



FILM PITTSBURGH PRESENTS

REELABILITIES

SEPT 4-6

Pittsburgh Playhouse

SEPT 5-11

Virtual

FILM

2025

FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

THURSDAY
September 4
7pm

FRIDAY
September 5
7 pm

SATURDAY
September 6
7 pm

VIRTUAL
September 5-11
Available for
online viewing
in PA, WV, and OH

OPENING NIGHT COLOR BOOK

Followed by Q & A with special guests from the film

After-Party in the Playhouse lobby

SHORTS BLOCK 1

After-Party in the Playhouse lobby

DEAF (SORDA)

7th annual Meritzer Award
presented to Nancy Murray

After-Party in the Playhouse lobby

BLIND AF

COLOR BOOK

SHORTS BLOCK 1

SHORTS BLOCK 2

THE TROUBLE WITH MR. DOODLE

AN UNQUIET MIND

TICKETS: FilmPittsburgh.org

ACCESSIBILITY

All in-person films are presented with open captions or subtitles, audio description and ASL interpretation. Assisted listening devices are available at the theater. The venue has accessible options including wheelchair seating, bathrooms and entryways. All virtual films have captions or subtitles.

DROP-OFF

Point Park University – An accessible drop-off area has been created for ReelAbilities across the street from the theater. Please enter Forbes Ave. from Smithfield St. The drop-off zone will be on your right, across the street from the Playhouse entrance.

If you need other accommodations, please contact us at 412-426-FILM (3456) or Info@FilmPittsburgh.org 2 weeks in advance if possible.

ACCESS RIDES

We're pleased to partner with ACCESS to provide our patrons with **free rides** to and from the theater. To sign up, please call us at 412-426-3456 at least 72 hours in advance of the event.

ADVANCE TICKETS

Tickets are available in advance at FilmPittsburgh.org and at the venue beginning 30 minutes prior to showtime. Online sales end at 10am for that night's film.

SINGLE TICKETS

General Admission: \$18

Festival Friend: \$100
(\$18 ticket + \$82 contribution)

25 and under: \$10
(with ID, at door only)

Students: \$5
(full-time with ID, at door only)

All in-person screenings are followed by an after-party which is included in the ticket price.

PASSES

Combo
(\$162 value, includes all films: in person & virtual)

Early Bird by 8/28: \$100

Regular Price after 8/28: \$125

Virtual Films (\$108 value)
\$75 by 8/28, \$85 after 8/28

Financial assistance is available by calling 412-426-FILM (3456).

VENUE

Point Park University
Pittsburgh Playhouse –
Highmark Theatre
350 Forbes Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

PARKING

For screenings at Point Park, **free parking** is available to our patrons at the **350 Oliver Ave. Garage** (take up ramp). Bring your parking ticket to the Film Pittsburgh box office to receive your exit pass. On-street metered parking is free after 6pm.

VIRTUAL SCREENINGS

Our virtual films are available for viewing in PA, OH, and WV from September 5-11. Once you unlock your film, you will have **48 hours** to watch it.

EVENTIVE PLATFORM

Virtual screenings will take place on Eventive. If you joined us for virtual viewing in the past, your Eventive account is already active. If you're new to the Eventive platform, you will receive an email after your ticket purchase telling you how to activate your account.

QUESTIONS?

Help with virtual viewing is available on our website (step-by step guide) or at [watch.eventive.org](https://www.watch.eventive.org). Click on "Need Help" in the upper right corner.

Or reach us at:
Info@FilmPittsburgh.org
412-426-FILM (3456).

Please do not call the venue.

CONTENT / RATINGS

Independent films are not rated and may contain disturbing language or images.

All films and programs are subject to change.

