



ALABAMA SCREENDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

2026 - 2027 Program Outline

May 1, 2026: Applications Open,
<https://filmfreeway.com/AlabamaScreendanceFilmFestival>

August 2026: Free educational sessions at Sidewalk Film Festival (watch for schedule coming July), <https://sidewalkfest.com/festival/schedule/>

November 30, 2026: Alabama Screendance Film Festival Submission Deadline

December 2026: Selection Notification with optional individual feedback from panel

January 23, 2027: Screening of selected films at Sidewalk Film Center

January 23-24, 2027: Free educational sessions at the Alabama Dance Festival (watch for schedule coming September), registration required, <https://cvent.me/b2LEVr>

Spring 2027: Continued public screenings

Curatorial Panel Feedback: *As an educational opportunity of the Alabama Screendance Film Festival, applicants may opt to receive panel feedback on final submissions. Past curatorial panels have included representatives from our esteemed partners, Sidewalk Film Center, Rogue Dancer, American Dance Festival's Movies by Movers, and the University of Alabama.*



Alabama Dance Festival, 2025 Dance on Film Class



ABOUT THE ALABAMA DANCE COUNCIL

Founded in 1974, the Alabama Dance Council has been a leader in promoting dance and its cultural impact across the state for over 50 years. ADC is the statewide service organization for dance and a state partner of the Alabama State Council on the Arts. ADC serves as the state's premiere resource for dance education, performance, and outreach, offering a variety of programs, workshops, and performances to engage individuals of all ages and backgrounds in the arts.

In addition to supporting local dance communities, ADC produces the Alabama Dance Festival (ADF), one of the most anticipated cultural events in the region. ADF 2027 will mark its 30th anniversary year, celebrating the vibrancy of dance in Alabama and its growing national and international reach.

As part of its commitment to dance education, **ADF offers classes in Dance on Film, taught by leaders in the dance film industry.** These classes provide participants with the opportunity to learn from experienced professionals, furthering the integration of dance and cinema in the educational landscape. Our programs bring together dancers, choreographers, educators, and film enthusiasts, fostering creativity and collaboration while celebrating the diverse and rich history of dance. ADC remains committed to providing a platform for both emerging and established artists and filmmakers to share their work together with the community.



Echoes of Ailey, Ezra Hurwitz, presented at the 2026 Alabama Screendance Film Festival

OUR PARTNERS



Sidewalk Film Center and Festival

Repeatedly recognized by MovieMaker Magazine as one of the Top 25 Festivals in the World and by TIME Magazine as one of the Top 10 Festivals for the Rest of Us, Sidewalk Film Festival annually brings over 250 independent films to The Magic City, drawing filmmakers from around the world. The Sidewalk Film Center and Festival continue to serve as a cultural cornerstone, offering something irreplaceable: the communal experience of sitting together in the dark, sharing stories that challenge, inspire, and transform us. Sidewalk thrives through collaboration, using film's convening power to spark dialogue on issues that matter.

Rogue Dancer

Jennifer Scully-Thorston, a distinguished choreographer, dance filmmaker, curator, and journalist, elevates the festival by bringing international dance films to our event through Rogue Dancer, providing a global perspective, enriching the festival's programming, and enhancing credibility. Fresh and diverse voices that reflect both contemporary dance and global cinematic trends captivates our audiences and broadens the festival's artistic range.

University of Alabama Professor of Dance Rebecca Salzer is an intermedia dance artist and educator. Her work for the stage has been seen in Chicago, Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco, where she directed Rebecca Salzer Dance Theater for a decade. Her award-winning films and videos have been shown in national and international festivals including the San Francisco International Film Festival and Dance on Camera in New York City, as well as on public affiliate television stations KQED, KPBS, and WTTW. Salzer also directs the Dancing Digital Project, which works toward creating and facilitating more accessible, equitable, interconnected, and sustainable dance resources online, and co-directs the NEH-supported No Boundaries Archive Project with Gesel Mason.



Playing House, Jennifer Scully-Thorston, presented at the 2025 Alabama Screendance Film Festival