The WCI Film Festival and Lecture Series aims to build a bigger, broader learning community through education, entertainment, and community engagement. Our annual public humanities Film Festival and Lecture Series offers a curated selection of culturally and thematically diverse films, lectures and keynote addresses, artistic creations, and celebrations that foster critical inquiry into real world concerns through world-class scholarship, community partnerships, and experiential education.

### Film Festival and Lecture Series

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Join us November 7-10 for the 2019 Festival, “Food on Film.” Our Food Symposium will be held November 7 on UAlbany’s Downtown Campus. Guests include authors, artists, podcasters, cosplayers, business owners, and professors. From November 8-10 at The Linda we will screen a diverse selection of international films, short lectures, open discussions, artistic creations, and other events.

Admission is free for students with a valid, active ID. For all others, price of admission is $5/film, $10 for the Keynote, with all box office proceeds to go to a local charity organization. For more information about purchasing tickets, please visit our Eventbrite page.

For some, food is merely fuel, but, in fact, food is much more than that. Food is culture, history, art, entertainment. Food is economy; it is science; it is life. Food fuels much more than our bodies; it fuels our lives, our thoughts, our stories, our films. WCI’s annual student-centered, public humanities Film Festival and Lecture Series offers a curated selection of culturally and thematically diverse films, celebrations, lectures and keynote addresses that foster critical inquiry into real world concerns through world-class scholarship, community partnerships, and experiential education. Throughout the Festival weekend, the lectures, films, and community events will explore the essential role of our festival theme, food in our cultures, provoking the discussion of topics as diverse and significant as individual and group identity, immigration, history, war, art, expression, and affection.

Visit our complete list of sponsors.
This year, our Film Festival will be hosted by The Linda.

The Linda's mission is "to be of service, advance the arts and support the community. It has provided a public space for art and cultural expression and is constantly evolving to meet the needs and desires of its audience and community. It remains a catalyst for revitalization by generating investment, creating positive change and exciting stimulation to Central Avenue" (Thelinda.org).

We are proud to be partnering with The Linda and look forward to supporting its mission of creating positive change and excitement within the greater community.

For more information about shows and directions, please visit The Linda's website: The Linda.

Directions

From the South (Thruway I-87):
Take exit 23 to I-787. Follow I-787 to I-90 Westbound (toward Buffalo). From I-90 take Exit 5 (Everett Road). Turn left onto Everett Road at the top of the ramp. Take Everett Road to the 3rd traffic light; this is a T intersection with Central Avenue. Turn left onto Central Avenue. Continue for approximately 10 blocks. The Linda is at 339 Central Avenue, on the corner of Quail and Central.

From the North or West (Northway I-87 or Thruway I-90):
Take exit for I-90 Eastbound (toward Boston). From I-90 take Exit 5 (Everett Road) turn right onto Everett Road at the top of the ramp. Take Everett Road to 2nd traffic light, this is a T-intersection with
Central Avenue. Turn left onto Central continue for approximately 10 blocks. The Linda is at 339 Central Avenue, on the corner of Quail and Central.

From the East (Massachusetts):
Take I-90 Westbound to Albany. From I-90 take Exit 5 (Everett Road). Turn left onto Everett Road at the top of the ramp. Take Everett Road to the 3rd traffic light; this is a T-intersection with Central Avenue. Turn left onto Central Avenue. Continue approximately 10 blocks. The Linda is at 339 Central Avenue, on the corner of Quail and Central.

Parking at The Linda:
Parking is free in the surrounding lot and the lot directly north across Sherman Street.

By Bus to The Linda:
Take CDTA 12 to Quail St.; walk two blocks to Central Avenue where The Linda is located at 339 Central Avenue.

By Bus to Milne Hall, Downtown Albany Campus from Uptown Campus:
Route one school bus or CDTA 11 to Lake St.

