



THOMAS EDISON FILM FESTIVAL

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CENTER
PRINCETON | arts

44th Annual Thomas Edison Film Festival Tour - 2025
Presented by The Arts Council of Glen Rock
Friday March 21, 2025, 7:00pm

Selected family-friendly award-winning shorts from the TEFF 2025 season from Africa, China, the UK and the US.

Hunky Dory – Animation

6 min. by Steven Vander Meer, Arcata, CA, USA

“Hunky Dory” juxtaposes scenes of animal life with images of human existence, observing the quirky and unexpected ways in which we are similar. The meticulously hand-drawn animation is a visual smorgasbord, moving and morphing in perfect time to the banjo music of Béla Fleck and his bandmates in *My Bluegrass Heart*.

Serious and Lively – Narrative

5 min. by Jieying Song, Shanxi, China

Evoking the “Prince and the Pauper” by Mark Twain, this delightful film contrasts the lives of two young Chinese boys. The masterful intercutting of the boys’ lives is comical, heartbreaking, and profound.

A is for Ant – Experimental

10 min. by Jack Davison, Hadstock, Essex, UK

“A is for Ant” is an immersive film by British photographer Jack Davison that explores the alphabet through a captivating blend of live action and animation. This charming and engaging film celebrates concepts of creativity, play, the natural world, beauty and silliness.

R.E.S.C.U.E. - Documentary

25 min. by Keenan Ferguson and Martha McGuinness, NY, NY, USA and Northern Kenya, Africa

“R.E.S.C.U.E.” is a film about resilience, hope, and triumph in the fight to protect a species and to empower women and their communities. The film gives viewers a behind-the-scenes look at the groundbreaking work of the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary and The Sarara Foundation in Northern Kenya. It is an inspiring example of what is possible in the realm of community-led conservation.

Tennis, Oranges – Animation

11 min. by Sean Pecknold, LA, CA, USA

A robotic vacuum suffering from burnout quits its job at a hospital and sets out to find community and a greater purpose on a quiet street where two lonely rabbits are stuck in perpetual loops.

Jerusalema: From Austria to Zimbabwe – Screen Dance

8 min. by Su Friedrich, Brooklyn, NY, USA

"Jerusalema: From Austria to Zimbabwe" is a loving look back at a viral phenomenon that burst out during the Covid pandemic: The Jerusalema Dance Challenge.



About the TEFF:

The Thomas Edison Film Festival (TEFF) is an international showcase celebrating innovation in filmmaking, inspired by the pioneering vision of Thomas Edison. Since its inception in 1981, TEFF has sought to honor Edison’s legacy by promoting creativity and artistry in the moving image, much like how Edison’s films revolutionized visual storytelling, and his phonograph changed the way people experienced sound.

As an Academy Award® Qualifying Festival for animation and experimental shorts, TEFF is more than just a traditional destination event. It is a socially conscious, traveling showcase that connects diverse audiences to the compelling works of independent filmmakers worldwide. By focusing on underrepresented voices, TEFF provides a platform for accomplished and emerging artists who may lack access to live public exhibitions. The festival emphasizes artistic excellence and promotes empathy and engagement through films that both teach and entertain.

TEFF celebrates a wide spectrum of genres, including narrative, experimental, animation, documentary, screen dance, and hybrids. The festival places particular focus on films addressing crucial social issues such as environmental challenges, race and class relationships, immigration, LGBTQ+ rights, human rights, disability advocacy, and social justice.

To learn more about the **Thomas A. Edison Media Arts Consortium** visit www.TEFilmFest.org, Jane Steuerwald, Executive Director, +1 551-999-8225, Jane@TEFilmFestival.org; Elizabeth Kirshtein, Festival Assistant & NJ Young Filmmakers' Festival Coordinator, EKirshtein@tefilmfest.org.

The **Arts Council of Glen Rock** was founded in 2019 with the mission of promoting, supporting and celebrating all forms of the arts. Our commitment to the community of Glen Rock is to advance and empower the arts in our small town. Our aim is to provide artistic experiences throughout the year, guided by three priorities: expanding arts opportunities, cultivating awareness, and energizing community support and attendance. To become a member or join our mailing please visit us <https://www.artscouncilgr.org>