profoundly.

We became captivated by their dramatic and unexpected stories. We decided to craft an observational film that tracks the intertwining lives of these three families—no interviews, no explanations, just the drama of life unfolding in the present tense.

We stayed in each family's home and cooked dinners together. We shared many warm holidays. Emily, Isaac, Walt, Becky, Nick and Marie and their families invited us into their lives with a level of trust and honesty that still amazes me. They allowed us to create an emotional film that immerses the viewer in the changing lives of working class Americans.

Throughout the production of this film, I was humbled by the stubborn work-ethic of the families I came to know. Walt woke before dawn to drive his eighteen-wheeler to Alabama, Texas, and Pennsylvania. In the span of a single day, Marie worked the early shift at Walmart, picked up extra hours as a cleaning lady, cooked dinner for her children, and studied for her exams late into the night.

The families of rural Michigan are the inheritors of pioneers and homesteaders; ruggedly independent and determined, living with hope in an unforgiving environment and retaining a spirit of self-reliance I can know only by example. I'm amazed by the footage we've captured—its quality not created by any technique, but found, in the genuine and generous nature of three compelling American families. I'm proud to have shared this experience with them.

– Nick Bentgen

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 8:00PM
SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Shorts Programs

All films are in English and produced in the U.S. unless otherwise noted.

SIX SHORTS - FRIDAY

6 shorts, Program Length 96 minutes.

This program includes three narrative shorts, one student documentary short, and two music videos:

- Killer Kabbage
- The Kid Who Made the Face
- Sure Thing
- Lemma Fest
- Country From A Dome Car - Live From The Soo Theatre
- Wall of Glass - Live From The Soo Theatre

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 3:15PM
SOO THEATRE

EIGHT SHORTS - SATURDAY

8 shorts, Program Length 142 minutes - includes informal Q&A

This program starts off with a student animation, followed by two music videos and four narrative shorts. The program concludes with an informal Q&A session with the filmmakers of some of the shorts in the festival (from both days). The films are:

- Intestiney
- Lemon Scent | Dead Sara
- We Are All Alone In This Together
- Ghost Detectives
- Open Season
- A New World
- Sea Gives, Sea Takes
- The Shovel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2 AT 3:15 P.M.
SOO THEATRE

Films – Shorts Programs

KILLER KABBAGE

Narrative Short, 2011, 35 min



A group of survivors must find a way out of a desolate city overrun by mutated cabbage.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Director: Michael Dotson

Producer: Michael Dotson

Screenwriter: Michael Dotson

Cinematographer: Michael Dotson

Editor: Michael Dotson

Composer: Chris Saunders

Cast: James Niemi, Mike Dotson, Justin Young, Matt Hodges, Will Johnston, Melissa Pianosi, Bob Brabant, Logan Richards

Director's Bio: The director was born and raised in the Soo and is a huge B-horror movie fan.

SIX SHORTS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Shorts Programs

THE KID WHO MADE THE FACE

Narrative Short, Canada, 2013, 16 min



On Saturday January 14th 1989, an astonishing event took place that severely injured four people and changed the lives of over three hundred witnesses. A young boy walked into the Parktown Mall in Toronto and made a face that was hideous beyond imagination. The frightened mall patrons panicked and what was supposed to be an ordinary shopping excursion turned into a day of insanity and terror. Twenty-five years later, two filmmakers have decided to find out the truth about this event. How did one child cause so much chaos at the mall? How did he make such a face and where is he now?

Some faces were never meant to be made.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in Toronto. Director Michael Gingras, actor DanO Villano, and Actress Adriana Hope are from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

Director: Michael Gingras

Producer: Sabra Rajput-Gingras, Jenny Rajput

Screenwriter: Michael Gingras

Cinematographers: Michael Gingras, Richard Andrews

Editor: Michael Gingras

Composer: The Howling Bullets

Cast: Adriana Hope, DanO Villano, Don Arsenault, Thane Lucas

Festivals: Official Selection at the 2014 Buffalo Niagara International Film Festival

Director's Bio: Michael Gingras is a Canadian filmmaker and musician. From 2012-2013, he attended the Trebas Institute in Toronto and completed the Film and Television Production and Post-Production program. In November 2013, Michael completed his first short film called *The Kid Who Made the Face*, which he wrote, directed, and edited himself. It has been screened at Algoma University in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario; the Revue Cinema in Toronto; and was an official selection at the 2014 BNFF. Going forward, Michael plans to release more films and music videos while developing his production company Party Island Productions.

