

THE NINTH ANNUAL

OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL



MARCH 6-9, 2025

OCMDFilmFestival.com

AN 'ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY' PRODUCTION

FILM FESTING IS AS EASY AS 1-2-3

1 Buy



SCAN THE QR CODE
or
GO TO OCMDFilmFestival.com
or
CALL 410-524-9433



Best Value: 4-Day Pass, \$125
Thursday \$35, Friday \$40,
Saturday \$40, Sunday \$20

2 Book



HOTEL SPECIAL FILM FESTIVAL RATES



- Ashore Resort & Beach Club**
10100 Coastal Hwy OC 410-524-3535
- Best Western Plus**
6007 Coastal Hwy. OC 410-524-6100
- Residence Inn by Marriott**
300 Seabay Lane, OC 410-723-2222
- Holiday Inn & Suites**
1701 Atlantic Ave., OC 410-289-7263
- Cambria Hotel**
13 Saint Louis Ave., OC 410-289-1645

3 Binge

VOTE FOR THE AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD Vote for up to five films to pick the winner with the award presented on Sunday.



DOWNLOAD THE APP

SCAN THE QR CODE to stay up to date on Film Fest happenings and to view the official Film Festival Program.



FESTIVAL VENUES



Ashore Resort
10100 Coastal Hwy.
Ocean City



Cambria Hotel
13 St. Louis Ave.
Ocean City



Flagship Cinemas
12641 Ocean Gateway
West Ocean City



Ocean City Center for the Arts
502 94th St. bayside
Ocean City



Ocean City Performing Arts Center
4001 Coastal Hwy,
Ocean City



Gold Coast Cinemas
11301 Coastal Hwy.
Ocean City



Dough Roller
4103 Coastal Hwy.
Ocean City



Seacrets
117 49th St. bayside,
Ocean City



Happy Jack's Pancake House
2504 Philadelphia Ave.
Ocean City



The Stoke
12728 Ocean Gateway
Ocean City

FILM FEST RULES

- Seating is limited on a first-come basis.
- Films are not rated; viewer discretion is advised.
- No smoking in the venues.
- Please be silent and courteous during films.
- Silence cell phones. ■ No pets. ■ No refunds.
- No filming or photography during screenings.



Rina Thaler
Art League Executive Director
B.L. Strang-Moya
Film Festival Creative Director



**Welcome to the 9th Annual
Ocean City Film Festival**
An Art League of Ocean City Production



SUNDAY MARCH 9 12:30-3PM
**OCEAN CITY PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER**

Family Fun Day at the Movies

**with Hometown All-Stars
LIVE ON STAGE
giving film commentary**

Let's welcome home two local Ocean City all-stars, now celebrated for their work in the film industry. Get the inside scoop on this award-winning film including an exclusive look at the new Biggest Little Farm TV series. Director John Chester and Producer Erica Messer will provide live behind the scenes insights.

\$20 in advance (included with Sunday & all-access passes)
\$25 at the door
Children 14 & under FREE with paid adult

the Biggest little Farm



JOHN CHESTER



ERICA CRAMER MESSER

The Maryland Film Office is proud to support
the Ocean City Film Festival



www.MarylandFilm.org

SCHEDULE OF FILMS & EVENTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 8											
	Films						Events & More				
LOCATION	West OC	West OC	St Louis Ave	41st St	101st St	113th St	St Louis Ave	25th St	55th St	94th St	101st St
VENUE	Flagship Theater #4	Flagship Theater #5	Cambria	Dough Roller Back Entrance	Ashore Resort	Gold Coast Theater	Cambria Downtown Lounge	Happy Jack Pancake House	AlleyOops Midtown	OC Center for the Arts	Ashore Resort
8:30 AM											
9:00 AM								OCFF Breakfast Specials: 7am-12pm			
9:30 AM											
10:00 AM											
10:30 AM											
11:00 AM											
11:30 AM											
12:00 PM							Cambria's Downtown OCFF Lounge: 12-9pm				
12:30 PM	Meko 12-1:15pm *Q&A		Failed State 12-1:45pm *Q&A	Sponsored by: The Town of OC	Fights, Crime, ACTION 11:30-1pm *Q&A	Racing for Recovery 11-12:45pm *Q&A					
1:00 PM		Ray of Hope 1-2:45pm *Q&A		The Local Competition 12:30-2:15pm *Q&A							
1:30 PM					Bill Helman - The WoolDriver 1:15-3:15pm *Q&A						
2:00 PM	Children of The Wicker Man 1:30-3:30pm *Q&A		Chuckles, Chortles, Snickers, & Snorts 2-3pm *Q&A			Salmon Run 1-2:45pm *Q&A					
2:30 PM											
3:00 PM											
3:30 PM					Bankie Banx: King of the Dune 2:30-4:45pm *Q&A						
4:00 PM		Home Free 3-5pm *Q&A	Diary of an Elephant Orphan 3:15-5:15pm *Q&A		Ocean Learning 3:30-5pm *Q&A	Unscene Productions Film & Panel 4-5pm *Q&A					
4:30 PM	Stampila 3:45-5:45pm *Q&A										
5:00 PM											
5:30 PM											
6:00 PM		Protagonists 5:15-6:45pm *Q&A	Colibri film 5:30-7:30pm *Q&A	The Platinum Loop 5-7pm *Q&A		I'm Right Here, Mama 5:15-7pm *Q&A				Cocktail Party Free hors d'oeuvres & Cash bar 5-7pm	
6:30 PM											
7:00 PM	Her Ulta 6-8pm *Q&A										
7:30 PM					Don't Go in the Woods 7:15-8:15pm *Q&A	Murder Madness 7-8pm *Q&A					
8:00 PM		Date Night 7-9pm *Q&A	Living Drugs 8-9pm *Q&A			Cast & Crew 7:15-9:15pm *Q&A					
8:30 PM											
9:00 PM											
9:30 PM											
10:00 PM											
10:30 PM											
11:00 PM											

