



14th Annual

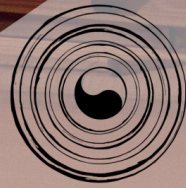
oneOTA film festival

*Stories that
connect us...*

February 29
to March 3

Downtown Decorah

PROUD
SPONSOR OF
THE 2023
ONEOTA FILM
FESTIVAL



DRIFTLESS YOGA
— CENTER —
movement for change

MONDAY:

**5:30A SCULPT CIRCHIIT
9:30A SCULPT FLOW 45**

TUESDAY:

**8:30A MINDFUL VINYASA
5:30P SCULPT FLOW 45
6:30P MINDFUL VINYASA**

WEDNESDAY:

**5:30A SCULPT FLOW 45
6:30A DYNAMIC VINYASA**

THURSDAY:

11:30A EXPRESS DYNAMIC VINYASA

FRIDAY:

**5:30A DYNAMIC VINYASA
8:30A MINDFUL VINYASA
12:00P YIN YOGA**

SATURDAY:

**7:00A SCULPT
8:00A DYNAMIC VINYASA**

- SUGGESTED \$12/CLASS
 - MATS & PROPS AVAILABLE
 - LOCATED 3RD FLR OF IMPACT COFFEE
 - WE ♥ WALK-INS!
 - * CLASSES MAY VARY.
- LIVE SCHEDULE & SIGN UP HERE**



DRIFTLESSYOGA.ORG

LOCATED ON THE 3RD FLR OF IMPACT COFFEE

Welcome to the 2024 Oneota Film Festival!

All audience members are asked to register and receive a festival pass before attending any screenings. Registration and Festival Passes are available at all screening rooms and at the Hotel Winneshiek lobby throughout the festival. All screenings are FREE for everyone, including children under 18 and Luther College students. Donations are appreciated. Become a member and support OFF all year!

Message from Nancy Sojka, OFF Board President...

Welcome to my favorite weekend of the winter in the Driftless Region. It may be the most engaging time to meet your friends, neighbors, and new people in downtown Decorah. I hope that you will have a conversation with someone you just met (or that you have known all of your life) about an idea inspired by a film that you watched today—maybe with the filmmakers! When that happens, the Oneota Film Festival board has succeeded. Please, share your experience with someone who hasn't been here before and encourage them to join us next year!

Thanks to all of the volunteers who step forward to make this weekend possible. The Board of Directors has been meeting regularly throughout the year to prepare for your experiences here. Several of the Board are long-time volunteers and have encouraged new enthusiastic people to join them in this wonderful endeavor. Doorkeepers, hosts, and projectionists are vital to the smooth operation.

Message from Elise Skellenger, OFF Creative Director...

The Oneota Film Festival Board is excited to announce the theme for the 2024 festival: Stories That Connect Us. This may bring to mind the variety of tales you can plan to see on the big screen, but we think it goes so much further than that. Our goal is always to bring new and pertinent narratives to our audiences through the medium of films, but it doesn't stop there. 2024 will mark our 14th Annual OFF and we are continually blown away by the stories we hear before, during and after our festival from YOU! We enjoy hearing about how the films resonated with our audiences, how they engaged with filmmakers, and how they made positive changes in their lives after viewing the films. We love that this event brings new people to Decorah and also those who live in our area. THANK YOU for attending our festival! We hope that you find or share a story that connects you!



Welcome to Iowa.

We're glad you're here. And we hope you'll have fun this weekend in downtown Decorah as we kick off our state's film festival season.

If you're a filmmaker, be sure to scout out the area during breaks. Decorah has some of the most beautiful and unique landscapes in Iowa. In fact, the Driftless Region has an ecosystem all its own. You'll discover our open spaces inspire creativity, and our famous eagles are ready for their close-ups.

Produce Iowa is ready to connect you to opportunities. We invite you to review our online Production Directory for crew and support services for your next project, as well as our Location Database to find that perfect spot to film.

And if you live in Iowa and want to become involved with productions, please create your own free directory listing. Just be sure to keep it updated throughout the year.

Our state is ready for your story. Let us connect you to an authentic experience with beautiful locations in Iowa.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Liz Gilman.

Liz Gilman
Film Commissioner
produceiowa.com

sponsors

The 2024 Oneota Film Festival is made possible by the generous support of the following granting organizations, local businesses, and individuals.

Thank You!

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major sponsors



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producers

David and Gail Judish
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Peter Scholl
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Dennis Pottratz
Karen and Duncan McLean
Lisa and Steven Zittergruen
Jon and Mary Hart
Nancy Rash and Lyle Moen
Peter Sanders
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Joe Skoda and Melissa O'Rourke
Kyril Henderson
David and Brenda Carlson
Dale and Susan Goodman

executive producers

Nancy and Ted Sojka
Steven and Nancy St. Clair
Larry Grimstad
Steve and Sara Luse
Lisa and Randy Ramlo
Candace and David Arp
Lee Zook and Jan Heikes