SIX SHORTS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

Films – Shorts Programs

SURE THING

Narrative Short, 2013, 24 min



There are winners and losers in this life and John has always fallen on one side of that line. He's up to his neck in gambling debt and has one day to pay back the money he owes, or else.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed entirely in Lansing, Michigan, with a full cast and crew of Michigan natives and residents.

Director: Michael McCallum

Producers: Michael McCallum, William C. McCallum, Jonathan Worful, Patric J. Arnold

Screenwriters: Michael McCallum, William C. McCallum

Cinematographer: Kevin W. Fowler

Editors: Jonathan Worful, Michael McCallum

Composer: Jeff Starr

Cast: Michael McCallum, Cassie Little, Denis Link, Kelley Young

Festivals: Winner of Best Country Rock Soundtrack at the 2014 Garden State Film Festival.

Director's Bio: Michael McCallum is an award-winning writer/director/actor/editor with over 20 projects under his belt as a producer.

SIX SHORTS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

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**Program subject to change.*

Films – Shorts Programs

LEMMA FEST

Student Documentary Short, 2014, 10 min



After a small town suffers the loss of one of their own, his closest friends create an annual festival to honor his life and times and to help support the local community.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Director: Wayne Kozeyah

Producer: Wayne Kozeyah

Screenwriter: Wayne Kozeyah

Cinematographer: Wayne Kozeyah

Editor: Wayne Kozeyah

Composer: FreeMusicArchive.org

Cast: Wayne Kozeyah, Scott Green, Randy Aikens, and Kari Eliason

Director's Bio: Wayne Kozeyah is a graduate of Full Sail University with a bachelor's degree in Digital Cinematography. He specializes in Lighting Design and is looking to begin his career in this field.

SIX SHORTS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

Films – Shorts Programs

COUNTRY FROM THE DOME CAR – LIVE FROM THE SOO THEATRE | BROOKE MILLER

Music Video, 2008, 4 minutes



Brooke Miller performs her original composition, "Country From the Dome Car" at the Soo Theatre in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan in July 2008.

Great Lakes connection: Recorded live at the Soo Theatre in July 2008 by Mike Lemma of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan (1972-2010) (see the LEMMA FEST documentary short on page 16).

Audio Mix: Lake Street Studio, Brimley, Michigan.

Camera Operator: Mike Lemma

Composers: Brooke Miller

Cast: Brooke Miller

SIX SHORTS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Shorts Programs

WALL OF GLASS - LIVE FROM THE SOO THEATRE | DON ROSS AND BROOKE MILLER

Music Video, 2011, 7 min



A comment from YouTube: “This performance of Don Ross and his wife Brooke Miller is as close to perfect fingerstyle performance as the ocean is close to the sand shore... Both of them really have fun to play in that amazing way. I admire them with all of my heart and soul!” - krassip61

Great Lakes connection: Recorded live at the Soo Theatre on August 12, 2011. Audio mixed at Lake Street Studio of Brimley. Video by Blueberry Video of Sault Ste. Marie. Camera crane courtesy of Crisp Image Productions of Canton, Michigan.

Director: Jason Markstrom

Producers: Jason Markstrom, Taylor Brugman

Camera Operators: Jason Markstrom, Michael Furr

Crane Operator: David Holmes

Editor: Jason Markstrom

Composer: Don Ross

Cast: Don Ross, Brooke Miller

Director’s Bio: Jason Markstrom is a long-time participant in Michigan filmmaking. He directed his first feature while still attending Northern Michigan University. He has also entered and participated in many short film competitions on the state and national level. As an actor Jason has appeared in the award-winning shorts *Words of Action* and *The Clown of Sadness*, and onstage locally in several community theater productions, including *Time Capsule: Sault Ste. Marie*, the first performance in the Soo Theatre after its re-opening in 2005. He is director of promotions for Soo Brewing Company and the owner of Blueberry Video. Jason is a member of the Soo Film Festival advisory board.