SCHEDULE OF FILMS & EVENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 9							
	Films				Events & More		
LOCATION	West OC	West OC	94th St	113th St	25th St	41st St	49th St
VENUE	Flagship Theater #4	Flagship Theater #5	OC Center for the Arts	Gold Coast Theaters	Happy Jack's Pancake House	PAC	Seacrets
8:00 AM					Breakfast w/BL 8-9am		
8:30 AM							
9:00 AM							
9:30 AM			OCFF Lounge & Pass p/u 9am-12pm Brought to you by: Bethany Resort Furnishings		OCFF Breakfast Specials 7-12pm		
10:00 AM	Stampila 10-12pm *Q&A	Living Drugs 10:15-11:30am *Q&A		Her Ulta 10-12pm *Q&A			
10:30 AM							
11:00 AM							
11:30 AM							
12:00 PM							
12:30 PM							
1:00 PM					Biggest Little Farm Event Doors open at 12:30-3pm		
1:30 PM							
2:00 PM							
2:30 PM							
3:00 PM							
3:30 PM							
4:00 PM							Awards & Closing Party Free hors d'oeuvres & Cash bar 3-5pm
4:30 PM							
5:00 PM							
5:30 PM							
6:00 PM							After Party 5-7pm
6:30 PM							
7:00 PM							
7:30 PM							
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10:00 PM							
10:30 PM							
11:00 PM							

THANK YOU, SPONSORS

MARQUEE



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EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS



John Gisson

PRODUCER



DIRECTORS



ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS



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Papi's Tacos • Gold Coast Theaters • Coins • Alley Oops
Ocean City Chamber • Happy Jacks Pancakes • The Stoke
Bethany Resort Furnishings • Burley Oak

OPENING NIGHT SHOWCASE

Sponsored by the Town of Ocean City



Thursday 7pm ~ Cambria Hotel
Selected short films from the 2025 program.
65 minutes

THE BOY FROM LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Directed by Christopher Flippo
From the Family Dynamics Showcase. A young woman reminisces about her father. 3 minutes. Atlanta, Ga

**THE CAMPFIRE**

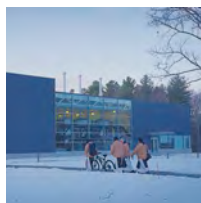
Directed by Logan Bilbrough
From the Don't Go In the Woods Showcase. A man goes on an annual camping trip with his best friend. This year something has changed. 14 minutes.

**DEAR KINDRED SPIRIT**

Directed by Jennifer Lynn Robertson
From the Enchanted Sea Showcase. A remote mailbox makes a lasting impact on the environment and visitors who write confessions, prayers, and heart-cries on the pages of its notebooks. 17 minutes. Wilmington, NC

**LAST YEAR'S TOMORROW**

Directed by Steven Heil
From the Date Night Showcase. After a wrenching setback, a woman discovers a path for moving forward. 14 minutes. Oshkosh, WI

**ORA ET LABORA**

Directed by Jena Burchik, Mark Burchik
From the Creating Purpose Showcase. Inspired by the growth of the American craft beer movement, a group of Catholic monks produces America's first "Trappist-certified" beer. 17 minutes. Parkville, Md

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE FILMS**(~INCONVENIENT FOOD~) WHALE RESTAURANT**

Directed by Keiko Yagi
A scientific examination of contemporary global issues, including the balance of protein sources, global warming, fossil fuels, and carbon dioxide.
1 hour 16 minutes. Tokyo, Japan
Friday, 3pm, Flagship

**BANKIE BANX: KING OF THE DUNE**

Directed by Nara Garber
Celebrates the colorful life of the Anguillian singer/songwriter known as "the Bob Dylan of the Caribbean."
1 hour 58 minutes. Brooklyn, NY
Friday, 10:45am, Ashore
Saturday, 2:30pm, Dough Roller

**BILL HELMAN - THE WOOFDRIVER**

Directed by Rod Lopez
The story of the most accomplished and well-known advocates for Siberian Huskies in the world, pursuing a passion when money is not obstacle.
1 hour 28 minutes. Spring Grove, Pa
Friday, 6:30pm, Gold Coast; Saturday, 1:15pm, Ashore

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE FILMS**CHILDREN OF THE WICKER MAN**

Directed by Justin Hardy, Dominic Hardy, Chris Nunn
50 years from the making of The Wicker Man (1973), director Robin Hardy's lost papers come to filmmaker son.
1 hour 32 minutes. Birmingham, UK
Friday, 7pm, Flagship; Saturday, 1:30pm, Flagship

**DIARY OF AN ELEPHANT ORPHAN**

Directed by Hermien Roelvert-Van Gils
Southern Africa has seen an increase in the number of orphaned and displaced elephant calves. A 3-month-old, albino calf is brought to an orphanage for care.
1 hour 45 minutes. Dallas, Tx
Saturday, 3:15pm, Cambria

**HER NAME IS ALESIA: MS. MACER TO YOU**

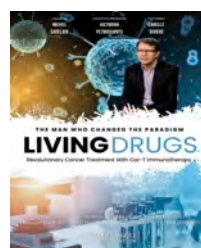
Directed by Eric L Myrieckes
Lost in the shadows of a billionaire rap mogul's past lies the heart-wrenching story of a single mother who chose not to seek child support from Jay-Z. 1 hour.
Friday, 1:30pm, Flagship

**HER ULTRA**

Directed by Kristin Tegtmeier Higgins
What is racing extreme distances like for the average person? Eight ordinary women train for and race a multi-stage ultramarathon above the Arctic Circle in Finland.
1 hour 39 minutes. Emerald Hills, Ca
Saturday, 6pm, Flagship; Sunday 10am, Gold Coast