Decorah Dining Locations

Blazing Star, 122 E Water St. blazingstareats.com 11am-2pm and 5pm-8pm. Vegetarian
Convergence CiderWorks, 302 Washington St. convergencecider.com 12noon-9pm.
Culver's, 904 Short St, 10:30am-10:00pm. Burgers and custard
Don Jose Mexican Restaurant, 201 E Water St. donjosedecorah.com. 11am-9pm.
Reservations. Latin American food and drink.
Family Table Restaurant, 817 S. Mechanic St. familytabledecorah.com 6am-8pm. Family
Restaurant
Fareway, 103 E Main St. 8am-9pm. Grocery
Great Dragon Chinese Buffet, 915 Short St. 11pm-9:30pm. Chinese Buffet.
Hy-Vee, 915 Short St, 6am-9pm. Grocery and Starbucks Coffee
Impact Coffee, 101 W. Water St. impactcoffee.com M-W 6:30am-5pm, Th-F 6:30am-9pm,
S 7am-9pm, Su 8am-1pm. Breakfast bagels, baked goods.
Java John's Coffee, 400 W. Water St. javajohnscoffeehouse.com. M-Sa, 6:30am-1pm.
Baked goods, breakfast and lunch.
Kozie Pie Shoppe, 213 W. Water St. kozipieshoppe.com. Breakfast, pasties, pie.
Koreana Japanese Cuisine, 207 W. Water St., koreanadecorah.com. 11am-2pm and
4:30pm-9:30pm. Japanese cuisine and spirits.
The Landing, 211 College Dr. thelandingmarket.com
Justin's, M-W 8am- 2pm Thurs-Sat 8am-7pm Sunday 8am-2pm. Breakfast, lunch.
The Buzz, Open Daily 7:30 AM - 7 PM. Coffee, baked goods.
Spectrum: Made With Love, Open Daily 7:30am-7:00pm. Baked goods
Root 43 Juicery, root43juicery.com 8am-5:30pm, Su 9am-5pm. Juices, smoothies,
bowls.
La Rana Bistro, 120 Washington St. laranadecorah.com. 11:30am-2pm, 5pm-8:30pm.
New American Cuisine and drink. Reservations recommended.
McDonald's, 915 Short St, 5am-12am.
Mabe's Pizza, 110 E. Water St. mabespizza.com 11am-9pm. Pizza, chicken, sandwiches,
spirits.
Magpie Cafe & Coffee, 202 W. Water St. mymagpiecoffee.com 7:30am-2pm Wed-Sunday.
Breakfast and sandwiches, spirits.
Mill Street Mocha, 909 S. Mill St. millstreetmocha.com 6:30am-3:30pm. Coffee,
beverages, breakfast, lunch.
Oneota Community Food Coop, 312 W Water St, 9am-8pm. Hot & cold sandwiches, deli,
grocery, spirits.
Pizzas Ranch, 212 College Dr. pizzaranch.com 11am-8pm. Pizza and Chicken
Rubaiyat, 117 W. Water St. rubaiyatrestaurant.com. 5pm-8pm Wed.-Sat. Reservations.
New American Cuisine
Scooter's Coffee, 900 Short St. scooterscoffee.com. 6am-8pm.
T-Bock's Sports Bar & Grill, 206 W. Water St., tbocks.com 1am-9pm Sunday-Monday and
11am-10pm, Wednesday-Friday. Reservations at the door. Full bar and grill menu.
Toppling Goliath Brewing Co., 1600 Property Rd., tgbrews.com. 11am-9pm. Pizza,
sandwiches, wraps, salads.
Twin Springs Supper Club, 2149 Twin Springs Rd. twinspringssupperclub.com 5pm-8pm
Tues-Thurs, 5pm-9pm Fri., 4pm-9pm Sat. Reservations. Steakhouse.
Water Street Deli, 301 W. Water St. waterstreetdeliia.com 11am-2pm, 3pm-6pm. Premier
Carry-out Deli.

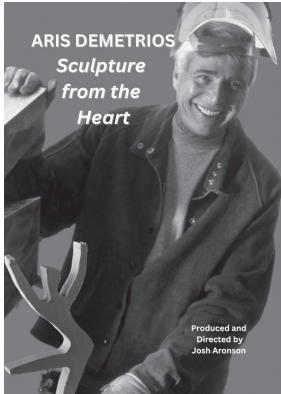
2023-24 oneota film festival board of directors

Elise Skellenger, Creative Director
Nancy Sojka, Board President
Brenda Ramlo, Vice President and Volunteer
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Dennis Pottratz, Treasurer and Submitted
Film Head Juror
Andrea Homstad, Secretary

Nathan Dietzenbach
Alan Lerstrom
Laura Gentry
Peter Scholl
Mo Valko
Shannon Dallenbach-Durbin
Brooke Troche

Film Descriptions

***Scheduled Q & A or Panel Discussion. Filmmakers may be available to answer questions at other sets or at the Filmmakers Reception.** A list of Filmmakers who will be on hand for Q & A at screenings will be found at Headquarters in the Hotel Winneshiek lobby.



ARIS DEMETRIOS: SCULPTURE FROM THE HEART

This film explores the life and work of the renowned sculptor Aris Demetrios, known for his innovative use of materials and his quest to create art that engages with the natural world. The film takes us on a journey through some of his most iconic pieces, from his towering outdoor sculptures to his delicate mobiles, revealing the beauty and complexity of his art. Ultimately, the film celebrates the life of a true visionary whose work continues to inspire and captivate audiences today.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Run Time: 14:57 Documentary Short Honorable Mention Award

Directed by Josh Aronson

Convergence, Friday 4pm

All Vet's Club, Saturday 10am



BALIKA

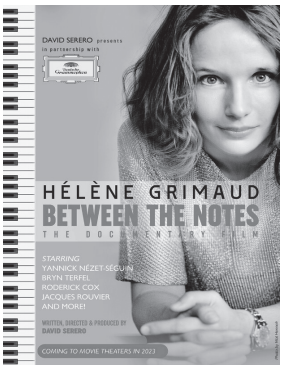
Balika tells the story of Dipendra and Sushmita, two teenagers living in an orphanage in Kathmandu. The protagonists, like all their friends, were abandoned by their families.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 01:05:06

Directed by Aitor Sánchez Smith, Lander Ibarretxe

Convergence, Friday 1:15pm

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Sunday 11:15am



BETWEEN THE NOTES: THE HELENE GRIMAUD DOCUMENTARY

The long-awaited documentary on the life and career of world-renowned pianist Hélène Grimaud is an intimate look into the life of this exceptional artist and the challenges she faced throughout her journey. Grimaud, recognized as one of the greatest pianists of her generation, has amazed the whole world with her technical mastery, emotional expressiveness, and unwavering passion for music.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 01:15:00

Directed by David Serero

ArtHaus, Friday 4:25pm

Convergence, Saturday 1:25pm



BLUE SUNSHINE

Aravind, a high school teacher, wants to transition from male to female while working for a school in a small town in South India. Aravind's parents do not know that Aravind is already taking hormone treatment for the transition. When his parents force a marriage upon him due to their financial situation, he gains courage under pressure and starts to live as a woman named Bhanu.