SIX SHORTS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

Films – Shorts Programs

INTESTINEY

Student Animation, 2014, 3 min



From the filmmaker: “Based on a metaphor of my family issues, a group of animals attempt to tolerate each other, learning the truth behind their identities.”

Great Lakes connection: Made by an artist who grew up in Michigan.

Director: Cole Cummings

Producer: Cole Cummings

Screenwriter: Cole Cummings

Cinematographer: Cole Cummings

Editor: Cole Cummings

Composer: Cole Cummings

Director’s Bio: “I am an animation student at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit and, when I am not animating, I enjoy skateboarding, short story writing, and watercolor painting.”

Festivals: Also submitted to the Ottawa International Animation Festival and Spike and Mike’s Twisted Festival of Animation (awaiting response).

EIGHT SHORTS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Shorts Programs

LEMON SCENT | DEAD SARA

Music Video, 2013, 5 min



From Helen Cho Anthos: “I first saw Dead Sara at Cinespace in Hollywood a few years ago. I was blown away. They had so much energy and Emily was jumping on the amps and her voice really knocked you in the face so when my friend Reg B asked me to shoot their video I jumped at it. It was a tough day, we had so much to do in 10 hours but we got it done. The band was so much fun to work with and Emily and Siouxi weren’t afraid to do anything we asked which really made it all work.”

Great Lakes connection: Helen Cho Anthos is currently editing the documentary *Anatomy of a Writer*, which she shot and directed and which features writers from the Upper Peninsula.

Director - Reg B

Producers - Helen Cho Anthos / Reg B, The Basement Sessions

Assistant Producer - Peter Quenelle

DP - Helen Cho Anthos

Editor - Pablo Romero-Estevez

Fight Coordinator - Chris Torres

Stunt Coordinator - Mark Musashi

Awards: Voted #5 of 10 Best Rock Videos of 2013 – Loudwire

Director’s Bio: Helen Cho Anthos began her filmmaking career as a cinematographer and has since shot 5 shorts which have won awards in various festivals (Slamdance, Digidance, Outfest, Santa Fe), music videos, and television shows. It has been said that she has the brain of a techie and the heart of an artist. As an app developer she developed the first comic and graphic novel reader for the iPhone which received two Apple Staff Favorite Awards and an App Store Pick of the Week. Helen is currently editing the documentary *Anatomy of a Writer*, which she shot and directed and which features writers from the Upper Peninsula, and contributing on several other feature and television projects as a producer, director, writer, and cinematographer. Helen is a member of the Soo Film Festival advisory board.

EIGHT SHORTS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

Films – Shorts Programs

WE ARE ALL ALONE IN THIS TOGETHER | GRAHAM LINDSEY

Music Video, 2014, 5 min



A music video for Graham Lindsey about a musician on the road missing his wife.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed entirely in Lansing, Michigan, featuring a cast and crew made up of Michigan natives and residents.

Director: Michael McCallum

Producers: Michael McCallum, William C. McCallum

Screenwriter: Michael McCallum

Cinematographer: Andrew K. Tebeau

Editors: Andrew K. Tebeau, Michael McCallum

Composer: Graham Lindsey

Cast: Michael McCallum, Kelsey Daoust

Director's Bio: Michael McCallum is an award-winning director/writer/actor/editor with over 20 film credits under his belt as a producer.

EIGHT SHORTS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Shorts Programs

GHOST DETECTIVES

Narrative Short, 2014, 28 min



Fake ghost hunters, who used to have their own reality show, get called to investigate a REAL haunted house for money.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Directors: Justin Young and Michael Dotson

Producers: Justin Young and Michael Dotson

Screenwriters: Justin Young and Michael Dotson

Cinematographer: Justin Young

Editor: Michael Dotson

Cast: Mike Dotson, Justin Young, Shane Allard, Scott Cook, Melissa Pianosi

Directors' Bio: We grew up in the Soo, aspiring filmmakers.