**I'M RIGHT HERE, MAMA**

Directed by Mari Moxley
A raw and intimate look into the life of Cristi Bundukamara, following her through 45 days of her grief journey – a significant and recurring number in her life.
1 hour 22 minutes. Colorado Springs, Co
Friday, 4:30pm, Gold Coast;
Saturday, 5:15pm, Gold Coast

**LIVING DRUGS**

Directed by Victorina Petrossiant
Interviews with scientists who spurred or witnessed the birth of CAR cancer therapy and patient stories. Michel Sadelain was awarded the "Oscars of Science" Award.
Saturday, 8pm, Cambria
Sunday, 10:15am, Flagship

**MEKO**

Directed by Harrison Buck
In-depth look into the macro-effects of climate change on delicate coastal communities like the Bahamas Outer Islands through the lens of legacy fly fishing guide/angler.
1 hour 2 minutes. Los Angeles, Ca
Saturday, 12pm, Flagship

**THE POPPAW QUEEN**

Directed by Malachi Elijah Robinson
Mary Queen was born in South America and illegally sold as an indentured servant in Maryland around 1715. In 1796, her descendants petitioned for their freedom.
1 hour 37 minutes. Montgomery Village, Md
Friday, 6:15pm, Ashore

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE FILMS



PROTAGONISTS

Directed by Luis Calero

A group of young people with functional diversity accept the challenge of being models before thousands. 1 hour 25 minutes. Madrid, Spain

Friday, 11:15am, Flagship; Saturday, 5:15pm, Flagship



RACING FOR RECOVERY

Directed by Spencer LeGros, Alex Hinsch

The life of Todd Crandell, a former addict who turned his battle with substance abuse into a personal mission. 1 hour 20 minutes. Dallas, Tx

Friday 5:15pm, Flagship; Saturday, 11am, Gold Coast



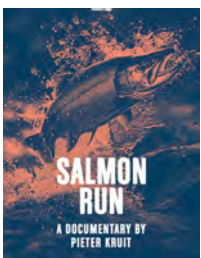
RAY OF HOPE

Directed by Ryan Singh, Nikila Cole

The 26-year conflict in Sri Lanka compelled numerous Eelam Tamils to seek refuge in Canada. A woman visits her homeland, rekindling traumatic memories.

1 hour 36 minutes. Toronto, Ontario

Friday, 7:15pm, Flagship; Saturday, 1pm, Flagship



SALMON RUN

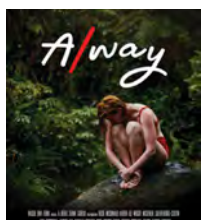
Directed by Pieter J Kruit

A good hard look at the California salmon fishing industry.

1 hour 21 minutes. San Francisco, Ca

Saturday, 1pm, Gold Coast

NARRATIVE FEATURE FILMS



A/WAY

Directed by Derek Shane Garcia

After suffering a profound loss, a travel journalist is sent on assignment to Martinique, which sparks a candid reflection on her unsettled life. 1 hour 7 minutes.

Friday, 3:30pm, Flagship



CAST & CREW

Directed by Jason Taylor

Friends endeavor to break out of their hopeless situation: make their first film with no money, credibility, or talent. 1 hour 36 minutes. Upper Darby, Pa

Friday, 11:15am, Flagship

Saturday, 7:15pm, Gold Coast



COLIBRÍ

Directed by Francisco Salazar

Catalina and Germán set out on individual journeys to heal past mistakes in order to build a better future. 1 hour 34 minutes. East Meadow, NY

Saturday, 5:30pm, Cambria



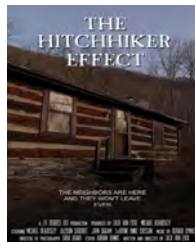
FAILED STATE

Directed by Christopher Jason Bell, Mitch Blummer

Dale spends his time transporting various goods to people while attempting to carve out a social life in-between. 1 hour 26 minutes.

Saturday, 12pm, Cambria

NARRATIVE FEATURE FILMS



THE HITCHHIKER EFFECT

Directed by Zack Van Eyck

A conspiracy theorist in a contentious relationship struggles to understand paranormal events that begin when his eccentric neighbors drop by and won't leave.

1 hour 16 minutes. Maurertown, Va

Friday, 5pm, Flagship



HOME FREE

Directed by Avi Ronn Federgreen

Having been diagnosed with a fatal brain tumour, Herb chooses to die on his own terms and not seek treatment. 1 hour 36 minutes. Ontario, Canada

Friday, 12:15pm, Gold Coast; Saturday, 3pm, Flagship



LOCH RAVEN

Directed by Bernd Linhart and Lance Baldwin

A Baltimore environmental police officer discovers a woman's body and navigates the past, present, future.

1 hour 46 minutes. Timonium, Md

Friday, 1:15pm, Flagship



PARK LIFE

Directed by Tyler Haney

Alone in Chicago, a consultant from New York and a writer from LA strike up a conversation on a park bench. 1 hour 20 minutes. Chicago, Il

Friday, 2:30pm, Gold Coast



THE PLATINUM LOOP

Directed by Eric Fulford

Two grifters embark to sell a legendary piece of film showing Marilyn Monroe as the world has never seen her. 1 hour 42 minutes. Sierra Madre, Ca

Saturday, 5pm, Dough Roller



STAMPILA

Directed by David Larson

A middle-aged woman decides to overthrow the powerful oligarch who controls her country in Europe. 1 hour 30 minutes.

Saturday, 3:45pm, Flagship; Sunday, 10am, Flagship



CHUCKLES, CHORTLES, SNICKERS, AND SNORTS SHOWCASE



Friday, 5pm, Ashore; Saturday, 2pm, Cambria

The comedy showcase! Quirky stories intended to make one smile, laugh, giggle, chuckle, chortle, snicker, or snort. 37 minutes, Screening order:

AFTER HOURS

Directed by Andrew Akbari

Two friends sneak out late at night... After hours... 4 minutes. USA



HUMILITY

Directed by Marlon Wallace

A young kickboxer has the freedom to choose what kind of fighter he wants to be. He chooses to be cocky, but can he back it up?

