



## KALAMAZOO FILM SOCIETY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

*The mission of the Kalamazoo Film Society is to support and encourage a vibrant cinematic community in Southwest Michigan.*

Our sixth-year collaboration continued with Celebration Cinema as we sponsored 64 films. Many appear on 2023 Best Ten Lists and a number are 2024 Academy Award nominees.

We hosted a Virtual Lobby meeting via Zoom to discuss the Academy Awards on March 9. The Board sees the value of these on-line events to engage with our members, as well as with one another.

On February 23, KFS sponsored a Local Filmmakers' Showcase held at Celebration Cinema Crossroads. This was a juried selection of seven films, but was not a contest. It gave local filmmakers a chance to show their work on a big screen as well as entertain questions and discussions before an audience. This Showcase will become an annual event as it helps to fulfill our mission to support filmmakers in SW Michigan.

KFS collaborated with the Kalamazoo Symphony during the screening of JURASSIC PARK concert on February 24. And we continued to explore various upcoming events with the Gilmore Keyboard Festival in 2024. We also offered our support to several community screenings, including a Juneteenth celebration with the Academy Award Winner "Summer of Soul" and during Hispanic Heritage Month, locally produced "First Voice Generation".

The 2024 KFS membership drive is ongoing; currently there are 167 renewing or new members. A membership card entitles the holder to purchase a ticket for any KFS-sponsored film for \$7.75, at least until March. With six films already appearing in 2024, there will be numerous opportunities to use the card. We want to send along our heartfelt thanks to those members who have elected to contribute beyond the \$10 dues. To further support us, a reminder that KFS t-shirts are for sale on our website.

KFS continues to have a social media presence, including a regularly updated website. There was also a feature article in the local ENCORE magazine. Board members are doing regular interviews at WMUK-2 (89.9 FM) on "Let's Hear It" with Cara Lieurance discussing current KFS films and events. A link for previous shows is available on WMUK website.

The board reviewed, updated and approved our 30+ year-old by-laws. The Treasurer's Report follows.

### The 2023 Treasurer's Report:

<u>REVENUES</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
MEMBERSHIPS	2760.00	FEES (PayPal, Square, etc.)	701.18
DONATIONS	35.00	MEMBERSHIP CARDS	137.12
INTEREST	5.55	MISC. SUPPLIES	734.99
T-SHIRTS	60.00	EVENTS	500.00
		GRANTS/DONATIONS	400.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2860.55</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2473.29</b>
<b>PROFIT (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ 387.26</b>		

The current KFS board - Chad Campbell, Madeline Cimini, Matt Claus, Nick Eppinga, Darius Quinn, Mike Marchak, Christine McCarthy, and Michelle Stempien - will continue to drive this organization forward in 2024. They work hard connecting with the membership and community through their engagement via the KFS website, email newsletter, Instagram, and FaceBook, as well as helping with the nuts and bolts of running the organization during monthly meetings. Our film passion still drives us, and membership support continues to sustain us. We have a great cinematic partnership with Celebration Cinema as evidenced by the number of films shown. Let's continue to support them this year.

Sincerely yours,  
Dhera Strauss  
KFS President