EIGHT SHORTS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

Films – Shorts Programs

OPEN SEASON

Narrative Short, 2007, 16 min



Predator meets *Best in Show* as a group of determined volunteers track a vicious killer: a feral cat.

Great Lakes connection: Set in and filmed in Wisconsin, a Great Lakes state. Written and directed by a Wisconsin native, and the cast and crew are Wisconsin residents.

Director: Susan Shoemaker

Producers: Susan Shoemaker, Sean Bode, Colin Cameron

Screenwriter: Susan Shoemaker

Cinematographer: Jesse Land

Editor: Sean Bode

Composers: Susan Shoemaker

Cast: Gary Kriesel, Tom Lodewyck, Lance Sundt, Francisco C. Torres, Ben Bell, Brian Belz, Adam Grunewald, Brendan Hartmann, Kelly Nobs, Ben Sims, Scott Treinen, Mike Wroblewski, Peter Zienty

Director's Bio: Susan Shoemaker is a Wisconsin native born on the shores of Lake Michigan. When not directing, she is a writer, performer, and activist based in Wisconsin.

EIGHT SHORTS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Shorts Programs

A NEW WORLD

Narrative Short, 2013, 8 min



Two Irish immigrants wait to pass through Ellis Island and on to a new life in America. But worries about a crime committed back in Ireland won't go away.

Great Lakes connection: Pittsburgh – a stone's throw from Lake Erie!

Director: James Helfrich

Producer: Carnegie Screenwriters

Screenwriter: Eoin Carney

Cinematographer: Ian Altenbaugh

Editor: James Harland Lockhart V

Composer: Linda Byrne O'Riordan

Cast: David Dietz, Eoin Carney, Sally Dauer

Festivals: Official Selection at the Chicago Irish Film Festival; Nominee for Best International Short at Limerick Film Festival; Winner of Best Editing at Washington PA Film Festival

Director's Bio: James Helfrich is a writer/director, living in his hometown of Pittsburgh. He has directed several short films including *Losing It* (2011) and *Lady in Red* (2012).

EIGHT SHORTS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

Films – Shorts Programs

SEA GIVES, SEA TAKES

Narrative Short, 2014, 18 min



Sea Gives, Sea Takes is an original screenplay written, directed, and produced by indie filmmaker Kishe Caelan Wallace, and it is based on an old Irish fisherman's proverb of "what goes around will come back again."

Keelin McNeely loses her husband when he goes out to sea and only his oar and rowboat come back. She moves away from Ireland's mainland to another remote little isle to resume a new life with her daughter Clothra. Their new lakefront home brings more to them than gold coins, as Keelin will soon learn that life and death are in the ways of water, as well as loss and new love.

Great Lakes connection: Filmed in Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan!

Director: Kishe Caelan Wallace

Producer: Kishe Caelan Wallace

Screenwriter: Kishe Caelan Wallace

Cinematographer: Kishe Caelan Wallace

Editor: Kishe Caelan Wallace

Cast: Kishe Caelan Wallace, Kinsale Reilly Wallace, Mark Allen Wallace

Director's Bio: Looking out over my beautiful lake home in Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan...I don't know how many times I've thought the landscape reminded me so much of the lochs of Scotland or the remote isles of Ireland, the land of my grandmother. I am always saying in life..."this would make a great movie." Well, this time, I guess I knew I needed to stop saying that and start making one. God bless Michigan!

After spending time in both New York City and Hollywood as professional actress and member of SAG/AFTRA, I am very fortunate to call Michigan my home once again. It's a wonderful place to raise a family and carry out a peaceful life.

EIGHT SHORTS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

*Program subject to change.

Films – Shorts Programs

THE SHOVEL

Narrative Short, 2006, 15 min



When Paul Mullin discovers his neighbor digging a hole on the middle of the night, he writes it off as simply a bizarre encounter. Until the neighbor - and his wife - disappear. Paul calls on the local sheriff to help unearth the truth and finds out that in a small town some secrets are better left buried.