NARRATIVE FEATURE Run Time: 01:38:00 Best Narrative Feature Award

Directed by Samyuktha Vijayan

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Saturday 10am

Driftless Yoga, Saturday 4pm



BURIAL

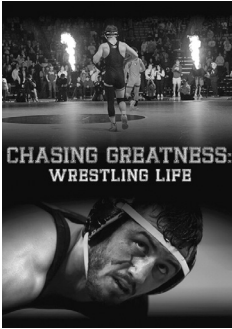
Poland today: after the publication of the near total abortion ban regulations, a man and a woman bury a chest in a random field. Observing them, the owner of the plot calls the police. The couple is accused of committing a crime, but the chest hides a different secret than the police and the plot's owner suspected. Will the painful confrontation with the emotions and the loss, in addition to the life-changing news, be the end or the beginning of a new relationship for the couple?

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time: 14:24

Directed by Jerzy Czachowski

Convergence, Friday 1pm

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Sunday 11am



CHASING GREATNESS: WRESTLING LIFE

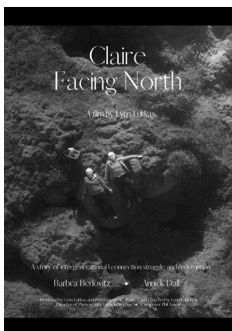
This unprecedented behind-the-scenes look at the University of Iowa wrestling program tracks the 2021-22 season from the first practice in October 2021 to the NCAA Championships in Detroit in March 2022. The film crew covered every Hawkeye team gathering, practice, dual meet and tournament. It shows student wrestlers from one of the greatest collegiate programs in history grappling to balance athletics with their personal lives. Every scene in the film, from grueling practices to team meals and bus, is completely raw and unscripted.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 57:55

Directed by Danny Wilcox Frazier

T-Bocks Upstairs, Friday 4:30pm

All Vet's Club, Saturday 1:35pm



CLAIRE FACING NORTH

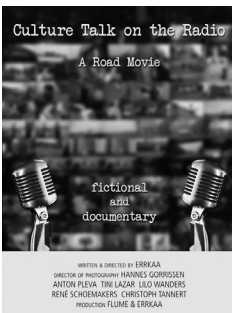
Claire returns to Iceland, a place she visited decades earlier, to tend to a difficult task. While on the road she meets Iris, a young aimless hitchhiker, and together they connect and collide as they struggle to come to terms with the realities of their lives.

NARRATIVE FEATURE Run Time: 01:15:58 Narrative Feature Honorable Mention Award

Directed by Lynn Tjerrnan Lukkas

T-Bocks Upstairs, Saturday 10:25am

T-Bocks Upstairs, Sunday 2:30pm



CULTURE TALK ON THE RADIO

"Culture Talk on the Radio" is a hybrid, narrative and documentary, a road movie and also an art film and for the most part effectively a silent movie with some music. Then we only hear the conversation between the art critic Christoph Tannert and the well-known artist René Schoemakers coming from the speakers of a car radio. As for the road movie it is about a lonely truck driver who works for a company that specializes in the delivery of fruit and art.

EXPERIMENTAL Run Time 27:00 Best Experimental Award

Directed by Errkaa

T-Bocks Upstairs, Friday 1pm

ArtHaus, Sunday 11am



DISHONOUR

A five year old girl is caught in the middle of a struggle between her recently widowed father and his elderly aunt who disagree on how best to adapt to the customs and laws of their newly adopted home in the United Kingdom. The aunt's failure to abandon ancient African tribal traditions, including the harmful practice of FGM (female genital mutilation), leads to potentially devastating consequences for the young girl. All six characters in the film are played by one remarkable female actor, Mimi Ndiweni. Content advisory for some scenes or topics.

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time: 38:46 Best Narrative Short Award

Directed by Terrence Turner

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Friday 1:30pm

Convergence, Saturday 4:30pm



DOWN THE MEKONG: VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

Kayak adventurers pass through exotic waterscapes and struggle with record heat and drought conditions on the Mekong River. They experience spectacular landscapes as they sense the rich history and ancient spirituality, friendly people, and delicious food of Southeast Asia. The environmental challenges and dangerous conditions became the opportunity to “linger with the lotus.”

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Run Time: 19:59

Directed by David Richard Ellingson

Convergence, Saturday 10am

All Vet's Club, Saturday 4:15pm



DWIGHT IN DENMARK

Dwight Lamb learned Danish tunes as a child from his immigrant grandfather and became an influential old time folk fiddler in the American Midwest. After a chance encounter with Danish champion fiddler Kristian Bugge and accordionist Mette Kathrine Jensen Staerk, he is now also important and influential in Denmark. Their work inspired the rediscovery in Denmark of many traditional tunes that had been forgotten there.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Run Time: 26:46 Best Documentary Short Award

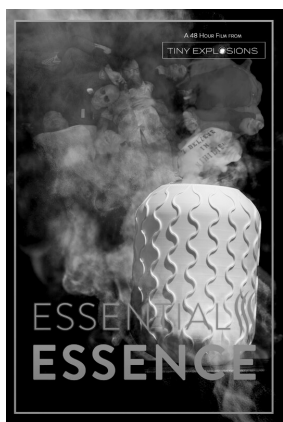
Directed by Cristopher Lee Anderson

Underwritten by Beth Hoven and Jon Rotto

T-Bocks Upstairs, Friday 4pm

All Vet's Club, Saturday 1:05pm

UNDERWRITTEN BY BETH HOVEN AND JOHN ROTTO



ESSENTIAL ESSENCE

A team of salespeople experience a new, wild product that takes them on a transformative ride.