7 minutes. Dover, De

**CHUCKLES, CHORTLES, SNICKERS,
AND SNORTS SHOWCASE**



DRIFTING

Directed by Samantha Aben
At a divey roller rink, two childhood friends reunite after their separate ventures into life after high school.
9 minutes. Baltimore, Md

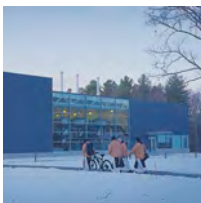


SHANNON IS STRANGE

Directed by Don Hessell, Alan LaFave
A phone call sends Shannon through a labyrinth to an epic showdown with Jack. Embark on a Bowie-inspired odyssey that celebrates deep tracks, eclectic friends, playful diversions, and the underdog in a small town.
17 minutes. Bay City, Mi

CREATING PURPOSE SHOWCASE

Friday, 4pm, Cambria
Short documentaries that highlight unique professions, unlikely hobbies, and spiritual journeys to create purpose. 1 hour 17 minutes. Screening order:



ORA ET LABORA

Directed by Jena Burchik, Mark Burchik
Inspired by the American craft beer movement, a group of Catholic monks in Massachusetts produces America's first "Trappist-certified" beer.
17 minutes. Parkville, Md



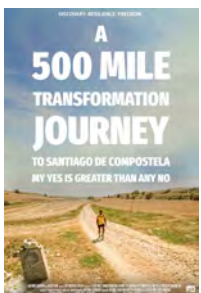
A MAN WHO KNITS

Directed by Ian Powell
Avid male knitting enthusiast keeps the spirit of his late grandmother alive, overcoming gender stereotypes and finding purpose and deep connection.
6 minutes. Washington, DC



1001 CUTS

Directed by Sarah M. Temkin
Documents the pervasive stereotypes and gender-based discrimination that persist within workplaces designed for, and still controlled by men.
24 minutes. Washington, DC



A 500 MILE JOURNEY TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA: MY YES IS GREATER THAN ANY NO

Directed by Antonio Goodwin
A Black American man walked El Camino de Santiago solo, his key experiences and conversations along the way that completely changed his life.
30 minutes. Houston, Tx



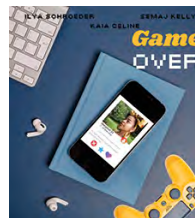
DATE NIGHT SHOWCASE

Friday, 6:30pm, Dough Roller
Saturday, 7pm, Flagship
Topics of dating, romance, longing, and love lost. These films will make you laugh, cry, or simply feel.
1 hour 41 minutes. Screening order::



THERE'S THIS GIRL

Directed by Henry Schmid-James
A student's innocent hallway crush quickly develops into an unhealthy hallway obsession.
8 minutes. Baltimore, Md



GAME OVER

Directed by Joshua Kenneth Mitchell
Bobby is having some success with his online dating profile, but that game is about to be over.
8 minutes. Waldorf, Md



LOSERDATE PREMIUM

Directed by Ethan Hislop
A loser finds himself fighting for romance - and maybe his life - when his date goes to increasingly bizarre lengths to make him sign up for an app's paid subscription service.
15 minutes. Crofton, Md



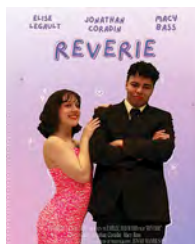
LEQUANDO

Directed by Roxanne Rapp, Eric James Gravolin
A perfect first date is interrupted by a couple's dating app that has doubts about anything but 100% compatibility.
13 minutes. London, England



BIRDS OF PARADISE

Directed by Veronica Rutledge
A toxic relationship falls apart during an ill-fated trip to Hawaii.
25 minutes. Brooklyn, NY



REVERIE

Directed by Emilee Hayward
Charlotte, adorned with anticipation, readies herself for a date with Lucas, believing it holds the prospect of a life-altering proposal.
7 minutes.



PLUMBER'S SEAL

Directed by David Musolf
A businesswoman comes home to find her ex-boyfriend in her house. A female plumber may fix more than a leak.
11 minutes.



LAST YEAR'S TOMORROW

Directed by Steven Heil
After a wrenching setback, a woman discovers a path for moving forward.
14 minutes. Oshkosh, Wi



DON'T GO IN THE WOODS SHOWCASE

Saturday, 7:15pm, Dough Roller
Short documentaries that highlight unique professions, unlikely hobbies, and spiritual journeys to create purpose. 32 minutes. Screening order:



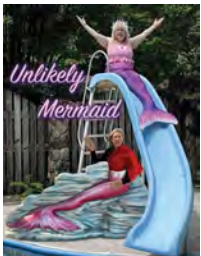
A FIELD GUIDE TO SASQUATCH STRUCTURES (& OTHER SERIOUS SIGNS)
Directed by Joe Van Auken
A man searching for the Sasquatch is hired by two young women who mock him, but they find something worse. 18 minutes. Huntington, Ca



THE CAMPFIRE
Directed by Logan Bilbrough
A man goes on an annual camping trip with his best friend. This year something has changed. 14 minutes.

ENCHANTED SEA SHOWCASE

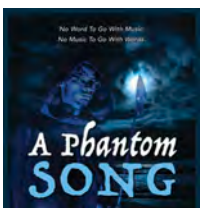
Friday, 11:30am, Dough Roller
Dust off your Martin Denny records, we're sailing the enchanted sea. Explore the fantasies and fantastical inspiration that we draw from the sea. 1 hour 20 minutes. Screening order:



UNLIKELY MERMAID
Directed by Lorraine Portman
Two Mermaid wannabes audition to perform at the Florida roadside tourist attraction older than Disney World. 18 minutes.