Great Lakes connection: Based on a short story by bestselling author Steve Hamilton, Michigan native and author of the Alex McKnight series which is set on the shores of Lake Superior. Steve is a member of the Soo Film Festival advisory board.

Director: Nick Childs

Producers: Nick Childs and Steve Hardwick

Screenwriters: Nick Childs, Steve Hamilton (short story)

Cinematographer: Rick Siegel

Editor: Barry Stilwell

Composers: Timo Elliston and Craig Snyder

Cast: Stars Academy Award-nominee David Strathairn (*Good Night and Good Luck*), Neal Huff, Tim Guinee

Festivals: Winner of Best Narrative Short at the 2006 Tribeca Film Festival and 2006 Woodstock Film Festival; winner of Best Dramatic Short at the 2006 Woods Hole Film Festival; winner of Best Short – Suspense at the 2006 HD Fest Film Festival

Hit #1 for downloaded films on iTunes, where you can still find it.

Director's Bio: In addition to his work on *The Shovel*, which has won more than 15 top awards worldwide, Nick Childs executive-produced the award-winning feature documentary, *High Score*. Beyond the world of independent film, Nick is an Executive Creative Director at FleishmanHillard, where he leads integrated marketing campaigns for some of the world's top brands. Nick has won awards for his work with Canon, P&G, the NFL, Penguin Books and helped create, produce and direct the "baby" campaign for E*TRADE. Nick is a member of the Soo Film Festival advisory board.

EIGHT SHORTS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 3:15PM

SOO THEATRE

Films – Free and By Donation

All films are in English and produced in the U.S. unless otherwise noted

FINAL RUN: STORMS OF THE CENTURY

Documentary Feature, 2004, 60 min

FREE Admission



There have been countless gales since man first ventured onto the Great Lakes. These are the worst.

The 1905 Gales: Lake Superior's worst shipping season ended in 1905, after killer storms stole nearly 100 lives and over a dozen ships. The 1913 Storm: wheelsman Ed Kanaby was able to save his crew but was the last man to see several of the ships lost to this storm. The Armistice Day Storm: Lake Michigan's worst storm tore through at 126 miles per hour, sinking 3 freighters and beaching a half dozen others. Black Friday: journey aboard the whaleback steamer Colgate as it sails into Lake Erie's fury.

The film tells the stories of the 20th century's worst storms in the Great Lakes through vintage photographs, exclusive interviews with survivors, original music by Dan Hall, and footage of the wreck sites as they look today.

Great Lakes connection: Stories of storms in the Great Lakes.

Director: Ric Mixter

Producer: Ric Mixter

Screenwriter: Ric Mixter

Original Music: Dan Hall & David O. Norris

Director's Bio: Ric Mixter is a Great Lakes diver, private pilot, and creator of documentaries that have found a worldwide audience on PBS, the Vision Network, and Outdoor Channel. He has been featured as an on-camera researcher for the Discovery Channel and History Channel, and is also an award-winning news reporter, working for stations all across Michigan. He created Airworthy Productions in 2000 and continues to produce industrial and fundraiser videos fulltime as a videographer.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2:00PM
SOO THEATRE

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Free and By Donation

CUTTER RESCUES

Documentary Feature, 2006, 60 min

FREE Admission



Escanaba, Hollyhock, Mackinaw, Sundew. Four steel ships, built to protect those who sail the Great Lakes. Two are now museums...two others rest at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. Watch rare footage of rescues, interviews with rescuers and survivors, and break out the Soo Locks aboard the “Mighty Mac,” the largest cutter on the Great Lakes.

Great Lakes connection: Stories of rescues by ships based in the Great Lakes.

