

2026 Sundance Film Festival

Jan. 22

Feb. 1

HOW TO FEST

Press Pass Hybrid Credential

How To Fest is a resource guide, provided by the Sundance Film Festival Press Office to accredited press, to help you navigate the 2026 Sundance Film Festival. For any questions regarding the information listed below, please reach out to presscredentials@sundance.org.

Your Press Pass Hybrid Credential provides:

- **In-Person Festival Access: January 22–February 1, 2026**
- **Online Festival Access: January 28–February 1, 2026**

REMINDER: Online access will not be available unless your badge has been picked up in person. The pass is not transferable to online-only.

Press credentials can be picked up at the Artist, Industry & Press Hub in the Sheraton Park City (1895 Sidewinder Dr., Park City, Utah, 84060). The press office will open starting on **Wednesday, January 21 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. MT** (additional press office hours listed below under Credential Pick Up).

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EMBARGO TIMING

Reviews for world premiere films are embargoed until the end of the first public-ticketed premiere screening of the film, unless otherwise noted.

Some films making their world premiere have a Press and Industry (P&I) screening in advance of the film's first public screening, so please be certain to check before posting. This embargo timing includes social media reviews.

For specific timing, please reference this [Embargo Timing document](#). This document can also be found at [Sundance.org/Press](https://sundance.org/Press) or log into your Festival Account and it will be listed under How To Fest > Press > Press Resources.

If working with an assignment editor who will be posting your reviews, please make sure to provide them with the embargo schedule.

TIPS FOR MAKING YOUR SCHEDULE

- **Login to your Festival account:** Make sure your Festival account is set up and familiarize yourself with the website at: <https://festival.sundance.org/>. If you have any questions about logging into your Festival account, please reach out to presscredentials@sundance.org.
- **Check out the [Festival Program Guide](#):** This guide provides a comprehensive list of films being screened at the Festival and the screening schedule.
- **Tag your Favorites:** Add films or specific screenings to your Favorites by using the star icon on the film detail pages. Once you have collected your Favorites, review them in My Account > My Favorites. You do not need to favorite a screening in order to make a ticket selection but it is a helpful way to organize your schedule.
- **Mark your calendars:** Press & Industry ticket selection opens Tuesday, January 6 @ 10:00 a.m. MT and tickets go fast! At this time you can reserve **online press and industry screenings** by logging into the Festival website.
- **Pay Attention to Time Zones:** In-person screenings will always appear on the Festival site in Mountain Time. Online screenings will be displayed in your current local time.

TICKETING HOW-TO

With my Press Pass Hybrid Credential, how does ticketing work?

- **In-person Public Screenings:** Your Press Pass Hybrid Credential gives you the ability to join the waitlist with the general public for sold-out public screenings January 22–February 1. Physical credential scanned for admittance.
- **In-person P&I screenings:** These do NOT require ticket selection but they do require you to queue at the Holiday Village Cinemas in advance, so plan time accordingly. Your credential will be scanned for first-come, first-served entry.

- **FESTIVAL TIP:** We recommend arriving at venues *at least* 30 minutes early to in-person P&I Screenings.
- **Online Public Screenings:** You do NOT have access to these screenings via your press pass but you are welcome to purchase tickets as general public (if you live in the U.S.). Please refer to the online P&I screenings instead.
- **Online P&I screenings:** These REQUIRE ticket reservations in advance because they have a limited number of “seats” (similar to how theaters have a set number of seats).

How do I reserve my tickets in advance?

Your credential allows you to unlock / select tickets for **online P&I screenings** free via the “Order Tickets” button. You can follow the below steps to do so:

- Login to your Festival account.
- Choose the screening you’re interested in and Favorite it by clicking the star icon. Find this Favorited screening in the My Schedule section of the site [located under your name in your account at the top of the screen]. This advance preparation is helpful since tickets tend to run out fast!
- On **January 6th at 10:00 a.m. MT**, when ticketing fulfillment for Industry and Press opens, you can order a ticket for the screenings by navigating to the film page and clicking on the “Unlock” button that appears next to it OR, when viewing your list of Favorited online P&I screenings, you will see an “Order Tickets” button next to each one.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please do not select tickets you do not intend to use, as it will take away from others. If you do select online tickets and later on decide that you no longer plan to use them, please ensure you release them to others by clicking “remove” next to the ticket.