DEAR KINDRED SPIRIT
Directed by Jennifer Lynn Robertson
A remote mailbox makes a lasting impact on the environment. Visitors write confessions, prayers, heart-cries. 17 minutes. Wilmington, NC



A PHANTOM SONG
Directed by Michael Gorman, Donna Daly
A playwright summons Captain Ahab's stowaway crew to help those living with the opiate crisis in Augusta, Maine. 45 minutes. Rockland, Me

FAMILY DYNAMICS SHOWCASE

Friday, 4pm, Dough Roller
Character-driven shorts about the inner-workings of familial relationships. Is blood thicker than water? Does your house has everything except peace of mind? 1 hour, 51 minutes. Screening order:



WILLOW
Directed by Alyssa Rose Capitini
Two sisters grapple with the changing nature of their relationship. 6 minutes. Newark, De

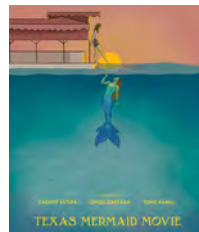
FAMILY DYNAMICS SHOWCASE



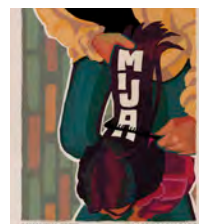
AVOCADO HEART GIRL
Directed by Keeley Gainey
David imagines having the best 11th birthday but like every year of his life, his sister, Leanne takes all the attention. 19 minutes. United Kingdom



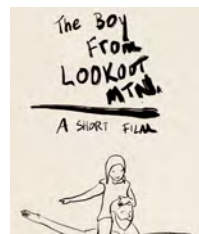
CURVEBALL
Directed by Zhanna J Snyder
A teenage boy by the name of Eddy Alden struggles to enjoy his love for baseball amidst the Vietnam War draft. 15 minutes. Point of Rocks, Md



TEXAS MERMAID MOVIE
Directed by John David De Virgiliis
After many years apart, Katie, 11, and her dad reconnect with the help of a mermaid in the San Marcos River. 19 minutes. Austin, Tx



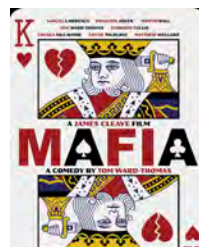
MIJA
Directed by Valerie Abrego Amaya
A short film about the complicated relationship between an immigrant mother, Antonia, and her US-born daughter. 7 minutes. Riverdale, Md



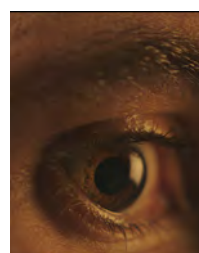
THE BOY FROM LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
Directed by Christopher Flippo
A young woman reminisces about her father. 3 minutes. Atlanta, Ga



L'HYPERMNÉSIQUE (THE HYPERMNESTIC)
Directed by Julien Mouquet
As Jo approaches the end of life, his memory slowly fades. Gaby gives her husband a taste of the life he never lived. 20 minutes. London, England



MAFIA
Directed by James Cleave
A wine-fueled family plays Mafia, a game of murder and deceit that spirals out of control as secrets are revealed. 16 minutes.



DELICIOUS
Directed by Julian Alvarez
Tastebuds and egos clash when a father and son chef duo fail to remember a family recipe. 6 minutes.

FIGHTS-CRIME-ACTION SHOWCASE

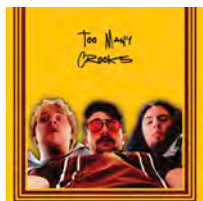
Saturday, 11:30am, Ashore
 For the viewers with an appetite for crime and punishment. 1 hour 6 minutes. Screening order:



BOUNTY
 Directed by Corey Grispo
 An ex-bounty hunter is pulled back into the life he left behind when a hitman is sent to his house unexpectedly. 19 minutes.



WORLD'S SHORTEST WAR
 Directed by Joseph Horta
 Desperate for money, out of time, Joaquin, Jesse, and Frank panic in a parking lot from a failed house robbery. 11 minutes. Fort Worth, Tx



TOO MANY CROOKS
 Directed by Jonathan Boccella
 A young crime boss and henchmen get distracted from business and get caught up in a messy adventure. 12 minutes. Saint Inigoes, Md



LEVERAGE
 Directed by Michael Charron
 Jade Betts and her sidekick must infiltrate the Russian mob's Christmas party and fight through the ranks, 14 minutes. Austin, Tx



FEUNG SCHWAY: ACT OF BEING A HERO
 Directed by Jonah Manibusan
 A young local superhero, with no superpowers, navigates his father's passing. 10 minutes. West Springfield, Va



MARYLAND LIFE SHOWCASE

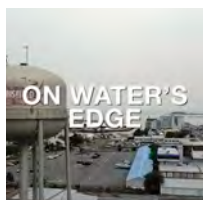
Friday, 3pm, Ashore
 Short documentaries about times in the Old Line State. 79 minutes. Screening order:



A CAPELLA JOY – THE DELMARVA CHORUS
 Directed by Candice Lee Spielman
 Local sisters in song share their love of music, friendship and the joy of singing a cappella on the Eastern Shore. 27 minutes. Ocean Pines, Md



BIRD DOG
 Directed by Emma Victoria Cenicacelaya, Patrick Thomas Evans
 A short documentary that explores the bond between human hunter and hunting dog while in the field. 7 minutes. Bel Air, Md



ON WATER'S EDGE
 Directed by Severn Perry Smith, Adam Dutch Durham
 From The Nature Conservancy's Maryland/DC chapter. City of Crisfield's relationship to the Chesapeake Bay. 30 minutes. Bethesda, Md



HERITAGE AWARD: KENNARD CENTER
 Directed by Wide Angle Youth Media
 A short documentary highlighting the former Kennard School in Queen Anne's County, Maryland. 5 minutes. Centreville, Md

MARYLAND LIFE SHOWCASE



FROM BLOCK TO BLOCK
 Directed by Jonathan Silverman
 A group of activists take on systemic racism and prejudice in Baltimore's public transportation system. 10 minutes. Baltimore, Md

MESSAGES FROM BEYOND SHOWCASE

Friday, 1:30pm, Dough Roller
 Tales of people communicating with mysterious forces. 1 hour, 48 minutes. Screening order:



THE WHITE BOX
 Directed by Meredith Esquivel
 A man must race against time to complete a test that challenges his mental difficulties, or face death. 12 minutes.