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time: 8:05

Directed by Patrick Boberg

ArtHaus, Saturday 11:20am

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Saturday 5:20pm



EVERYTHING FUN YOU COULD POSSIBLY DO IN ALEDO, ILLINOIS

After three decades apart, two childhood friends from Aledo, Illinois, reunite for their high school reunion. After discovering a forgotten bucket list in their high school yearbook, they set out to fulfill their youthful plans—skinny dipping in the community pool, making out with boys, and even shoplifting.

NARRATIVE FEATURE Run Time: 01:05:08 Narrative Feature Honorable Mention Award

Directed by Bethany Berg

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Sunday 2pm

FRIENDLY FACES

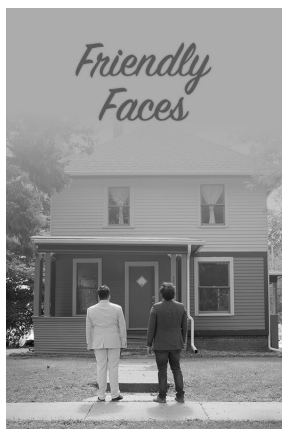
In a series of episodes, a pair of unlikely friends set out to launch a bizarre “rent-a-friend” service that takes them on a series of oddball and sometimes slapstick comic misadventures in which they ineptly attempt to help the lonely residents of an eccentric small town. Each episode has a different director but a common cast. Content advisory for language and some scenes or topics.

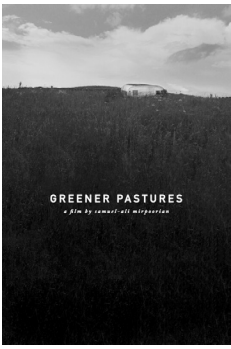
NARRATIVE FEATURE Run Time: 01:18:00

Directed by Keaton Fuller

T-Bocks Upstairs, Friday 1:30pm

ArtHaus, Sunday 11:30am





GREENER PASTURES

Greener Pastures captures the day-to-day lives of four small, multigenerational family farms over the course of four years. Through an intimate, observational lens we examine the various farm stressors, policies and politics farmers must maneuver to survive, connecting the dots between mental health, industrialization, food production and climate change. It is a story of perseverance, patience and determination that tackles nothing less than the future of farming in America.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 01:22:00

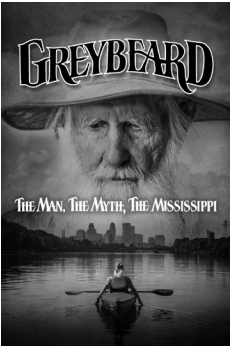
Documentary Feature Honorable Mention Award

Directed by Samuel-Ali Mirpoorian

Underwritten by NE Iowa Peace and Justice Center

Driftless Yoga, Friday 1:15pm

All Vet's Club, Saturday 10:15am



GREYBEARD, THE MAN, THE MYTH, THE MISSISSIPPI

Join Dale "Greybeard" Sanders on his latest Guinness World Record attempt to become the oldest person to paddle the 2,340-mile-long Mississippi River in a canoe at 87 years old! Greybeard reminds us not to take life too seriously. Even when things are tough it's important to remain positive. He shows us how a man who's 87 years old can have a motto that says "someday I'll get old."

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 1:30:00

Directed by Zak Rivers and Wilderness Mindset, Alex Maier and Amy Robin

Underwritten by Dale and Norma Jean Bosma

Driftless Yoga, Saturday 1pm followed by a live Q&A with the filmmakers and Greybeard

ArtHaus, Sunday 2:35pm

UNDERWRITTEN BY DALE AND NORMA JEAN BOSMA



GUN TO THE HEAD

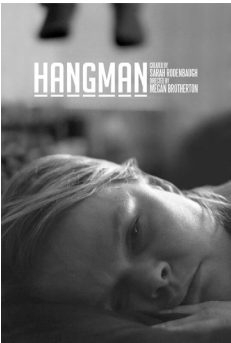
Mara, a young student, must deal with the demands of an aggressive gunman who somehow got into her apartment. Content advisory for language and some scenes or topics.

STUDENT NARRATIVE Run Time: 8:19

Directed by Christian Michael Veninga, Mithi Sivaprakash

T-Bocks Upstairs, Saturday 10:15am

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Saturday 1:15pm—Pre-recorded interview with director and a panel discussion on OCD to follow



HANGMAN

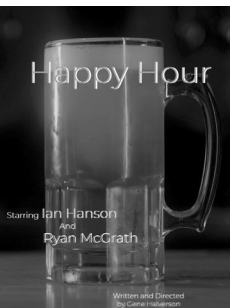
A recently widowed woman works through the complexities of grief with the help of friends, strangers and Tupperware.