- Reserved tickets that will not be used can and should be released by EOD Tuesday, January 27, before the online viewing window begins on Wednesday. We request that you release any tickets you will not be using so others can have the opportunity to see the film.
- Once the screening window starts on Wednesday a ticket cannot be released and so, if you do not use it, it will go to waste.

Is there a way to request additional tickets?

To attend any public screening at the Festival, you must have a ticket. All tickets for the 2026 Sundance Film Festival are digital and connected to your Festival account.

You have have three options for securing additional tickets to public screenings:

- Purchase a ticket at <https://festival.sundance.org/> when public tickets go on sale, Wednesday, January 14.
- Submit a ticket request to the press office via [this Ticket Request Form](#). Please keep in mind, these ticket requests are by no means guaranteed. Tickets are extremely limited (typically sold out), so we will not be able to accommodate many of these requests.
 - You may request 1 comped ticket each day. We will fulfill as many requests as possible based on inventory, but know that we have very limited allotments and may not be able to fulfill your request at all

- Details on the request process will be shared closer to the Festival. For requests that are fulfilled, the ticket will be automatically placed in your account.
- Join the eWaitlist for public screenings. We anticipate very limited eWaitlist capacity and admittance is not guaranteed. For accredited press, the process to join a public screening waitlist is as follows:
 - Waitlists are available for sold-out in-person screenings, **opening 2 hours before showtime and closing 30 minutes prior**. (Please note, waitlists do fill up very quickly.)
 - Once a waitlist opens, log into your Festival account and click “Program” in the top left corner of the page. Find the screening that you wish to attend. If a screening is sold out, a “Join Waitlist” button will be next to the screening.
 - Select “Join Waitlist”. You will then be prompted to select a form of payment. Please select your press credential (do NOT choose the waitlist pass). Once you've completed your check out you'll be given a waitlist number.
 - 30 minutes prior to the screening start time, arrive at the venue to queue in order of waitlist number (volunteers will be there to direct you). When you arrive at the venue:
 - Open the 2026 Sundance Film Festival mobile app.
 - Tap the three bars in the upper left corner of your screen.
 - Tap My Waitlists to view the screening and venue information along with your Waitlist reservation (your number in the queue).
 - Present your Waitlist reservation to staff.
 - 15 minutes prior to the screening start time, they will start admitting those in the waitlist line to the theater, as space is available.

IN-PERSON SCREENINGS & EVENTS

Your credential is needed for access. Please ensure you have it on you, as it will need to be scanned for entry.

IN PERSON - PUBLIC SCREENINGS

Your Press Pass Hybrid Credential gives you the ability to join the waitlist with the general public for sold out public screenings January 22–February 1. Physical credential scanned for admittance.

IN PERSON - P&I SCREENINGS

No tickets are needed for in-person P&I screenings, all of which are held at the Holiday Village Cinemas from Thursday, January 22 through Thursday, January 29. For these screenings, please queue in advance, since admittance is first come, first-served. Your physical credential is scanned for entry.

Be aware that seating is not guaranteed; please be advised to arrive *at least* 30 minutes prior to screening time (we recommend earlier for highly popular films). For each P&I screening, theater staff will admit the line of accredited Press & Industry members until the theater is full.

When you are logged into your account at festival.sundance.org, P&I screenings will appear on the film detail pages. The [2026 Screening Schedule for Industry and Press](#) combines in-person public screenings and P&I screenings in a list sortable by date and time.

- All films in competition (U.S. & World Cinema Dramatic and Documentary Competitions, NEXT) will have at least one P&I screening.
 - Films from other programs (Premieres, Midnight, Spotlight, Special Screenings, and Family Matinee) will be included in the P&I screening schedule when possible.
 - Short Film Programs and some Episodic titles do not have in-person P&I screenings.
- P&I screenings do not include programmer introductions, filmmaker Q&As, or audience award voting.

BEYOND FILM

Access to in-person Cinema Café talks and The Big Conversation are free, these are not ticketed events. Have your credential or account QR code ready to be scanned when you arrive and remember, seating is limited and will be given on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Power of Story is a ticketed event. Press Pass Hybrid Credential holders can secure a ticket several different ways: purchase a ticket through public sales, submit a ticket request to the Press Office during the Festival (subject to availability), or use the eWaitlist for free admittance as space allows.

