

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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5th Annual San Antonio Black International Film Festival
Affirmatively and Actively Celebrates
HBCU Film Luv

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS – The San Antonio Black International Film Festival (**SABIFF**) celebrates its fifth-year anniversary. **SABIFF 2023** runs **October 5th – October 8th** on sabiff.tv, and at local venues in San Antonio, Texas. This year's festival theme, ***HBCU Film Luv***, will celebrate remarkable creatives in film, video, and television who have made great strides to advance Black images, voices, equity, and opportunities for people of African descent.

SABIFF's Opening Night Gala is presenting this year's **Ankh Achievement Award** to Howard University Bison, Texans and sisters: **Emmy and Tony Award Winner Phylicia Rashad** and **Emmy, Tony, Golden Globe and NAACP Image Award Winner Debbie Allen for Outstanding Work in the Entertainment, Television and Film arenas.**

A Different World co-star **Kim Charnele Brown**, the founder of Charnele Brown Acting Academy, will offer her specialized **ACTING WORKSHOPS** for registered festival attendees on Oct. 6th and 7th.

Eighty submissions were submitted for this year's Open Call. Forty selected films for the Films-In-Competition showcase will be screened at [St. Philip's College's Watson Auditorium](#) and the [Carver Community Cultural Center](#). Two-days of rare Black independent films consisting of narratives, documentaries, animation, music video and student film stories give a diverse assemblage of Black subjects, stories, perspectives, and images representing the diaspora: US, Trinidad, Jamaica, Canada, Ghana, France, South Africa, Iran, Egypt and the Neverlands.

"Festival sponsorship, by the [San Antonio Film Commission](#) (@FilmSanAntonio), [H-E-B](#) and the [San Antonio Area Foundation's](#) Cultural Vibrancy three-year grant has added tremendous support to SABIFF's ongoing commitment to support the local economy, " said founder Ada M. Babineaux. Returning partners include: the [Carver Community Cultural Center](#), the San Antonio Public Library's [Carver Library Branch](#) (along with Friends of the Carver Library), and [St. Philip's College](#) our local HBCU, celebrating their 125th year-anniversary. Post mixer networking events will take place at: [Elsewhere-SA](#) and [Dakota Ice House](#).

General audience entrance fees range from \$10 daily block movie passes, to \$25 workshops, to \$100 for local all-access- badges for local live V.I.P. attendees. All-access-passes with virtual Video-On-Demand (VOD) are available for virtual audiences across the world. Events are open to St. Philip's | Alamo College students, and area youth 18 and under with a valid student ID. Discount rates are open to senior citizens, groups and students at area institutions. Visit sabiff.tv for more details, volunteer, and donation opportunities. This hybrid festival will include Films-In-Competition showcases, workshops, panels. Schedules, tickets, and gratis event information can be found at sabiff.tv. Visit the website for further information.

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SAN ANTONIO BLACK INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
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FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

HBCU LUV & BRILLIANCE IN THE TELEVISION AND FILM INDUSTRY

OPENING NIGHT THURSDAY

- Red Carpet Reception, entertainment, and the presentation of SABIFF's 4th Annual Ankh Achievement Award to Emmy-nominated Actor/ Producer/ Director sisters and Texans, **Phylicia Rashad** and **Debbie Allen**. Honoring multi-faceted, awarding winning celebrities for their enduring contributions in theater, TV and film. Evening includes local entertainment, local dignitaries, and more.

BLACK FRIDAY

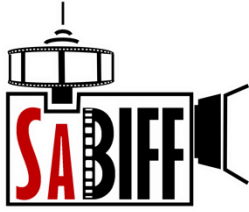
- Rare Black International Film Screenings, Workshops, and School field trips to the campus of St. Philip's College, SA's HBCU celebrating its 125-year anniversary.
- **ACTING WORKSHOPS** conducted by television's 'A Different World's Hillman College med-student we know as Kim. **Charnele Brown**, the founder of Charnele Brown Acting Academy will teach 2-intimate acting classes (for youth on 10/6, and Adults on 10/7).
- A presentation of the award-winning HBCU documentary **TELL THEM WE ARE RISING: The Story of Historically Black Colleges and Universities** (Firelight Media) with post-discussion + audience Q&A from co-director Marco Williams.
- **An HBCU TOWN HALL - THE HBCU EXPERIENCE: VOICES FROM THE BLACK ENCLAVE**, an interactive forum with HBCU thought leaders on the importance of these institutes of higher education as the cornerstone of African American culture, produced & hosted by Harvest & Feast Productions.

SOUL SATURDAY

- Rare Black International Film Screenings, HBCU Creatives at workshops, panels, Interview profiles, and a cinema pop-up w/ music, vendors, food, and giveaways.
- Unique workshops hybrid and in-person that delve into professional careers in television and film such as: Script Continuity, a Director's Hustle & Flow, Fix It in Post, and *Unconventional Producing Strategies* from award winning producer, Monty Ross.
- Howard University's short film showcases "MECCA HOUR" curated by the Cathy Hughes School of Communication's Associate Director of Film Graduate Program which celebrates 40-years.
- CLOSING NIGHT's *Cinema Under the Stars* movie presentation of the classic HBCU musical drama **SCHOOL DAZE** by director Spike Lee. Celebrating the film's 35th year anniversary. Co-sponsored by the SAPL & Friends of the Carver Library.

SUNDAY GLORY

- **FILMMAKERS AWARDS BRUNCH** announcing the winning FILMS-IN-COMPETITION, Audience Choice Award, Entertainment and Brunch.



The **San Antonio** Black International Film Festival (**SABIFF**) started in 2019 to serve as a vehicle to support, and advocate for quality Black films, and filmmakers international in scope. We aim to expose SA audiences, and beyond; to diverse industry professionals, impactful events, and films created by, for and about people of African Descent throughout the Diaspora. **SABIFF** is a 501(c)3 organization. @sabiff, #sabiff2022



Sponsored by the San Antonio Film Commission. San Antonio Film Commission is your one-stop shop for film making in the seventh largest city in the US. San Antonio is the home of an up to a 22.5% film incentive provided by the State of Texas, no permit fees for 250+ city-owned properties, unique and diverse locations built over San Antonio's 300+ year history, and much more. @FilmSanAntonio



San Antonio Area Foundation
Where Giving and Community Connect

The San Antonio Area Foundation has served as the sole, designated community foundation for the San Antonio area for over half a century, growing to become one of the Top 20 foundations in the nation based on asset size. The Area Foundation helps donors achieve their charitable goals, managing more than 500 charitable funds approaching \$1 billion in assets. Coordinating efforts with numerous area nonprofits, the Area

Foundation serves as a collaborative leader, connecting donors to address key community issues and investing in our future. Since 1964, over \$400 million for scholarships and grants have been awarded to enhance the quality of life in our region. Learn more about your community foundation at saafdn.org.



For over 115 years, H-E-B has contributed to worthy causes throughout Texas and Mexico, and we continue to support our community as strongly as ever. Since 1908 H-E-B, we believe grocery shopping is more than an errand. A shared spirit drives us to work together and build a company that doesn't just meet the Customer's needs, it exceeds them. Our pledge to always go above and beyond. @HEB | #HEBHelpingHere