**Tickets are available
in advance at:**

FilmPittsburgh.org

ONLINE SALES END AT 10AM FOR THAT NIGHT'S FILM



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ReelAbilities Pittsburgh 2025 FILM GUIDE



**IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL
OPENING NIGHT**

Color Book

Pittsburgh Premiere

Director: David Fortune
2024, USA, 115 minutes

English with Open Captions

A father and son seek healing after an emotional family loss in director David Fortune's *Color Book*. Lucky, now a single father, finds himself challenged by the task of raising his 11-year-old son, Mason, an imaginative boy with Down syndrome who loves to draw and watch baseball. As they seek solace together, they set out to attend a baseball game in Metro Atlanta only to find that Murphy's law is in full effect. Facing an odyssey of obstacles and mishaps, the duo discovers that the healing they seek is not to be found by reaching their destination but rather through the shared experience of their journey. This artistically crafted black-and-white directorial debut earned Fortune the prestigious Directors to Watch Award at the 2025 Palm Springs International Film Festival and delivers a beautiful and heartfelt father and son story not to be forgotten.

Official Selection—World Premiere—Tribeca Film Festival

Winner—Critics' Prize—Deauville American Film Festival

Winner—New Direction Competition—Cleveland International Film Festival



"A compelling exploration of loss, love, and resilience."
—Nyah Davis, *The Knockturnal*

"[Color Book] pushes the door open for full absorption of its characters, as does the gorgeous black and white portraiture and detailed inserts that make up its visual landscape."
—Peyton Robinson, *RogerEbert.com*

Followed by a Q&A with special guests from the film

Thursday, September 4, 7pm
Point Park University - Highmark Theatre

and

Available for Viewing Online
September 5-11
PA, WV, and OH

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of storytellers

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ReelAbilities Pittsburgh 2025 FILM GUIDE



IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL

Shorts Block 1

Six short films totaling 93 minutes

THE KEY OF GENIUS

(Director: Daniel Persitz, USA, 12 minutes)

In this incredible true story, a piano teacher is determined to unlock the musical genius of a boy who is blind and autistic.

STILLS MOVING

(Director: Kevin Tsung-Hsuan Yeh, Taiwan, 16 minutes)

A sculptor diagnosed with ALS pours her heart and soul into her next work.

iSALSA!

(Director: Antonina Kerguelen Roman, Columbia, 14 minutes)

Margarita seeks liberation in a judgmental society when her path intersects with Liana, a deaf traveler, amidst the rhythms of congas and bongos.

THE CURSE OF STIGMA

(Director: Derek Watson, USA, 17 minutes)

Kenyan men and women living with epilepsy are forced to live in the shadows because of a suffocating cultural stigma.

THE COCKROACH

(Director: Mary Pat Bentel, USA, 20 minutes)

After a body-altering accident, a woman must find a way forward in her new reality.

BELIEF

(Director: Christian Loubek, USA, 14 minutes)

While unpacking his new family home, Lennox discovers a letter that redefines the life that he remembers.

Friday, September 5, 7pm

Point Park University – Highmark Theatre

and

Available for Viewing Online

September 5-11

PA, WV, and OH



IN-PERSON

Deaf (Sorda)

Pittsburgh Premiere

Director: Eva Libertad

2025, Spain, 99 minutes

Spanish, English, Spanish Sign Language with subtitles

Director Eva Libertad delivers an award-winning debut feature with the adaptation of her Goya-nominated short film of the same name. Angela is a deaf woman excitedly expecting her first child with her hearing partner, Hector. But when doubt arrives along with their new daughter, Angela must confront the new challenges of motherhood alongside a growing fissure within her marriage, a difficult relationship with her parents, and all within a world that is not designed for her. Rooted in her bond with her deaf sister, Miriam Garlo, who plays Angela in the film, Libertad explores the complexity of the relationship between the deaf and hearing worlds.

Winner—Panorama Audience Award for Best Feature Film—75th Berlin International Film Festival

Winner—Grand Jury Prize—2025 Seattle International Film Festival, Ibero-American Competition

"Profoundly nuanced performance."—Cineuropa

"Possibly our favorite film of the year thus far." —Montage Review

PRECEDED BY

Richard Meritzer Award Ceremony

The 7th annual Richard Meritzer Award, co-sponsored by the City-County Task Force on Disabilities and ReelAbilities Pittsburgh, will be presented to Nancy Murray. The award honors the memory of Richard Meritzer (1953-2019), who served as ADA Coordinator for the City of Pittsburgh from 2007 to 2019 and was a leader in promoting understanding and implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Saturday, September 6, 7pm