DEATH OF AN EDITOR
 Directed by Kyle Hartford
 A reclusive video editor receives footage of her own death. 10 minutes. Crofton, Md



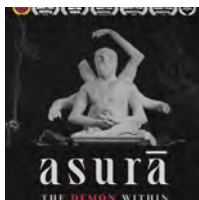
EMERGENCY BROADCAST
 Directed by Holden Charles Connor
 A young man moves into a new apartment and receives strange messages from his TV. 35 minutes. Sterling, Va



CURTAIN CALL
 Directed by Ben Strigle
 A closeted gay actor must solve the mystery of who called before he is outed at the end of his show's intermission. 11 minutes. Elkridge, Md



VIOLET AND THE ORDER OF THE BAT
 Directed by Chloë Maribeth Williams
 A young aspiring witch convinces her skeptical older sister to hold a seance to contact their deceased brother. 11 minutes. Baltimore, Md



ASURA – THE DEMON WITHIN
 Directed by Viren Shinde
 Sisters pray to the anti-god Lord "Mautya" to ask their mother's soul be returned to her body so she may come back to them. 5 minutes. Fort Lee, NJ



THE GIFT
 Directed by Kaustuv Mukherjee
 Jennifer is consumed in a vicious psychological spiral where evil takes over to kill. 13 minutes. Fort Lee, NJ



THE BOTTLE
 Directed by Spencer Maxwell, Zack Bend
 A grieving man's life takes an unexpected turn when his message in a bottle receives an odd reply back.. 11 minutes. Brooklyn, NY

MOVING FORWARD SHOWCASE

Friday, 1:15pm, Ashore
Dramatic shorts explore how we move forward from trauma and tragedy and our ability to connect with others. 1 hour, 4 minutes. Screening order:



THE TWILIGHT CAFÉ
 Directed by Michael Brant DeMaria
 A mysterious encounter between two strangers atop a bridge one stormy eve averts a tragedy.
 12 minutes. Pensacola Beach, Fl



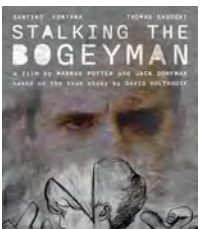
NO PRESSURE
 Directed by Karan Kendrick
 After the suicide of a high school senior, friends grapple with understanding the factors that led to her decision.
 9 minutes. Waldorf, Md



THE SPACE BETWEEN
 Directed by Luke Baker
 Two college students, who on the outside couldn't be more different, meet at a party and form a connection.
 19 minutes. Atlanta, Ga



A PINCH OF SALT
 Directed by Tathagata Bhowmik
 A stay-at-home poet indulges in elaborate culinary displays for his new wife who is fighting memories of an abusive past.
 15 minutes. Fort Lee, NJ



STALKING THE BOGEYMAN
 Directed by Markus Potter, Jack Dorfman
 True story of investigative journalist David Holthouse who plots to kill the man who sexually abused him as a child.
 9 minutes. New York, NY

MURDER MADNESS SHOWCASE

Friday, 8:15pm, Cambria
Saturday, 7pm, Ashore
Thrilling, dark, and arguably humorous at times, these films are all about murder. Madness will surely ensue. 31 minutes. Screening order:



THE HIGHWAYMAN
 Directed by Derek Bensonhaver
 As a killer indiscriminately stalks the highways of America, he could be any face, any look, anybody, anywhere.
 11 minutes. Albuquerque, NM



DEVEILED BLUE CRAB
 Directed by David Musolf
 A woman endures physical and emotional abuse until she reaches her breaking point
 5 minutes.



THE CARROT
 Directed by Joakim Benum
 A man travels back to his home to tell his parents about the disturbing discovery he made in his brother's freezer.
 15 minutes. London, England

OCEAN LEARNING SHOWCASE

Saturday, 3:30pm, Ashore
Short documentaries explore how and why future generations across the globe are learning from the ocean. 1 hour, 12 minutes. Screening order:



OCEAN PORTRAIT – THE CHILDREN BY THE NORTH SEA
 Directed by Ferruccio Goia
 On a Norwegian island, 4-year-olds participate in a research art project carried out in regional kindergartens.
 33 minutes. Vestlandet, Norway



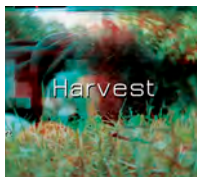
UNCLE BULLY'S SURF SKOOL
 Directed by Leah Warshawski
 When the pandemic decimates tourism industry across Hawaii, surf instructor turns to community for kindness.
 39 minutes. Kula, Hi

OTHERWORLDLY FILM SHOWCASE

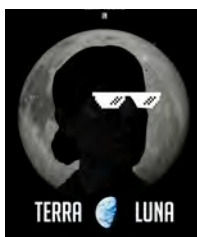
Friday, 6pm, Cambria
Climb aboard for a trip to alien planets, dystopian futures, alternate spiritual planes in this selection of shorts! 1 hour, 15 minutes. Screening order:



LISTEN WITH YOUR EYES
 Directed by Sam Von Hagen
 A man with a hearing impairment learns to experience musical wonders beyond the boundaries of sound.
 15 minutes. Crofton, Md



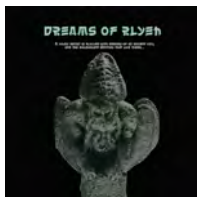
HARVEST
 Directed by Chad Repko
 A man feels aliens are out to get him.
 12 minutes.



