



# Artis—Naples Naples International Film Festival

Home of The Baker Museum & Naples Philharmonic

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## **ARTIS—NAPLES ANNOUNCES ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA AS NEW VENUE PARTNER FOR 2024 NAPLES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**

**Naples, Fla. (August 1, 2024)** — Artis—Naples announced today a new partnership with Alamo Drafthouse Cinema as the venue for the 2024 Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), taking place October 24-27, 2024, at the newly established cinema in Mercato. This partnership marks the return of the festival to the upscale North Naples shopping center.

“We are thrilled to welcome Alamo Drafthouse Cinema as our venue partner for this year’s festival,” said Kathleen van Bergen, CEO and president of Artis—Naples. “Their reputation for providing an exceptional cinema experience aligns perfectly with our vision for the Naples International Film Festival. This partnership underscores our commitment to offering entertaining and diverse cultural experiences to the Southwest Florida community.”

Now in its 16th year, the Naples International Film Festival has grown to become a beloved cultural event in Southwest Florida, drawing filmmakers, industry professionals and film enthusiasts from around the globe. The festival will feature a wide range of independent films, including narrative features, documentary features, short films and student films. Cash prizes totaling over \$10,000 will be awarded across 12 categories.

Artis—Naples Executive Vice President, Artistic Operations David Filner added, “This partnership with Alamo Drafthouse Cinema as the new venue for NIFF will enhance the festival experience for both filmmakers and attendees. Alamo Drafthouse’s state-of-the-art facilities, unique ambiance and dedication to providing a seamless filmgoing experience make it an ideal setting for showcasing the creative and thought-provoking films that NIFF has become known for.”

In addition to film screenings at Alamo Drafthouse, NIFF will also feature select films on a 24-foot outdoor screen in Norris Garden on the Artis—Naples Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus. The festival’s closing night will feature a screening of Tim Burton’s *Batman* (1989) in Concert in Hayes Hall, with the Naples Philharmonic performing the iconic score live, conducted by Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly.

The Naples International Film Festival brings together the spark and spirit of independent filmmaking with the artistic lineage and resources of Artis—Naples. For more information on the festival, visit <https://artisnaples.org/naples-international-film-festival>.

*Festival Presenting Sponsors Dr. Richard Lublin and Christine Lublin.*

### **ABOUT ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE**

Alamo Draffthouse Cinema was founded in 1997 as a single-screen mom-and-pop repertory theater in Austin, Texas. Twenty-seven years later, with 41 locations and counting, Alamo Draffthouse has been called “the best theater in America” by *Entertainment Weekly* and “the best theater in the world” by *Wired*. Alamo Draffthouse has built a reputation as a movie lover’s oasis not only by combining best-in-class food and drink service with the movie-going experience, but also introducing unique programming and high-profile, star-studded special events. Alamo Draffthouse created Fantastic Fest, a world-renowned genre film festival dubbed “The Geek Telluride” by *Variety*, featuring independents, international filmmakers and major Hollywood studios. Alamo Draffthouse continues to expand its brand in new and exciting ways, including the American Genre Film Archive, a nonprofit film archive dedicated to preserving, restoring and sharing film, and with several new theaters announced for this year and beyond.

### **ARTIS—NAPLES**

Home of The Baker Museum and the Naples Philharmonic, Artis—Naples is unique among cultural institutions nationwide, equally dedicated to both the visual and performing arts featuring artists of global distinction.

### **KIMBERLY K. QUERREY and LOUIS A. SIMPSON CULTURAL CAMPUS**

Led by CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen and Sharon and Timothy Ubben Artistic and Music Director Alexander Shelley, Artis—Naples offers more than 800 paid and free events annually across its 8.5-acre Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus. Artis—Naples welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities perfect for audiences of all backgrounds and interests. The cultural campus is home to five buildings, including two performance halls (Frances Pew Hayes Hall and Myra J. Daniels Pavilion), The Baker Museum, the Toni Stabile Education Building and the Kohan Administration Building.

### **NAPLES PHILHARMONIC**

The Naples Philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the cornerstones of Southwest Florida’s arts community. As part of Artis—Naples, the Naples Philharmonic performs more than 140 orchestral and chamber music concerts, as well as opera and ballet, education, community and special event concerts annually between September and June in the 1,477-seat Hayes Hall, the 283-seat Daniels Pavilion and around Southwest Florida. The Naples Philharmonic has enjoyed a history of working with world-class music directors. Following a successful designate year in 2023-24, Alexander Shelley begins his new role as artistic and music director in the 2024-25 season. Renowned violinist James Ehnes continues as artistic partner through the 2024-25 season, working with Naples Philharmonic musicians in a variety of settings with a focus on inspiring and embodying a high level of artistry. Podium leadership also includes Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly, celebrating 15 years in this role in the 2024-25 season and bringing pops performances that celebrate music across genres.

### **THE BAKER MUSEUM**

The Baker Museum is the foremost fine art museum in Southwest Florida, presenting an ambitious slate of exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collection. Comprising more than 4,000 objects, the museum’s broad holdings of 20th- and 21st-century art reflect particular strengths in modern art of the United States and Mexico. The Baker Museum’s collections reflect the generosity and commitment of area collectors, including significant gifts from the collection of the late Olga Hirshhorn.

With more than two decades of collecting and exhibiting, the museum is committed to the stewardship and scholarship of its collections and to fostering inspiring and transformative experiences with the visual arts. At the same time, The Baker Museum partners with the world’s leading arts institutions to make extraordinary exhibitions accessible to the Southwest Florida community—including recently the National Portrait Gallery, London and the Helen Frankenthaler Foundation. In 2020, Artis—Naples celebrated the renovation and expansion of The Baker Museum and adjoining Norris Garden, designed by

Weiss/Manfredi Architecture/Landscape/Urbanism, which created new spaces for multidisciplinary exploration and social interaction.

## **EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY**

In addition to creating and presenting visual and performing arts, Artis—Naples provides robust education and community activities for students of all ages in Collier and Lee counties. Each season, thousands of Collier County Public School students interact with Artis—Naples education programming, both on our cultural campus and in their classrooms. Beyond our commitment to youth education, the Lifelong Learning program provides informative lectures and study opportunities for adults seeking to engage more deeply with the arts.

The Friends of Artis—Naples, comprised of more than 3,500 donor households, offers activities, travel experiences and events designed to foster a deeper relationship between patrons and the arts.

In 2017, Artis—Naples acquired the Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), expanding its film offerings and providing a platform for the festival’s continued excellence and growth. In 2023, the festival’s 15th anniversary year, NIFF was named one of *MovieMaker* Magazine’s “20 Great Film Festivals in Vacation Destinations.”

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