Director: Ric Mixter

Producer: Ric Mixter

Screenwriter: Ric Mixter

Original Music: David O. Norris & Dan Hall

Director’s Bio: Ric Mixter is a Great Lakes diver, private pilot, and creator of documentaries that have found a worldwide audience on PBS, the Vision Network, and Outdoor Channel. He has been featured as an on-camera researcher for the Discovery Channel and History Channel, and is also an award-winning news reporter, working for stations all across Michigan. He created Airworthy Productions in 2000 and continues to produce industrial and fundraiser videos fulltime as a videographer.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 11:00AM

SOO THEATRE

Films – Free and By Donation

SOLID DUDES KITCHEN – THREE EPISODES

Documentary Short, 2010&2013, Total Program Time 68 min

Admission by Food Donation; Proceeds go to the EUP Food Bank in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan



Get ready for three episodes of the online cooking show *Solid Dudes Kitchen*:

- Jalapeño Fest – Season 2 Episode 1, 2010, 10 min
- Sausage Party – Season 3 Episode 1, 2013, 27 min
- Home Brew / Home Team – Season 3 Episode 2, 2013, 31 min

Mlive.com probably says it best: “Solid Dudes Kitchen: Beer, jalapeños and DIY rule Detroit's punk rock culinary show...The show's recipe is something like this: Take a healthy Aerosmith hatred, add in fistfuls of phallic referencing, simmer with six-packs of top-shelf beer, lay down some music, top with motion graphic animations that'd make *Adult Swim* envious and finish with a dash of dudery.”

If you haven't gotten the idea yet, we'll just give you this additional hint: **Explicit content. Recommended for mature audiences.**

Great Lakes connection: The show is online but based in Detroit, Michigan.

Episode: Jalapeno Fest

Cast of Dudes: Derek Swanson, Dave Graw, Bill Kozy, The 313 O.G.
Produced by Dave Graw & Derek Swanson
Director & Editor: Derek Swanson
Art Director & Motion Graphics: Dave Graw
Camera: CJ Benninger
Camera/Fire Safety: Mike Sheppard
Opening Title Score: Erik Malauchnik
Audio Post: Andrew Smetek
Color Grading: Chuck Klatt
"Foil" & "Witches" by Dark Wave
"S.U.T.F.S." (Credits) by Dark Wave

Episode: Sausage Party

Cast: Dave Graw, Derek Swanson, Brian Merkel, John Schoeniger
Produced & Directed by Gentlemen
Editor: Derek Swanson
Motion Design/Animation: Dave Graw
Director of Photography: CJ Benninger
Additional Photography: Aaron Jones
Location Sound/Audio Post: Andrew Smetek
Color Grading: Chuck Klatt
Production Assistance: Jeff Tuttle
Music by Dial 81 (Feat. Paul Randolph) & Captains of the Head

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

**Program subject to change.*

Films – Free and By Donation

SOLID DUDES KITCHEN – THREE EPISODES (continued)

Episode: Home Brew/Home Team

Cast: Dave Graw, Derek Swanson, Heather Marschall,
Scott Lenfestey, Sean Mann, Alex Wright, Dave Dwaihy,
Josh Rogers, Spencer Thompson, Craig Hearn, Jon Evans,
Shawn Godwin, Jonas Goldstein

