



The 20th Los Angeles Greek Film Festival Expands Program With 56 Films Collaborations & Red Carpet Celebrations (May 26–31, 2026)

LOS ANGELES, CA – (May 5, 2026) - The [Los Angeles Greek Film Festival \(LAGFF\)](#) announces its 20th edition will be held over 6 days from May 26 through May 31, 2026. The nonprofit organization continues its mission of showcasing films from Greece and Cyprus, alongside stories inspired by Greek culture, to audiences across Southern California and the United States. The **12th Discovery Days** story & pitch lab offers filmmakers, writers, directors, and producers a platform to develop and workshop feature film projects and takes place from May 28 to May 31.

The landmark 20th edition offers 56 films: 20 features, 21 shorts, and 15 animated films, including Sundance 2026 World Cinema Audience Award winner “**HOLD ONTO ME**”, the Greek box office hit “**BROKEN VEIN**”, sports drama “**PATTY IS SUCH A GIRLY NAME**”. Also featured are Europa Cinemas Label Award at Venice “**BEARCAVE**”, horror experimental “**THEY COME OUT OF MARGO**” and the physical comedy “**BEST FRIENDS FOREVER**”.

“LAGFF is proud to celebrate our 20th year and extend our gratitude to Netflix, the Egyptian Theatre team, and the American Cinematheque as we join forces to create unforgettable evenings for our communities,” — Aristotle Katopodis, Artistic & Festival Director



On Opening Night May 27, LAGFF presents the West Coast premiere of **Giorgos Georgopoulos’** film, “**PATTY IS SUCH A GIRLY NAME**” which received five awards at the Thessaloniki International Film Festival. Upbeat and youthful, the film follows Daphne, a teenage judo athlete from a remote Greek island, who is ready to spread her wings with the help of Sensei Yuri, aiming to take part in the next Olympic Games. Filmmaker Georgopoulos will be in attendance.

LAGFF Opening Night will include a remembrance tribute to Academy Award-winning Production Designer **Constantine “Dean” Tavoularis**, considered one of the greatest and most respected artists in the seventh art. LAGFF Opening Night is presented by **Netflix**.

On May 31, LAGFF Closing Night & Orpheus Awards are in collaboration with the **American Cinematheque** and will feature **“HOLD ONTO ME”** by Myrsini Aristidou at the Egyptian Theatre with the director in attendance. The film is about 11-year-old Iris running wild through the streets with her older friend Danae when she learns that her estranged father, Aris, is back in town for his own father’s funeral. Determined to get to know him, Iris tracks him down to a dilapidated shipyard, where he’s been keeping to himself. What begins as a stubborn attempt to reconnect slowly unfolds into a fragile bond, imperfect yet poignant.

Opening and Closing Nights will include red carpet premieres and receptions in the Egyptian Theatre courtyard, featuring refined Greek cuisine from **Petros Restaurant**.

For 20 years, LAGFF has been a cultural bridge connecting Greek filmmakers with global audiences. This milestone reflects the passion and dedication of our community and supporters,
— Ersi Danou, LAGFF Co-Founder

Signature Events (partial list)

- **Tuesday, May 26** – Pre-Opening Night Screening (venue TBA)
- May 26–31 – Theatrical Screenings
- **Wednesday, May 27** – Red Carpet Opening Night, Tavoularis tribute, Reception, Egyptian Theatre
- **Thursday, May 28** – Hollywood “Scene & Be Seen” Bash, Rooftop Godfrey Hotel Hollywood
- **Sunday, May 31** – Closing Night, Orpheus Awards Celebration, Reception, Egyptian Theatre
- TBA – Panels & Industry Events
- **Saturday, May 31** – Filmmaker Brunch (invite-only)
- TBA – Discovery Days Auditing
- TBD – Virtual Screenings

Tickets & Access

Individual Tickets and schedule information coming soon.
Gold & Platinum Passes for All Films, programs and Events - [Here](#)

Key Sponsors & Supporters

Festival Benefactor:

G.P. Kolovos & Associates & The Kolovos Family

Major Supporters:

Los Angeles County Department of Arts & Culture, Department Cultural Affairs City of Los Angeles (DCA), EKKOMED, Egyptian Theatre, Petros, The Godfrey Hotel Hollywood, European Languages & Movies in America (ELMA), Greek National Tourism Foundation, and Earth Friendly Products (ECOS).