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time 15:00 Narrative Short Honorable Mention Award

Directed by Megan Brotherton

T-Bocks Upstairs, Saturday 10am

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Saturday 1pm



HAPPY HOUR

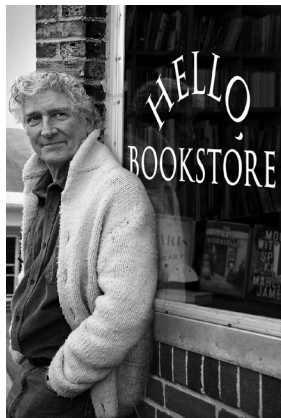
Walter's day revolves around the deadline to buy a cheaper Happy Hour beer. He manages to arrive just in time with just enough cash, but before he can take a sip, a robber invades the place and Walter is forced to weigh the value of his life over sampling that tempting mug. What will he do when his life, those around him, and his beer are in danger? Content advisory for language and some scenes or topics.

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time: 5:09

Directed by Gene Halverson

Driftless Yoga, Friday 4pm

All Vet's Club, Saturday 1pm



HELLO, BOOKSTORE

In the shadow of adversity, a small town rallies to protect a beloved local bookstore in its hour of need. A landmark in Lenox, Massachusetts, The Bookstore is a magical, beatnik gem thanks to its owner, Matt Tannenbaum, whose passion for stories runs deep. Presiding at The Bookstore for over forty years, Matt is a true bard of the Berkshires and his shop is the kind of place to get lost in. This intimate documentary of The Bookstore and the family at its heart offers a journey through good times, hard times and the stories hidden on the shelves.

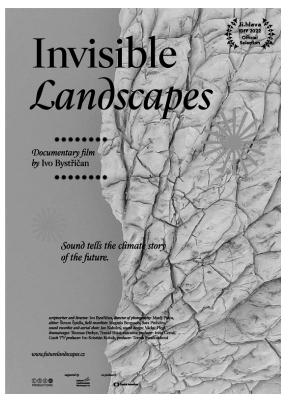
DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 01:26:00

Directed by A.B. Zax

Underwritten by Dragonfly Books

Driftless Yoga, Friday 4:05pm

ArtHaus, Saturday 1pm



INVISIBLE LANDSCAPES

"Sound tells the climate story of the future." In this unusual take on the state of the environment, the camera follows a group of musicians equipped with sensitive microphones, geophones, and hydrophones to register the sounds of ongoing climate change. They head to places in the Czech and Icelandic countryside to discover and investigate the sound of catastrophe. Sounds are the consequence of events that happened in the past which point towards a future that cannot yet be seen in these invisible landscapes. But if we listen carefully, we can already hear it.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 47:38

Directed by Ivo Bystřičan

Underwritten by NE Iowa Climate Change Lobby

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Friday 4:10pm

All Vet's Club, Saturday 4:30pm



LABOR OF LOVE

The film visits five Minnesota childcare and shelter venues, showing—in addition to the adorable kids from all sorts of families—the problems on the front lines of a crisis across the state: so many kids from families with no money, systemic underfunding, inadequately paid staff—but workers who commit themselves to do this labor out of love.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Run Time: 31:10

Directed by Sam Fathallah

T-Bocks Upstairs, Saturday 4:20pm—A presentation and panel discussion on local childcare issues follows this screening.

ArtHaus, Sunday 2pm



LEARNING TO DANCE

What does the last period of our lives bring us, age 70 and beyond? What do you call this period and what are the challenges and joys it brings?

Filmmaker Cat Ashworth explores the loss of identity as she transitions to a new period of life.

Using her own story and first person voice, she explores these topics with the help of other "wise women" who guide her in this "performance art as ritual" film.

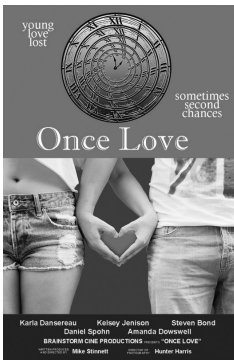
DOCUMENTARY SHORT Run Time: 22:40

Directed by Cat Ashworth

ArtHaus, Friday 4pm

Convergence, Saturday 1pm

T-Bocks Upstairs, Sunday 11am



ONCE LOVE

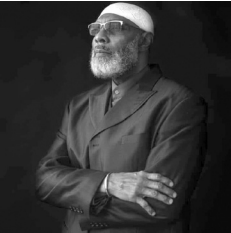
After a 30-year separation, a pair of once teenage lovers meet to rekindle their lost romance. Amy, a waitress in the restaurant where the couple meet, witnesses this rekindling of love and realizes true love is possible.

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time: 12:00

Directed by Mike Stinnett

T-Bocks Upstairs, Saturday 1pm

ArtHaus, Saturday 4pm



PANTHER POLITICIAN: PART 2

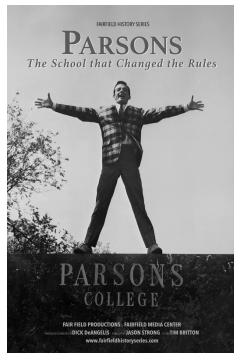
Interview with current Iowa State Representative and former Black Panther member Ako Abdul-Samad, community organizer from Des Moines.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Run Time: 24:30

Directed by S. Torriano Berry

ArtHaus, Friday 1pm

Convergence, Sunday 11am



PARSONS

Parsons College—the School that Changed the Rules—is the fifth film in the Fairfield (Iowa) History Series. It uncovers the truth behind the unprecedented growth and sudden demise of Parsons (later bought out by Maharishi International University) through interviews with former students (including Decorah coach/educator Cindy Albers), faculty, and town leaders. Archival footage and photos and sounds bring to life the first-hand accounts of what really happened at Parsons until its end in 1973.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 01:15:20