Produced & Directed by Gentlemen

Editor: Derek Swanson

Design and Animation: Dave Graw

Director of Photography/Camera: CJ Benninger

Additional Photography: Aaron Jones

Secondary Cameras: Doug Koehnen, Jeff Staebler

Line Producers: Jeff Tuttle, Tony Wolski

Drone Camera: Matt Moy

Location Sound: Andrew Smetek, Hugh Holesome

Audio Post: Andrew Smetek

Grips: Kevin Caldwell, Matt Perlman

Color Grading: Chuck Klatt

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 1:30PM
SOO THEATRE

Grid – Schedule at a Glance

2014 Soo Film Festival Schedule

Friday - August 1

Saturday - August 2

11am
12pm
1pm
2pm
3pm
4pm
5pm
6pm
7pm
8pm
9pm
10pm
11pm
12am

		11a - 12p <i>Cutter Rescues</i> FREE Documentary
		5 12:15p - 1:15p <i>Bombs Away: Goodbye</i> <i>Guardians of the Great Lakes</i>
	2p - 3p <i>Final Run: Storms of the Century</i> FREE Documentary	1:30p - 3pm <i>Solid Dudes Kitchen:</i> <i>Three Episodes</i> FOOD DONATION FOR EUP FOOD BANK Documentary Shorts
1 3:15p - 5p SIX SHORTS - <i>Killer Kabbage,</i> <i>The Kid Who Made The Face,</i> <i>Sure Thing,</i> <i>Lemma Fest,</i> <i>Country From The Dome Car - Live,</i> <i>Wall of Glass - Live</i>		6 3:15p - 5:45p EIGHT SHORTS - <i>Intestiney,</i> <i>Lemon Scent,</i> <i>We Are All Alone In This Together,</i> <i>Ghost Detectives,</i> <i>Open Season</i> <i>A New World,</i> <i>Sea Gives, Sea Takes,</i> <i>The Shovel</i> Informal Q&A
2 5:30p - 7:30p <i>The Michigan Beer Film</i>		7 6p - 7:30p <i>Consideration</i> SNEAK PREVIEW
3 8p - 9:30p <i>A Difference of Rights</i> Q&A with the Filmmaker		8 8p - 10p <i>Northern Light</i>
4 10p - 12a <i>Dogman</i> Q&A with the Filmmaker		9 10:30p - 12:30a <i>Dogman 2: The Wrath of the Litter</i> SNEAK PREVIEW Q&A with the Filmmaker

LEGEND:

FREE or BY DONATION

DOCUMENTARY

SHORTS PROGRAM

NARRATIVE

TICKETS:

Admission (1 block): \$5
Festival Pass (all blocks): \$30
VENUE: Soo Theatre, 534 Ashmun St, SSM, MI

Tickets go on sale July 19
Buy online at soofilmfestival.org or
call the Soo Theatre at (906) 632-1930

TICKETS AND PASSES AVAILABLE AT SOO FILM FESTIVAL.ORG

*Program subject to change.

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Roll the Credits!

A huge thanks to all of the people who helped make the Soo's first ever film festival happen!

The dedicated and talented filmmakers who shared their films,
without whom this festival would not exist!

Michael J. Wilson, for sharing his professional expertise as an LA-based screenwriter and
bringing the Screenwriting Seminar to Sault Ste. Marie

The filmmakers who traveled to the Soo for Q&A sessions about their films:
Bill Blanchard, Rich Brauer, Michael Dotson, Susan Shoemaker, Kishe Caelan Wallace

Everyone who shared a video greeting with our audiences:
Nick Bentgen, Dave Graw and Derek Swanson, Steve Hamilton

Our advisory board, for sharing their time, works, expertise, and enthusiasm:
Helen Cho Anthos, Nick Childs, Steve Hamilton, Jason Markstrom, John Regan, and Steven Wiig.
We're in awe.

The artists (labels) who allowed their music videos to be screened at the Festival:
Don Ross and Brooke Miller (Candyrat Records), Dead Sara (Pocket Kid Records), and Graham Lindsey

The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians, who so generously opened up their Interpretive Center
and lobby for the festival

The Bay Mills Indian Community for assisting with the *A Difference of Rights* presentation

Louise Francis, Christine Johnson, and everyone at the Soo Theatre Project

Kevin Pomeroy, Pat Dougherty, and everyone at National Office Products.

Thunder Nanie, logo designer extraordinaire!

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The City of Sault Ste. Marie

Mark San Angelo and Sovereign Communications

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Megan Parish and the Bay Mills Community College Library

Michigan Digital Imaging

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Brenda Rigotti and the Sault Evening News