Beyond Film events will take place in person from January 23–31, 2026, with most of the Beyond Film offerings available to audiences online the day following the in-person event on festival.sundance.org throughout the Festival.

Also, check out talks planned by our partners taking place in official Festival venues at the Filmmaker Lodge and The Box at the Ray. In early January, the schedule for those events can be found here: <https://festival.sundance.org/program/beyond-films/>

FESTIVAL VENUES & TRANSPORTATION

For detailed information about Festival venues and the Festival shuttle routes, please refer to the [Festival Map & Shuttle page of the website](#).

- High Valley Transit offers a bus route between Salt Lake City and Park City. You may find more details about this available bus route and schedule [here](#).
- **FESTIVAL TIP:** Take advantage of Press & Industry screenings! These are specifically set up for members of the press and are not open to the public, so you can expect faster access to theaters there. All P&I screenings take place at the Holiday Village Cinemas, so you can maximize your viewing schedule by attending those screenings.

ONLINE VIEWING LOGISTICS

Press Pass Hybrid Credential holders with reservations can view online P&I screenings via the “Watch Now” button on the My Schedule page or from the film details page while the selected title is available.

Extensive information about online viewing technical requirements and tips can be found in the [How to Fest - Watch Online](#) section of festival.sundance.org. We recommend watching the Festival with the device/browser combinations detailed there.

TICKETS FOR ONLINE P&I SCREENINGS

As noted, online P&I screenings do have capacity limits. Therefore, you will want to make reservations or select tickets in advance if there are films you want to view online. Remember, your account can only be used on one device at a time.

You can begin online ticket selection on **Tuesday, January 6th at 10:00 a.m. MT**. If no tickets remain it is because the film has hit its capacity limit and you will not be able to view it. It is possible that someone releases their tickets, so do check back closer to and during the Festival if you are looking for tickets for a film that has hit capacity.

Reserved tickets that will not be used should be released by EOD Tuesday, January 27, before the online viewing window begins on Wednesday.

FILMS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Feature films in competition sections (U.S. Dramatic, U.S. Documentary, World Cinema Dramatic, World Cinema Documentary, NEXT) will be available online for accredited press viewers. Short films, Episodic selections, and additional feature films may opt-in for online screenings. Online films are not geoblocked for Press & Industry. (For the general public, online films are only available in the U.S.)

Please refer to this [list of films screening online for accredited Industry and Press members](#) or the [online tab of the Screening Schedule for Press and Industry](#) for the list of films available to view online for credentialed press.

TIMING & VIEWING DURATION

Press online access begins at 8:00 a.m. MT on Wednesday, January 28 through 11:55 p.m. MT on Sunday, February 1. *[On the 1st, you can view the film once you hit play as long as you start by 11:55 p.m. MT].*

Clicking “Watch Now” will bring up the viewing window prompt: if you are ready to start your screening click “Yes” to continue to the film. Otherwise, click “Not Yet” to return to it later, since you can only view a feature film or episodic project one time.

- Feature films permit one view per film. Once you hit play you have 8 hours to view the film, after which it expires.
- Episodic works permit one view per project. Once you hit play you have 12 hours to view the project, after which it expires.
- Short films have no viewing capacity limits and can be watched more than once, as long as viewed within the online Festival dates and times listed above.

REMEMBER: From the moment you begin watching a feature film or episodic selection you have a set amount of time to complete that screening. Within that window you can pause, skip backwards or ahead, or click away and come back, but that film will no longer be available after the time has elapsed.

ONLINE FILM TEAM Q&As

Q&As will be included on feature films in competition sections and other features that opt in for public online viewing. Short Film Programs, Episodic selections, and feature films available only to Press and Industry viewers will not include intros or Q&As. If you miss a Q&A or wish to learn about a film team whose work is not screening online, look for their Meet the Artist videos on festival.sundance.org. *(Please note, films premiering in person on Tuesday may not have the Q&As available for the online screening beginning on Wednesday. Those will be available later in the week.)*

ONLINE AWARDS SCREENINGS

Award winners will be announced the morning of Friday, January 30. Online Award-Winner screenings will be available to watch starting at 8:00 a.m. MT on Saturday, January 31 until 11:55 p.m. MT on Sunday, February 1.