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**Title:** Big Night  
**Writer(s):** Stanley Tucci, Joseph Tropiano  
**Director(s):** Campbell Scott, Stanley Tucci  
**Rating:** R (for language)  
**Reviews:** Rotten Tomatoes  
**More Information:** [Big Night IMDB Page](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0102296/)

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**Title:** Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory  
**Writer:** Roald Dahl (book, screenplay)  
**Director:** Mel Stuart  
**Rating:** G  
**Reviews:** Rotten Tomatoes  
**More Information:** [Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory IMDB Page](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0069872/)

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**Title:** Babette's Feast  
**Writer:** Karen Blixen (short story), Gabriel Axel (screenplay)  
**Director:** Gabriel Axel  
**Rating:** R  
**Reviews:** Rotten Tomatoes  
**More Information:** [Babette's Feast IMDB Page](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0074020/)

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**Title:** Como agua para chocolate/Like Water for Chocolate  
**Writer:** Laura Esquivel (novel), Laura Esquivel (screenplay)
Title: Like Water for Chocolate
Director: Alfonso Arau
Rating: R
Reviews: Rotten Tomatoes
More Information: Como agua para chocolate/Like Water for Chocolate IMDB Page

Title: Ratatouille
Writer: Brad Bird (screenplay), Jan Pinkava (original story by)
Director: Brad Bird, Jan Pinkava (co-director)
Rating: G
Reviews: Rotten Tomatoes
More Information: Ratatouille IMDB Page

Title: Food, Inc.
Writer: Robert Kenner, Elise Pearlstein
Director: Robert Kenner
Rating: R
Reviews: Rotten Tomatoes
More Information: Food, Inc. IMDB Page

Title: Bao
Writer: Domee Shi
Director: Domee Shi
Rating: PG
Reviews: Rotten Tomatoes
More Information: Bao IMDB Page

Title: Tampopo
Writer(s): Jûzô Itami
Director(s): Jûzô Itami
Rating: Not Rated (some adult content)
Reviews: Rotten Tomatoes
More Information: Tampopo IMDB Page
Tony Shalhoub, Emmy and Golden Globe Award winner and star of Wings, Monk, The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel, and Big Night, will join us as our keynote guest. In addition to his keynote address, Tony will introduce Big Night and facilitate the post-screening discussion. Big Night, is a stunning film about Italian immigrants and the food they bring with them to America. The film follows two brothers as they open a restaurant and prepare for the biggest night of their careers.

We are currently working with The Linda to set up a pre-sale site for Tony Shalhoub’s November 8 Keynote. Please check back soon for more information.

The WCI Film Festival & Lecture Series includes a Symposium, where the theme of the current festival is explored by scholars, teachers, and professionals from across a number of academic disciplines and the arts. The Symposium is always free, open to the public, and designed to further the festival’s aim of directly engaging the larger Capital District community.

This year, our symposium will be held from 6:00-8:00pm on November 7, 2019 in room LC 12 of the UAlbany Uptown Campus. LC 12 is located in the Lecture Center Concourse, in front of the entrance to the Performing Arts Center. More information on participants will be coming soon. Please check back again soon.

WCI Film Festival and Lecture Series

Click on a poster to learn more about our previous film festivals. All the artwork was created by Dan Madde.

2018 Classics of Science Fiction!

2017 The Zombies are Coming 2: Return of the Film Festival
Each year's Film Festival and Lecture Series has a charity component, ranging from food drives to silent auctions of art students' work to gala balls, reflecting the University at Albany's ongoing commitment to serving the greater community of which the university is only a small part.

One of the Festival's goals is to provide opportunities for students to exhibit and enact their passions for helping others. For this year's charitable component, our students have chosen to highlight six amazing charities: Children's Miracle Network Hospitals; Early Childhood Education Center; Make-a-Wish; Making Strides of Albany; St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; and Thirst Project.

Not only were these charities proposed by our own University at Albany students, but our student body voted on the charity that will receive proceeds from the Film Festival.

The results are in: congratulations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. We want to thank our students for their tremendous work in both highlighting these wonderful charities and taking the time to vote.
Charitable Pitches

Take me straight to the donation page