Additional Supporters Include:

Getty, Elios Charitable Foundation, ERTFLIX, EPT, ERT World, ANT Satellite & The Antenna Group,

Alexander Payne, Aris Anagnos Charitable Trust, Gibson Dunn/Theane Evangelis, Jim Gianopoulos, Dr. Stephen & Dr. Anna Yallourakis, West Coast Investors, Paris Kassidokostas-Latsis, Kary Antholis, The Avra Group, and the Sifaris Family.

LAGFF also extends gratitude to the Honorable Christina Valassopoulou, Consul General of Greece in Los Angeles and the Honorable Andreas Kyprianides, Honorary Consul General of Cyprus.

About LAGFF Sponsors

- **GPK & Associates and the Kolovos Family** - GPK & Associates is an established property management company and family-owned business. GPK & Associates takes a hands-on approach to managing communities and has successfully leased and managed a large portfolio of apartment homes in the greater Los Angeles area for over 40 years. It is the company's mission to provide residents with the highest quality customer service and ensure their homes are comfortable and the properties are well maintained. GPK & Associates take pride in their level of customer service and the quality of workmanship provided in their remodeled apartment homes. They believe this translates into a positive rental experience for all residents who live in their communities. www.gpkassociates.com
- **Los Angeles County Department of Arts & Culture** - The mission of the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture (LACDAC) is to advance arts, culture, and creativity throughout LA County. LACDAC provides leadership, services, and support in areas including grants and technical assistance for nonprofit organizations, countywide arts education initiatives, commissioning and care for civic art collections, research and evaluation, access to creative pathways, professional development, free community programs, and cross sector creative strategies that address civic issues. All this work is framed by the longstanding commitment to fostering access to the arts, and the County's Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative. www.lacountyarts.org
- **European Languages & Movies in America (ELMA)** - The European Languages & Movies in America (ELMA) mission is to create new avenues for better cultural understanding between the people of Europe and the USA by celebrating alternative cinema. Since its inception in 2007, ELMA has supported over 100 events in 30 countries in over 20 languages. ELMA strives to provide more opportunities to view European films by supporting educational and nonprofit venues showing such movies. ELMA supports a wide spectrum of projects, from classic films to the works of emerging talent in order to provide new audiences with an alternative to Hollywood. www.elma.org/copy-of-home-1
- The **Egyptian Theatre** is a classic and beloved movie palace originally built in 1922 during the silent film era. A fixture in Hollywood's Golden Age, the Egyptian was the site of the world's very first movie premiere of ROBIN HOOD starring Douglas Fairbanks and remains to this day the ultimate destination for moviegoers. This historic venue has been the home of glamorous red carpet premieres, groundbreaking film festivals and incredible cinematic experiences. Over the past century, it has been presenting films for audiences in Hollywood, the movie-making capital of the world.
- **Petros** - Petros Benekos opened his flagship restaurant, **Petros Restaurant**, in Manhattan Beach, Calif. in 2007, which Zagat named "Top New Restaurant". The popular restaurant continues to earn accolades and awards celebrating Petros's meticulously handmade recipes inspired by his mother. Today three additional Petros restaurants serve the popular communities of Hollywood, Century City, El Segundo and Solvang; while Petros' 'Villa and Vine' has become the premier place for hosting luxury private events in Santa Barbara.

- **The Godfrey Hotel Hollywood** - Located a block south of Sunset Boulevard in the heart of Los Angeles' iconic Hollywood enclave, The Godfrey Hotel Hollywood brings the distinct Chicago hospitality brand to the West Coast. Exuding the energy of old Hollywood, the hotel's curated art program and immersive interior design set the stage for supreme Hollywood moments. www.godfreyhotelhollywood.com
- **Earth Friendly Products (ECOS)** - Over 50 years ago, ECOS founder Van Vlahakis made a commitment to create safer cleaning products that protect the health and wellbeing of both people and the planet. That continues to be ECOS mission today. Van's legacy continues with his daughter, CEO Kelly Vlahakis-Hanks. Under her leadership, ECOS has achieved Climate Positivity, becoming the world's first company to make its products in carbon neutral, water neutral and TRUE Platinum Zero Waste facilities.

LAGFF community partners include the **American Cinematheque**, **Basil P. Caloyeras Center for Modern Greek Studies** and **Saint Sophia Cathedral**. The festival also celebrates its long-standing partnership with **Loyola Marymount University** through the LAGFF-LMU Internship Program. For the first year, LAGFF collaborates with the **Brain Dead Studios**.

About LAGFF: The Los Angeles Greek Film Festival is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Since its inception, LAGFF has screened over 800 films, hosted more than 700 filmmakers, and reached an audience of over 50,000. For more information, please visit: www.lagff.org

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