



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
CASCADIA Women's International Film Festival

Address:
1050 Larrabee Ave, Ste 104
Bellingham, WA 98225

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<https://cascadiafilmfest.org>

Organization's General Goals:
CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival is a Bellingham, Washington-based festival dedicated to discovering, developing and showcasing emergent and expert women filmmakers and promoting the Pacific Northwest as a destination for film production and filmgoing audiences.

Date of Award: 2025 Q1
Level: \$500 to \$2,500

For more information, please read the attached report from Cascadia Women's International Film Festival.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
TulalipCares.org

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CASCADIA

**INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S
FILM FESTIVAL**

Final Report for Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions

Total recipients impacted by CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival:



Organization website

www.cascadiafilmfest.org

Report code

Q1 2025 14.2

Project name

CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival

Objectives

CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival is a Bellingham, Washington-based festival dedicated to discovering, developing and showcasing emergent and expert women filmmakers and promoting the Pacific Northwest as a destination for film production and filmgoing audiences. Our annual film festival and cultural and educational programs throughout the year champion the arts, community and diverse perspectives.

Background

The 2026 CASCADIA Women's International Film Festival was our most successful to date, thanks in part to funding from Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions that allowed us to feature the work of 32 women directors and screenwriters during the four-day event in late April and early May. We celebrated our 10th anniversary with this year's program, and working with our primary venue, the Pickford Film Center, added two theaters for screenings to allow more visitors to attend and participate. Our festival films sold out at 90% capacity and more with overall ticket sales and unique attendees exceeding that of previous years – with more than half of our audience (57%) travelling from beyond 50 miles to attend.

Our festival remains one of the premier events for women directors entering the film-making industry and an industry leader in its commitment to opening doors for them. Through the support of grantmakers like Tulalip as well as an increasing number of local business sponsors and individual donors, we're able to illuminate these powerful stories while attracting a tourist audience to northwest Washington. Directors continue to rave about the experience they've had in northwest Washington state, promoting our community and its businesses to their substantial networks.

In addition to our primary festival events in the spring, we expand our impact through year-round events that focus on advancing social justice and emerging filmmakers. This year, we hosted a screening to celebrate Native American History Month in November by featuring "Nika and Madison," a powerful thriller film set in Indian Country by Eva Thomas, a member of the Walpole Island First Nation. Additionally, we hosted screenings as part of our partner theater's annual documentary festival, Doctober, and screenings for International Women's Day, Earth Day, Black History Month, and Pride Month that elevated the work of women filmmakers advancing justice with their art.



The Antone George Family singers from Lummi Nation provide a blessing at CASCADIA's opening night film in the Pickford Film Center. (Vanessa Prestage photo)



Filmmakers, audience members and CASCADIA board members celebrated the opening of the festival at the Chuckanut Distillery's Penny Farthing Restaurant in downtown Bellingham. (Vanessa Prestage photo)



Documentary director Ondi Timoner as the Honored Guest at CASCADIA's 2026 festival presents her program to the audience in the Mount Baker Theatre in Bellingham. (Vanessa Prestage photo)



Directors Lorena Villaneuva and Rebecca Tansley (center) discuss the challenges of sound design with CASCADIA's Program Director Claudia Puig (far left) and producer Terri Murphy of HBO's series, "The Pitt." (Vanessa Prestage photo)



A panel of film professionals critique a short film script for writers after the reading by the acting ensemble. Audience members follow along through the projected script on the screen overhead. The educational event is free and open to the public. (Vanessa Prestage photo)