



FILM FESTIVAL 2026

NOVEMBER 4-9 · OJAI, CALIFORNIA

After 26 Years of Storytelling, A New Chapter Begins

Honoring the Legacy. Shaping the Future.



SINCE 1999

26 Years of Storytelling

Founded in 1999, the Ojai Film Festival has spent nearly three decades bringing filmmakers, audiences, students, and the community together through the power of storytelling.

From humble beginnings to an acclaimed international festival, Ojai has remained rooted in its mission to champion independent voices, spark meaningful conversations, and create experiences that inspire, challenge, and connect us all through film.

26

YEARS
OF IMPACT

2,000+

FILMS
SHOWCASED

45+

COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED

100K+

ATTENDEES
SINCE 1999

2,500+

VOLUNTEERS
AND COUNTING

Thank you to our community for making this journey possible.

THE NEXT CHAPTER BEGINS

A Pivotal Opportunity

For nearly three decades, the Ojai Film Festival has built a foundation rooted in storytelling, community, and independent film.

Today, the festival enters an exciting new phase.

Led by Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Ted Melfi as Artistic Director, the Ojai Film Festival is entering a bold new chapter. With renewed creative leadership and a commitment to elevating every aspect of the festival experience, Ojai is focused on becoming one of America’s premier destination film festivals, expanding its reach beyond Southern California while becoming *more curated, more global, and more impactful* for filmmakers, audiences, partners, and sponsors alike.

Then WHERE WE’VE BEEN

90+ FILMS	<i>Broad and expansive programming</i>
BROAD PROGRAMMING	<i>Wide range, less focused identity</i>
LIMITED INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT	<i>Fewer industry connections</i>
PRIMARILY LOCAL REACH	<i>Community-centered audience</i>
VOLUME-DRIVEN	<i>Growth measured in quantity</i>

Now WHERE WE’RE GOING

50-60 CURATED FILMS	<i>Intentional, hand-selected programming</i>
CLEAR PROGRAMMING IDENTITY	<i>Distinctive, thematic, and focused</i>
EXPANDED INDUSTRY RELATIONSHIPS	<i>Stronger connections, more opportunity</i>
DESTINATION FESTIVAL VISION	<i>National and international appeal</i>
QUALITY-DRIVEN	<i>Impact measured in meaning</i>



OJAI FILM FESTIVAL

Stories That Matter. Conversations That Continue.

We believe great films do more than entertain.

They inspire curiosity, foster connection, and deepen our understanding of ourselves, one another, and the world around us.

OUR MISSION

Dedicated to enriching the human spirit through film, the Ojai Film Festival champions stories that inspire curiosity, foster connection, and deepen our understanding of ourselves, one another, and the world around us.

The Ojai Film Festival champions stories that stay with us long after the credits roll.

WHAT WE CHAMPION

I

HUMAN EXPERIENCE

Stories that deepen our understanding of ourselves and one another.

II

CONNECTION

Films and conversations that bring people together.

III

CURIOSITY

Perspectives that challenge assumptions and expand horizons.

IV

CREATIVITY

Bold artistic voices and original storytelling.

V

MEANINGFUL CONVERSATION

Experiences that continue long after the credits roll.

90 MINUTES FROM LOS ANGELES · 30 FROM SANTA BARBARA

Why Ojai?

Uniquely situated between two world-class industry hubs just 90 minutes from Los Angeles and 30 minutes from Santa Barbara, Ojai offers a rare combination of natural beauty, creative energy, walkable charm, and intimate community.

It is a place where filmmakers, audiences, artists, and ideas come together in a setting that encourages meaningful connection and conversation.

Ojai is not simply where the festival takes place. It is part of the experience itself.

NATURAL BEAUTY

A landscape that inspires reflection, creativity, and connection.

CREATIVE COMMUNITY

Where artists, audiences, and ideas come together.

DESTINATION EXPERIENCE

More than a festival. A place people return to year after year.



WHERE FILM BECOMES EXPERIENCE

Beyond the Screen

The Ojai Film Festival is more than a series of screenings.

It is a gathering place for filmmakers, audiences, artists, industry professionals, and community members to connect through conversation, discovery, and shared experience.

From filmmaker discussions and industry conversations to receptions, hospitality events, and community gatherings, Ojai creates meaningful connections that continue long after the credits roll.

DISCOVERY

CONVERSATION

CONNECTION

HOSPITALITY

CELEBRATION

CELEBRATING 26 YEARS OF STORYTELLING

Audience & Impact

For 26 years, the Ojai Film Festival has brought together filmmakers, audiences, artists, and community leaders through the shared experience of cinema.

3,500+ ANNUAL
ATTENDANCE

10,000+ FILM
SUBMISSIONS

2,000+ FILMS
SCREENED

26

YEARS

45 COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED

2,500+ VOLUNTEERS

150+ SPONSORS
& PARTNERS

Since 1999, the Ojai Film Festival has welcomed thousands of filmmakers and film lovers from around the world while building one of California's longest-running celebrations of independent cinema.

HELP SHAPE THE NEXT CHAPTER OF THE OJAI FILM FESTIVAL

Partnership Opportunities



PARTNERSHIP TYPES · SUPPORT LEVEL

Presenting Partner	\$50,000+
Signature Program Partner	\$25,000+
Experience Partner	\$10,000+
Industry Partner	\$5,000+
Community Partner	\$2,500+
In-Kind Partner	Custom

PARTNERS RECEIVE EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO

- Festival Presenting Sponsor
- Opening Night Sponsor
- Closing Night Sponsor
- Human Spirit Award Sponsor
- Emerging Voices Sponsor
- Filmmaker Lounge Sponsor
- Industry Summit Sponsor

POTENTIAL ACTIVATIONS

FESTIVAL VISIBILITY	EXPERIENCES	PROGRAMMING	COMMUNITY IMPACT
Naming opportunities Website and program recognition On-site branding Sponsor acknowledgements	VIP events Filmmaker hospitality Receptions and gatherings Curated networking opportunities	Signature program sponsorships Conversations and panels Awards and tributes Special screenings	Emerging Voices initiatives Educational programming Year-round engagement Audience development