

Windsor International Black Film Festival Returns for Third Edition with 31 Films, August 13 to 16, 2026

Nollywood icon Patience Ozokwor (Mama G) joins WIBFF 2026, presented with the Black Scholars Institute, for four days of film, culture and celebration.

WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA, August 11, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The [Windsor International Black Film Festival](#) (WIBFF) returns for its third edition August 13 to 16, 2026, produced in partnership with the Black Scholars Institute at the University of Windsor. This year's official selection brings 40 films to ArtSpeak Gallery at the Arts Council Windsor and Region, 1942 Wyandotte St. E, opening with a full day symposium on August 13 and closing with Gala Night and the WIBFF Humanitarian Awards at Caesars Windsor on August 16.



Now in its third year, WIBFF has established itself as a defining cultural moment on the [Windsor-Detroit](#) corridor. The 2026 programme gathers features, shorts and documentaries by Black filmmakers from Canada, the United States, Africa, the Caribbean and the wider diaspora, presented alongside filmmaker discussion, industry panels and community events built to open pathways for the next generation of Black voices in film.

"Black stories deserve the biggest possible stage, and Windsor is giving them one," said Dr. Queen Eghujovbo, CEO and Founder of Zalent Creatives Group. "Every film in this year's programme was chosen with intention, to challenge audiences, to celebrate our artists, and to connect communities across borders and generations. WIBFF exists because our filmmakers, our young people, and our community deserve a space where our stories sit at the centre of the screen."

WIBFF 2026 will welcome Nollywood icon Patience Ozokwor, widely known as Mama G, as a special guest of the festival. With over 100 film credits and a career spanning more than two decades, Ozokwor is one of the most celebrated actresses in African cinema. She is a two-time winner of the Africa Movie Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress and received the Industry Merit Award at the 2023 Africa Magic Viewers' Choice Awards. She reached global audiences most recently as Madam Pat in Mo Abudu's Netflix films Chief Daddy and Chief Daddy 2: Going for Broke. Her presence at WIBFF marks a landmark moment for the festival and for the growing dialogue between Nollywood and Black Canadian cinema.

The festival opens on August 13 with the Black Creative Economy Symposium, a full day of panels on film, funding, artificial intelligence and the business of Black creative work, curated alongside the Black Scholars Institute. Screenings begin the following morning with welcome remarks at 9:45 AM and the opening film, The Perfect Match, at 10:00 AM on Friday, August 14. Friday carries the programme's longest features, among them Force of Blue, Destiny of a Migrant, The Battle of Henry Johnson and The Thing About Pain.

Saturday, August 15 runs from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM and holds the widest range of the selection, opening with In My Circle and Missing, moving through Ifediche in the afternoon, and closing the evening with a run of shorts including Nneoma, Homegirls in Outer Space and Beg Yuh A Call. The screening programme finishes on Sunday morning with a shorts block that includes Harvest, To Move in My Mother's Prayers and the closing film Goodbye at 10:15 AM.

WIBFF's partnership with the Black Scholars Institute anchors the festival in a broader mission to educate, elevate and expand access to Black cinema across the region. Programming extends beyond the screen, connecting filmmakers with scholars, students and audiences in a city that sits at one of North America's most culturally significant borders.

"WIBFF has grown into one of the most important cultural moments on the Windsor-Detroit corridor, and the strength of this year's programme reflects the depth of talent, partnership, and community commitment behind it," said Christopher Alexander, Board Chair of Zalent Creatives Group. "Our role as a board is to make sure this festival has the foundation to keep growing, so that year after year, the region has a home for Black cinema at the highest level."



The festival closes with Gala Night and the WIBFF Humanitarian Awards at Caesars Windsor on August 16, honouring the filmmakers, industry leaders and community champions whose work shapes each edition. Under the theme Legacy and Liberation, Legacy and Liberation, the evening opens with a red carpet at 5:00 PM, followed by dinner and the awards ceremony at 6:00 PM, and closes at 10:00 PM. Cocktail attire is encouraged.

Tickets are available at filmfreeway.com/WIBFF/tickets and the full programme is at wibff.com. The festival is on Instagram at @windsorblackfilmfest, on Facebook as Windsor Black Film Festival, and on YouTube at @wibff.

WIBFF 2026 at a Glance

Thursday, August 13 | 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Black Creative Economy Symposium

ArtSpeak Gallery, Arts Council Windsor & Region

1942 Wyandotte St. E

Friday, August 14 | 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM

Opening Day Screenings

Welcome remarks and opening film, The Perfect Match

ArtSpeak Gallery, Arts Council Windsor & Region

1942 Wyandotte St. E

Saturday, August 15 | 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM

Full Day of Features and Shorts

ArtSpeak Gallery, Arts Council Windsor & Region

1942 Wyandotte St. E

Sunday, August 16 | 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Closing Shorts Programme

Closing film, Goodbye

ArtSpeak Gallery, Arts Council Windsor & Region

1942 Wyandotte St. E

Sunday, August 16 | 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Gala Night and the WIBFF Humanitarian Awards

Legacy and Liberation

Caesars Windsor

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Nadine Spencer

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