These films will have tickets that become available for press on the evening of Friday, January 30 [prior to that they will be listed as “sold out”]. After awards are announced on the 30th, we will alert press pass holders when ticket reservations open for award winner films. [Likely midday Mountain Time.] These screenings will also have capacity limits for press like the other online screenings.

CREDENTIAL PICK UP

While all tickets are digital, each press member attending in-person, will receive a personalized, printed credential including your photo (submitted at the time of registration on festival.sundance.org) and a QR code for access to P&I screenings and other venues.

NEW LOCATION: Credentials must be picked up at the Artist, Industry & Press Hub in the Sheraton Park City (1895 Sidewinder Dr., Park City, Utah, 84060). We strongly recommend you pick up your credential as soon as you arrive in Park City.

Credentials will only be released to the credential holder. Please make sure to bring your photo ID.

The Press Office hours are:

- Wednesday, January 21: 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. MT
- Thursday, January 22 – Tuesday, January 27: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. MT
- Wednesday, January 28 – Friday, January 30: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. MT
- Saturday, January 31: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. MT
- Sunday, February 1: CLOSED

If you are arriving after hours on Wednesday, January 21 and need your badge to attend an early screening, please email presscredentials@sundance.org in advance, and we will explore the possibility of making any necessary late accommodations.

Reminder: Your badge must be picked up in-person to activate online access, which is available during the second half of the Festival. Anyone who has not picked up their badge will not have online access.

PRESS RESOURCES

Resources available to accredited press include:

- **HOW TO FEST GUIDES:** You can reference each How To Fest guide, organized by pass type, when you are logged into your Festival account under How To Fest > Press.
- **P&I SCREENING SCHEDULE:** The [Screening Schedule for Industry and Press](#) displays in-person public screenings, P&I screenings, and online screenings in a downloadable, sortable view. Download a copy or use a temporary filter view to sort based on your own criteria.
 - Note that all screening times are displayed in **Mountain Time**.
 - As in past years, there are likely to be additions to the program announced closer to the Festival dates. Additions will be highlighted on this schedule as they become available.
- **PR CONTACT LIST:** The [PR Contact List](#) displays contact information for PR reps for films that have been hired directly to oversee their films at the Festival. (Please note, this contact list is also available when you are logged into your Festival account under How To Fest > Press.)
- **PRESS LINE PLAYBOOK & SCHEDULE:** In early January, we will provide a document detailing all available press lines and photo calls.
- **TICKET REQUESTS:** We may not be able to fulfill any or all of your ticket requests but will do our best to accommodate. Please submit your ticket requests [via this Google form](#) (more detailed instructions are listed in the form).
- **CAMERA TAGS:** For accredited press who are interested in filming/photographing inside Festival venues (outside of press lines) or during film Q&As and introductions, please submit requests for camera tags [via this Google form](#) no later than 72 hours in advance of the event.
- **FILM STILLs:** The [Festival Dropbox](#) has images for all films, which accredited press may use in coverage. During the Festival, we also make images of Festival activities available in the [Festival Flickr Album](#).
- **INTERVIEW REQUEST FORM:** You can email us at press@sundance.org for interview requests or make a request via the [link in the press center](#). We are here to help you navigate the platform and to support your coverage as you plan, watch, and write.

As the Festival approaches, we will be adding stat sheets, overview materials, a link to access video clips and more!

ACCESSIBILITY COMMITMENT & REQUESTS

In alignment with our core values, Sundance Institute is committed to improving the overall experiences of our staff, audiences, and artists. We consider inclusion, racial equity, and accessibility the drivers of institutional excellence, and it is our aim to make all our programs and platforms reflect these core values at every level. Our goal is to make our experiences (in-person and online) as accessible as possible for all participants.

If you have an accessibility request, question, or feedback for the accessibility team, please contact accessibility@sundance.org or use the accessibility hotline at (435) 776-7790. Every effort will be made to accommodate requests made in advance; requests made within seven days of the event may not be guaranteed.

To review the details of the Festival's accessibility practices please see the [accessibility area of the Festival site](#).

Community spirit is key to the Sundance experience and we ask all attendees to contribute to creating an environment that is welcoming, safe, and inspiring. To that end, please take a moment to review our [Community Agreement](#). Thank you for doing your part!

Sundance Film Festival Press Accreditation Team

Questions? Please email presscredentials@sundance.org