Directed by Dick DeAngelis

Convergence, Friday 4:15pm

T-Bocks Upstairs, Sunday 11:25am



PLACES TO BE WILD

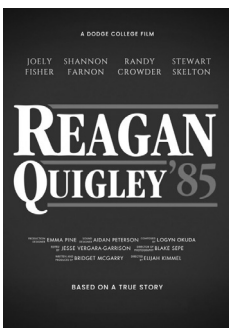
If land that is difficult or impossible to farm returns to a wild state, how does that impact people and wildlife? "Places To Be Wild" profiles a successful partnership between a landowner and the Wetland Reserve Program. By combining insightful and inspiring on-camera interviews with captivating landscape and wildlife footage, the film illustrates the concept of wildlife Cores and Corridors, and shows how rewilding can benefit people and the wider world.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Run Time: 10:10

Directed by Kelly Rundle

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Friday 4pm

All Vet's Club, Saturday 4pm



REAGAN/QUIGLEY '85

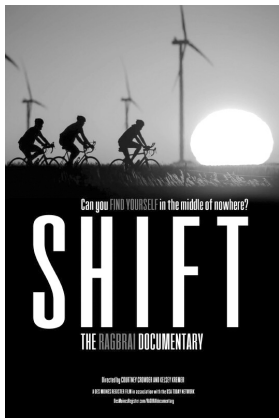
Nancy Reagan has a secret weapon to keep the President safe, an astrologer from San Francisco named Joan Quigley. In this fictionalized dramatization of a peculiar dimension to Ron and Nancy Reagan's time in the White House, every move is mapped out by Quigley's star charts; but is she actually an astrologer, or does she have another agenda?

STUDENT NARRATIVE Run Time: 12:03

Directed by Elijah Kimmel

ArtHaus, Saturday 10am

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Saturday 4pm



SHIFT: THE RAGBRAI DOCUMENTARY

Can you find yourself in the middle of nowhere? "SHIFT" tells the story of RAGBRAI — the world's oldest, largest and longest recreational bicycle ride — through ground-breaking photography and intimate interviews with three bicyclists and a pair of community leaders. Grappling with triumphs and tragedies, the group searches for peace, clarity and redemption, pushing themselves to their limits and changing their lives in the course of a weeklong ride across Iowa.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 01:00:34 Best Documentary Feature Award

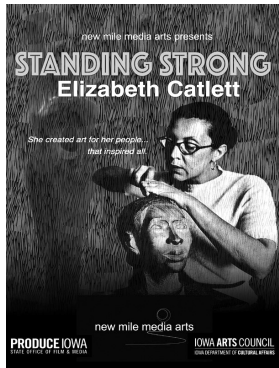
Directed by Kelsey Kremer and Courtney Crowder

Underwritten by Steven Nelson and JoAn Stevenson

Hotel Winneshiek Steyer Opera House, Thursday 7pm

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Sunday 3:05pm

UNDERWRITTEN BY
STEVEN NELSON AND JOAN STEVENSON



STANDING STRONG: ELIZABETH CATLETT

The struggles and triumphs of Elizabeth Catlett, Mexican/American artist and political activist and pioneer in the Black Arts movement are examined in this film.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 56:20

Directed by Kevin J Kelley

ArtHaus, Friday 1:25pm

Convergence, Sunday 11:30am



STARTIME

Esther Hayes, on the road fleeing an abusive marriage, stops for the night at the eccentric StarTime motel. She's told a room will only cost \$1 a night, but she has to agree to livestream her visit on the motel's YouTube channel. Awkward and self-conscious at first, Esther ends up pouring her heart out to her unseen audience, not knowing it will change her life forever. Content advisory for language and some scenes or topics.

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time: 19:55

Directed by Rich West

ArtHaus, Saturday 10:15am

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Saturday 4:15pm

STUDENT BLOCK OF FILMS

NE Iowa Area High School Speech Student Films: Selection TBD.

National History Day Films: These films, created by students in grades 6-8, addressed the National History Day contest theme for 2023: Frontiers in History: People, Ideas and Events. NHD is a non-profit which seeks to improve the teaching and learning of history. All of these four were presented in the regional competition at NICC in March 2023; some of them advanced to the state level, and one placed at the national level.

Star Trek: Frontier in Diversity, directed by Noah Potvin.

Julia Child: A Frontier in the Kitchen

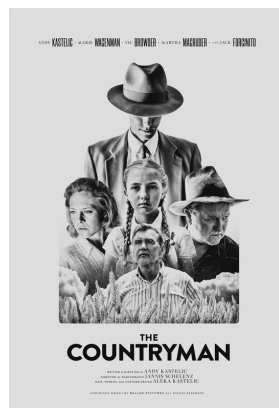
Directed by Nina Sessions and Kaelyn Kuhn.

Jackie Robinson: The Frontier of African-Americans in Professional Baseball

Directed by Bennett Coppola and Jalen Klees.

Pasteurization: Reshaping the Dairy Industry

Directed by Rex LaFrentz and Kalin Harman.



THE COUNTRYMAN

Bitterness threatens to destroy a small farming community until a stranger arrives with a curious proposition.

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time: 21:00 Narrative Short Honorable Mention Award

Directed by Andy Kastelic

ArtHaus, Saturday 10:35am

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Saturday 4:35pm



THE DEAD TRACK

Having lost his job, Tommaso returns to Sardinia. Desperate, he decides to put an end to it all by lying on the railroad tracks. However, it is a dead track, yet another line suppressed. The lonely and disconsolate boy meets Franco, a singular character who lives in an abandoned station. Can the younger man learn to face life with more imagination and lightness?

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time 23:55 Narrative Short Honorable Mention

Directed by Antonio Maciocco

ArtHaus, Saturday 10:55am

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Saturday 4:55pm



THE ERRAND

When a young girl hitchhiking is picked up by a stranger, who ends up taking whom for a ride?