Point Park University – Highmark Theatre





FISA Foundation is proud to support the ReelAbilities Film Festival,
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ReelAbilities Pittsburgh 2025 FILM GUIDE



VIRTUAL

Blind AF

Pittsburgh Premiere

Director: Gina LeVay
2024, USA, 87 minutes

English with subtitles

Shawn Cheshire, an army veteran, blind Paralympic champion and world-record holder, takes on an unprecedented 3,600-mile cross-country bike journey on a single, non-tandem bicycle. As she adapts to new ways of navigating both her physical terrain and personal history, Shawn's experience showcases the creative ways blind athletes develop innovative techniques for independent movement. Her story interweaves athletic achievement with candid explorations of identity, adaptation, and blazing one's own trail.

Content warning: The following film contains themes of sexual violence and child abuse, which may be disturbing to some viewers.

Available for Viewing Online

September 5-11

PA, WV, and OH



VIRTUAL

Shorts Block 2

Six short films totaling 101 minutes

CALICO

(Director: Jake Mavity, United Kingdom, 15 minutes)

Bullied for her severe vitiligo, Lorrie forms an unexpected alliance with the school's talking goldfish.

ROMCHYK

(Director: Alexis Bicât, United Kingdom, 12 minutes)

After a devastating missile attack that shatters Romchyk's life and leaves him with severe burns, he pursues his dream of ballroom dancing.

DIVE DEEP

(Director: Veerle Ackerstaff, Netherlands, 15 minutes)

Storm, an 18-year-old skater with cerebral palsy, wrestles with the complexities of adolescence, sexuality, and self-expression.

UNHOLY

(Director: Daisy Friedman, USA, 14 minutes)

Noa attends her family's Passover Seder for the first time since being put on a feeding tube for a gastrointestinal disorder and confronts challenges of family and faith.

AT SEE

(Director: Serena Dykman, USA, 15 minutes)

A group of visually impaired travelers navigate a commercial cruise ship with their guide dogs.

IZIDOR

(Director: David Kabbe, USA, 30 minutes)

Izidor, a disabled orphan trapped in an animated asylum in communist Romania, gets a glimpse of a better life in the outside world.

Available for Viewing Online

September 5-11

PA, WV, and OH

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ReelAbilities Pittsburgh 2025 FILM GUIDE



VIRTUAL

The Trouble with Mr. Doodle

Pittsburgh Premiere

Directors: Jaimie D'Cruz, Ed Perkins, Alex Nott
2024, United Kingdom/Canada, 90 minutes

English with subtitles

Sam Cox, better known as Mr. Doodle, has been drawing since he could hold a pen. As his compulsion for doodling intensifies, his home, mind, and life are consumed by endless drawings. *The Trouble with Mr. Doodle* documents Sam's upbringing, reflecting on how Mr. Doodle became an internet sensation, with many of his videos reaching over a million views. As his popularity increases, Sam, with the help of his family, must try to find a balance between his creative pursuits and his self-care. From the Academy Award-nominated makers of *Exit Through the Gift Shop*, *Searching for Sugar Man*, and *Man on Wire*, this directing trio takes viewers on a journey through the unique and chaotic world of Sam Cox as he turns blank canvases into masterpieces.

Available for Viewing Online

September 5-11

PA, WV, and OH



VIRTUAL

An Unquiet Mind

Director: Rachel Immaraj
2024, USA, 75 minutes

English with subtitles

Shattering common myths about OCD through the interweaving stories of Vinay and Natasha, a reality far more complex than perfectionism or repetition is revealed. As the camera follows their daily lives at work and home, we witness their raw struggles with intrusive thoughts and difficulty relating their experiences to others. Through intimate, honest moments, Vinay and Natasha illuminate the hidden reality of OCD, while sparking crucial conversations about mental health and the vital role of community support.

Content warning: The documentary contains graphic depictions of suicide, violence, and sexual imagery which some viewers may find disturbing.

Available for Viewing Online

September 5-11

PA, WV, and OH

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UPCOMING FESTIVAL:



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