Jean Jones and the Sault Area Arts Council

Steven Wiig, for taking charge of our Twitter campaign

Jason Markstrom, publicity and editing

Liz Brugman, webmaster and program guide

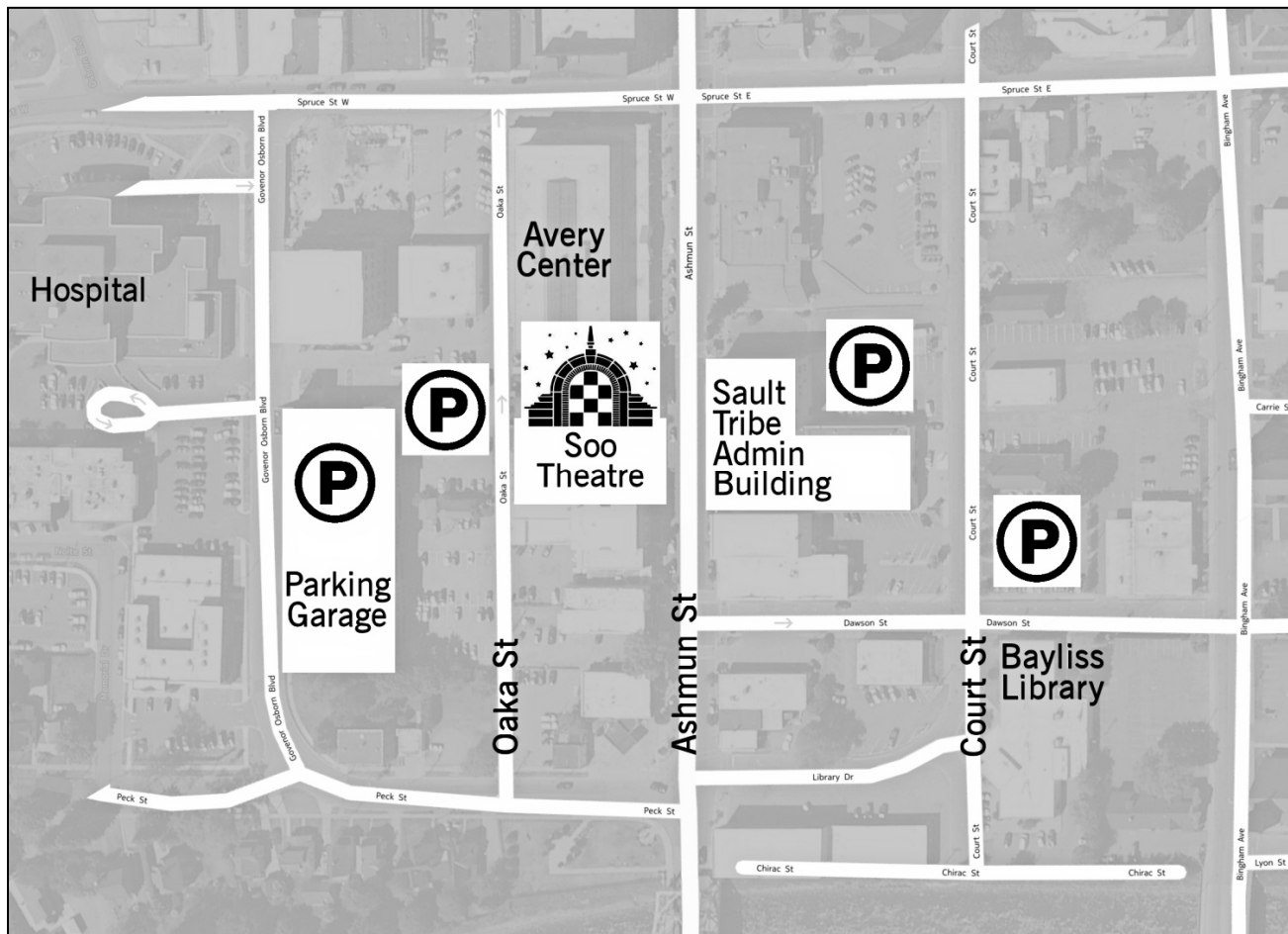
Everyone who helped after this guide went to press.

Everyone who volunteered to help, came to a movie, created a buzz on social media, or wished us well.
Thanks for your energy and enthusiasm!

The Soo Theatre.

We see your potential and are working as hard as we can to bring you back to full glory.

Map of Sault Ste. Marie



SOO FILM FESTIVAL

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SooFilmFestival.org [facebook.com/SooFilmFestival](https://www.facebook.com/SooFilmFestival)

2014 Festival August 1&2, 2014 - Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

About Us

Soo Film Festival, Inc. is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote and host film and allied arts festivals in the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Soo Film Festival, Inc. seeks to showcase the work of independent and emerging filmmakers from the Great Lakes of North America while bringing movies back to downtown Sault Ste. Marie and the historic Soo Theatre.

Our Mission: Great Lakes, Great Movies!