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time: 11:22

Directed by Amanda Renee Knox

Driftless Yoga, Friday 1pm

Convergence, Sunday 2pm



TINA

TINA is a heartfelt story about two people who knew each other back when and are surprised to meet up again. Have you ever encountered someone from their past who influenced them at a key juncture in their life, or gone searching online for an old friend, teacher, boss, whoever...and been surprised by how much they've both changed?

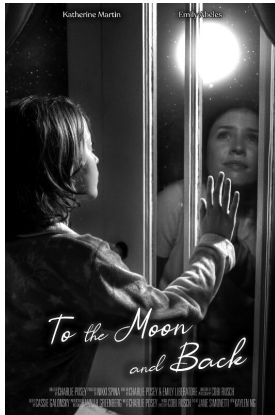
This kind and thoughtful story will raise important conversations about trans rights.

NARRATIVE SHORT Run Time: 14:20

Directed by Laura Sweeney

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Friday 1:15pm

Convergence, Saturday 4:15pm



TO THE MOON AND BACK

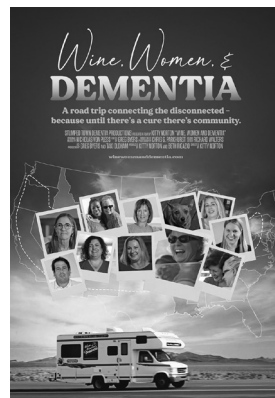
When a young girl asks the moon to send her a friend, she comes face-to-face with the older version of herself, and must learn to love who she is.

STUDENT NARRATIVE Run Time: 18:20 Best Student Narrative Award

Directed by Charlie Posey

ArtHaus, Saturday 1pm

T-Bocks Upstairs, Saturday 4pm



WINE, WOMEN, AND DEMENTIA

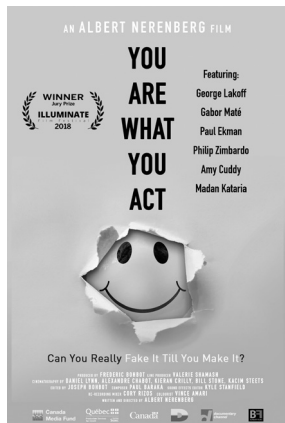
Seeking healing and comfort in community, a dementia family caregiver road trips across the U.S. to swap stories of love, humor, devotion, and death with other dementia caregivers who share this hilariously heartbreaking end-of-life journey.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 1:27:00

Directed by Kitty Norton

Convergence, Saturday 10:20am

Convergence, Sunday 2:15pm



YOU ARE WHAT YOU ACT

The film explores a new field of science called embodied cognition. It points out how film actors often become their roles and suggests these principles apply to ordinary people in terms of actualizing confidence, heroism, health and even love including practice, led by Laughing Laura and others.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE Run Time: 1:18:00

Directed by Albert Nerenberg

T-Bocks Upstairs, Saturday 1:15pm

ArtHaus, Saturday 4:15pm

ZAKKIYYAH NAJEEBAH DUMAS O'NEAL-A GLASS BREAKFAST INTERVIEW

This film is one of a series of films about artists by filmmaker Carstens. It is an interview with the Chicago-based artist, teacher, and independent curator with an overlay of samples of the artist's work, which combines relationships and connections of landscapes and black women.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Run Time: 14:40

Directed by Ian Carstens

Hotel Winneshiek Ballroom, Friday 1pm

Convergence, Saturday 4pm



events

Opening Night

Thursday, February 29

Social Hour: 6pm Film: 7pm

Steyer Opera House, Hotel Winneshiek

The Oneota Film Festival will kick off the festival with our opening night film, *SHIFT: The RAGBRAI Documentary*.

OFF Social

Friday, March 1 7:30pm

Impact Coffee

Join the Oneota Film Festival for some live music and social time. Dritfless Jazz will be playing from 7:30-9:30pm

OFF Reception and Awards

Saturday, March 2 7pm

T-Bocks Upstairs

Come chat with other film enthusiasts and meet the filmmakers. Appetizers provided and cash bar available.

award winners

Documentary Feature

SHIFT: The RAGBRAI Documentary

Documentary Feature Honorable Mention

Greener Pastures

Narrative Feature

Blue Sunshine

Narrative Feature Honorable Mention

Clair Facing North

Everything You Could Do in Aledo, Illinois

Student Narrative

To the Moon and Back

Experimental

Culture Talk on the Radio

Documentary Short

Dwight in Denmark

Documentary Short Honorable Mention

Aris Demetrios: Sculpture from the Heart

Narrative Short

Dishonor

Narrative Short Honorable Mention

The Dead Track

The Countryman

Hangman



New Supporter or Renewal Form

Join or renew your OFF membership now to support the Oneota Film Festival. Supporters like you uphold our community initiative to provide a professional independent film festival weekend as well as programming throughout the year. All funding from sponsorship, supportership and donations goes directly into the programming, workshops and special events that make OFF an incredible Northeast Iowa destination experience.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Select your Membership Level:

☐ **STUDENT: \$10**

Benefits: Special email invites to festival events and year-round community events, and an Oneota Film Festival pin. Requires full-time attendance with current high school or college student ID.

☐ **INDIVIDUAL: \$30**

Benefits: Special email invites to festival events and year-round community events; eligible to vote for member-only Best-of-the-Fest award; access to Member Film Lending Library; access to Member-only screenings and events.

☐ **INDIVIDUAL/COUPLE/FAMILY: \$50**

Benefits: Special email invites to festival events and year-round community events; eligible to vote for member-only Best-of-the-Fest award; access to Member Film Lending Library; access to Member-only screenings and events.