TERRA LUNA
 Directed by Scott Lentz
 Annie is the lone inhabitant of a lunar base, about to find out that something isn't quite right about environment.
 10 minutes. Lititz, Pa



TOO BEAUTIFUL: A SPACEMAN STORY
 Directed by Alex Salsberg
 A little spaceman crash lands on Earth and joins an collective of street artists. With rapper Utkarsh Ambudkar.
 21 minutes. Waltham, Ma



DREAMS OF R'LYEH
 Directed by John W Terebetsky
 A young artist is plagued by dreams of an ancient city and the malevolent entities that live there.
 2 minutes. Fallston, Md



SAVING PRUFROCK
 Directed by Karina Marie Padron
 A Cuban-American immigrant falls into a parallel universe where she must save T.S. Eliot's protagonist.
 16 minutes. Brooklyn, NY



OTHERWORLDLY FILM SHOWCASE



ARDOR

Directed by V. Leigh

In the not too distant dystopian future, a couple must decide whether or not love can overcome a world divided by race.

6 minutes. Poughkeepsie, NY



BISECTED

Directed by Danny Pineros

A couple witnesses a paranormal event that separates them into two distinct dimensions.

8 minutes. Los Angeles, Ca

SEA THE WORLD SHOWCASE

Friday, 2pm, Cambria

Journey across the globe in this collection of short documentaries about our oceans' beauty.

1 hour 32 minutes. Screening order:



THE SPIRIT OF OUR SEA

Directed by Veronica Relano

Critical questions about the future of the National Marine Park of Espiritu Santo through the eyes of local residents.

30 minutes. Bayern, Germany



TO EACH ITS ROLE ON LIVING REEFS

Directed by Erell Guihard

Humans impact an island of Gulf of Thailand, impacted the ancient Cambrian ecosystem.

17 minutes. France



BENEATH THE SURFACE: FIGHT FOR CORAL

Directed by Ian Derry

Exploring the corals of the Red Sea to protect coral globally. Told through the eyes of a Saudi female free-diver.

45 minutes. London, England

THE LOCAL COMPETITION

Sponsored by the Town of Ocean City

Friday, 12pm, Cambria;

Saturday, 12:30pm, Dough Roller

Films from the 2024 Ocean City Film Challenge, winners of the Easton Academy Art Museum's 2024 video race, more. 55 minutes. Screening order:

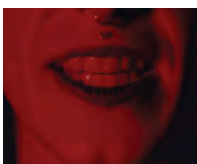


GO LONG

Directed by Davis Mears

Two friends play catch on the beach that leads to a near death experience.

7 minutes. Ocean City, Md



THIRSTY

Directed by Josh Vine

A man's struggle with desire and despair.

1 minute. Ocean City, Md



SHORESIDE NEWS

Directed by Myah Stokes

A puppetry film of a woman obsessed with Fisher's Popcorn.

4 minutes. Ocean City, Md

THE LOCAL COMPETITION

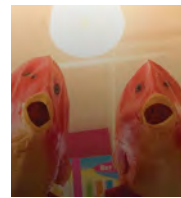


DATING IN 2024

Directed by Jesse Bowes

Jesse is an ordinary human who lives in a car. After chatting with LayLadyLegsXoXo, they agree to meet at the beach.

15 minutes. Ocean City, Md

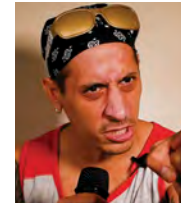


SWEDISH FISH

Directed by Fiona O'Brien, Zoe Couloumbis

Two fish from Sweden journey across the Atlantic Ocean washing up on Ocean City's sand.

3 minutes. Ocean City, Md

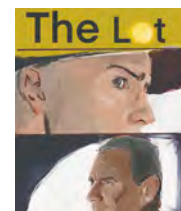


STARING CONTEST

Directed by Jackson Dutton

Big Poppa Stare has run through every stare contestant in town, is bored and opens a new title shot.

5 minutes. Ocean City, Md



THE LOT

Directed by Joe Joyce

Two friends get a late start on their beach day and it just might kill them.

2 minutes 47 seconds. Ocean Pines, Md

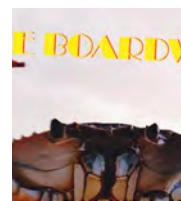


OCEAN VS BAY

Directed by Marlon Wallace

Two young men battle over which part of Ocean City, Maryland, is better, the oceanside or the bayside.

13 minutes. Dover, De

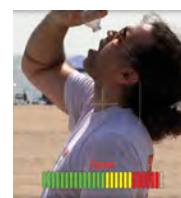


THE BOARDWALK

Directed by Erik Espinosa

Spending his golden years by the pier of the Ocean City Boardwalk, an old man picks up discarded trash.

6 minutes. Ocean City, Md



OCEAN CITY SUMMER HEAT DRONES ON

Directed by Thomas Taylor, PAC 14

Drones unexpectedly come to life in a beach town, adding chaos and humor, showing how technology can surprise us.

3 minutes, Ocean City, MD



DYLAN JONES IS DUNGEONS AND RABBITS

Directed by Don Lehman

A musician who enjoys composing and performing, Jones' instrument in this film is electric banjo along with his performance energy and infectious personality.

7 minutes. Ocean Pines, Md



IF I WAS YOU

Directed by Molly Bernish

Two young girls aspire to be grownups. Easton Academy Art Museum Best in Show Youth Winner 2024.

4 minutes. Easton, Md



THE AUDIENCE MEMBER

Directed by Max Helmueller

A pianist rehearses to an empty concert hall. Easton Academy Art Museum Best in Show Adult Winner 2024.

7 minutes. Easton, Md

UNSCENE PRODUCTIONS

Saturday, 4pm, Gold Coast
Following the film, stay for a Q&A with the Unscene Productions team and the stars. 1 hour.



WARRIORS BEYOND THE BATTLEFIELD: AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE ARMED FORCES
Directed by Dave Messick
Untold stories of African Americans who served in the US military from the Civil War to present day. Explores struggles against racial injustice, and the legacy of service and sacrifice. 20 minutes. Ocean City, Md

HISTORICAL FILM CHALLENGE

Sponsored by the Town of Ocean City

Friday, 10am, Gold Coast Theater

The Historical Film Challenge encouraged filmmakers to storytell and capture the essence of Ocean City's 150-year legacy.



150 YEARS OF SMILES
Directed by Fiona O'Brien
OC economy built by influential women in the 20th century, 10 miles of beach, and countless memories culminate. 13 minutes. Ocean City, Md



EYES OF THE FORT
Directed by Megan Dodson
The Delaware beach towers and how the Army's Coast Artillery Corps protected the US during World War II. 9 minutes. Ocean City, Md



THE CONNER STORIES
Directed by Don Lehman
Brother and sister, Bob and Barbara Conner, were born and raised at the Conner's Inn on 10th Street. 15 minutes. Ocean Pines, Md



GREETINGS FROM OCEAN CITY MARYLAND
Directed by Jesse Bowes
A found art film collecting 100 years of Ocean City, MD with 100 post cards. 7 minutes. Ocean City, Md



TALES FROM THE DOCK: THE LEGACY OF HOOPER'S CRAB HOUSE
Directed by Maurice Waters
Story of Hooper's, a cherished family-owned establishment. 13 minutes. Ocean City, Md



THE HENRY HOTEL
Directed by Marlon Wallace
Charles Henry went through segregation in order to create the now famous landmark that bears his name. 18 minutes. Ocean City, Md



UNPARALLEL'D BUTCHERY: ASSATEAGUE 20
Directed by B.L. Strang-Moya
In January 1650, Colonel Henry Norwood's party of 19 English refugees were stranded on the coast of Fenwick. 11 minutes. Ocean City, Md



DOWN ON THE BOARDWALK
Directed by Davis Mears
A brief history of the Ocean City, MD boardwalk 3 minutes. Ocean City, Md

John Gizzon

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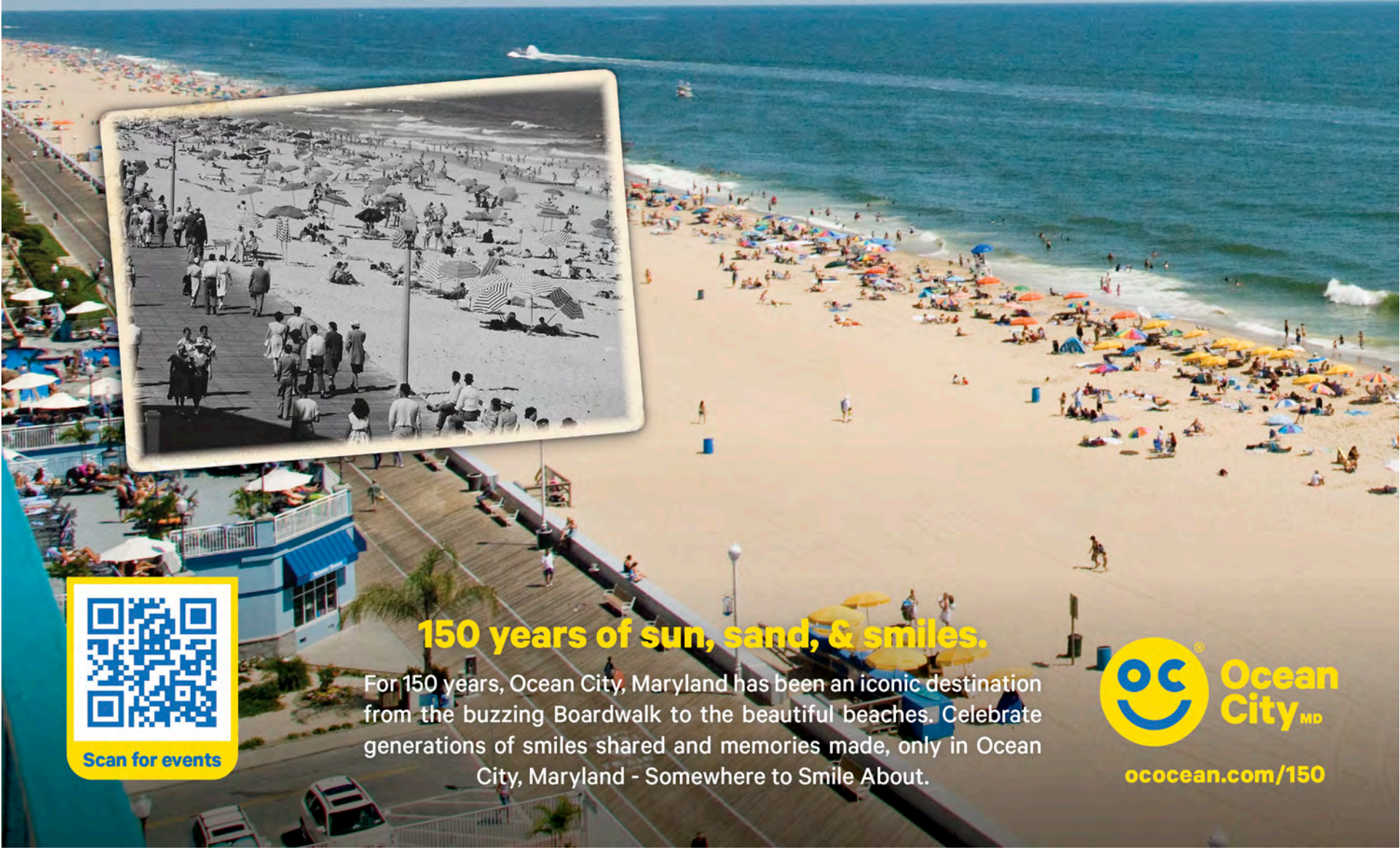
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