☐ **PRODUCER: \$100** (individual, couple or family)

Benefits: Special email invites to festival events and year-round community events; eligible to vote for member-only Best-of-Fest award; listing in 2022 OFF Program and on-screen recognition during the fest; opportunity to help select films for this year's Festival; access to Member Film Lending Library; access to Member-only screenings and events.

☐ **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: \$500** (individual, couple or family)

Benefits: Special email invites to festival events and year-round community events; eligible to vote for member-only Best-of-Fest award; listing in 2022 OFF Program and on-screen recognition during the fest; opportunity to help select films for this year's Festival; access to Member Film Lending Library; access to Member-only screenings and events.

Use the QR Code to pay online:





film schedule

All audience members are required to present a festival pass prior to entering film screenings and events. Festival passes are FREE for all attendees who have registered for the festival. **Registration and Festival Passes are available at all screening rooms and in the Hotel Winneshiek Lobby throughout the festival.** All screenings are FREE for everyone, including children under 18 and Luther College students. Donations are appreciated. Become a member and support OFF all year!

Feature times are approximate. Late entrants may come in during a short pause before each feature.

Thursday, February 29							
TIME	T-Bock's	Driftless Yoga	Hotel Winneshiek	Convergence CiderWorks	ArtHaus	VFW	Hotel Winneshiek Lobby
7:00 pm			SHIFT: The RAGBRAI Documentary (01:00:34)				

Friday, March 1							
TIME	T-Bock's	Driftless Yoga	Hotel Winneshiek	Convergence CiderWorks	ArtHaus	VFW	Hotel Winneshiek Lobby
11:00 am - 7:00 pm							OFF HEADQUARTERS
1:00 pm	Culture Talk on the Radio (00:27:00) Friendly Faces (01:18:00)	The Errand (00:11:21) Greener Patures (01:22:00)	Zakkiyah (00:14:40) Tina (00:14:40) Dishonour (00:38:46)	Burial (00:14:57) Balika (01:05:06)	Panther Politician (00:24:30) Standing Strong (00:56:20)		
4:00 pm	Dwight in Denmark (00:26:46) Chasing Greatness: Wrestling Life (00:57:55)	Happy Hour (00:05:09) Hello Bookstore (01:26:00)	Places to Be Wild (00:10:10) Invisible Landscape (00:47:38) Q&A with directors	Aris Demetrios: Sculpture from the Heart (00:14:57) Parsons (01:18:20)	Learning to Dance (00:22:40) Between the Notes: The Helene Grimaud Documentary (01:15:00)		
7:30 pm		OFF Social Live music with Driftless Jazz at Impact Coffee					

Saturday, March 2

TIME	T-Bock's	Driftless Yoga	Hotel Winneshiek	Convergence CiderWorks	ArtHaus	VFW	Hotel Winneshiek Lobby
9:00 am - 6:00 pm							OFF HEADQUARTERS
10:00 am	Hangman (00:15:00) Gun to the Head (00:08:19) Claire Facing North (01:15:58)	Student Block of Films	Blue Sunshine (01:38:00)	Down the Mekong: Voyage of Discovery (00:19:59) Wine, Women, and Dementia (01:27:00)	Reagen/Quigley (00:12:03) Star Time (00:19:55) The Countryman (00:21:00) The Dead Track (00:23:55) Essential Essence (00:08:05)	Aris Demetrios: Sculpture from the Heart (00:14:57) Greener Pastures (01:22:00)	
1:00 pm	Once Love (00:12:00) You Are What You Act (01:15:58)	Greybeard (01:30:00) Live Q&A with Filmmakers and Greybeard	Hangman (00:15:00) Gun to the Head (00:08:19) Pre-recorded interview with the director OCD Panel Discussion	Learning to Dance (00:22:40) Between the Notes: The Helene Grimaud Documentary (01:15:00)	To the Moon and Back (00:18:20) Hello Bookstore (01:26:00)	Happy Hour (00:05:09) Dwight in Denmark (00:26:46) Chasing Greatness: Wrestling Life (00:57:55)	
4:00 pm	To the Moon and Back (00:18:20) Labor of Love (00:31:10) Local childcare issues presentation and panel discussion	Blue Sunshine (01:38:00)	Reagen/Quigley (00:12:03) Star Time (00:19:55) The Countryman (00:21:00) The Dead Track (00:23:55) Essential Essence (00:08:05)	Zakkiyah (00:14:40) Tina (00:14:20) Dishonour (00:38:46)	Once Love (00:12:00) You Are What You Act (01:18:00)	Places to Be Wild (00:10:10) Down the Mekong: Voyage of Discovery (00:19:59) Invisible Landscapes (00:47:38)	
7:00 pm	MEET THE FILMMAKERS OFF RECEPTION						

Sunday, March 3

TIME	T-Bock's	Driftless Yoga	Hotel Winneshiek	Convergence CiderWorks	ArtHaus	VFW	Hotel Winneshiek Lobby
10:30 am - 2:00 pm							OFF HEADQUARTERS
11:00 am	Learning to Dance (00:22:40) Parsons (01:18:20)		Burial (00:14:57) Balika (01:05:06)	Panther Politician (00:24:30) Standing Strong (00:56:20)	Culture Talk on the Radio (00:27:00) Friendly Faces (01:18:00)		
2:00 pm	Dwight in Denmark (00:26:46) Claire Facing North (01:15:58)		Everything Fun You Could Possibly Do in Aledo, Illinois (01:05:08) SHIFT: The RAGBRAI Documentary (01:00:34)	The Errand (00:11:21) Wine, Women, and Dementia (01:27:00)	Labor of Love (00:31:10) Greybeard (01:30:00)		



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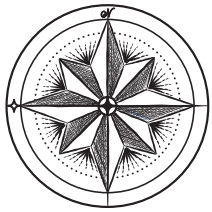


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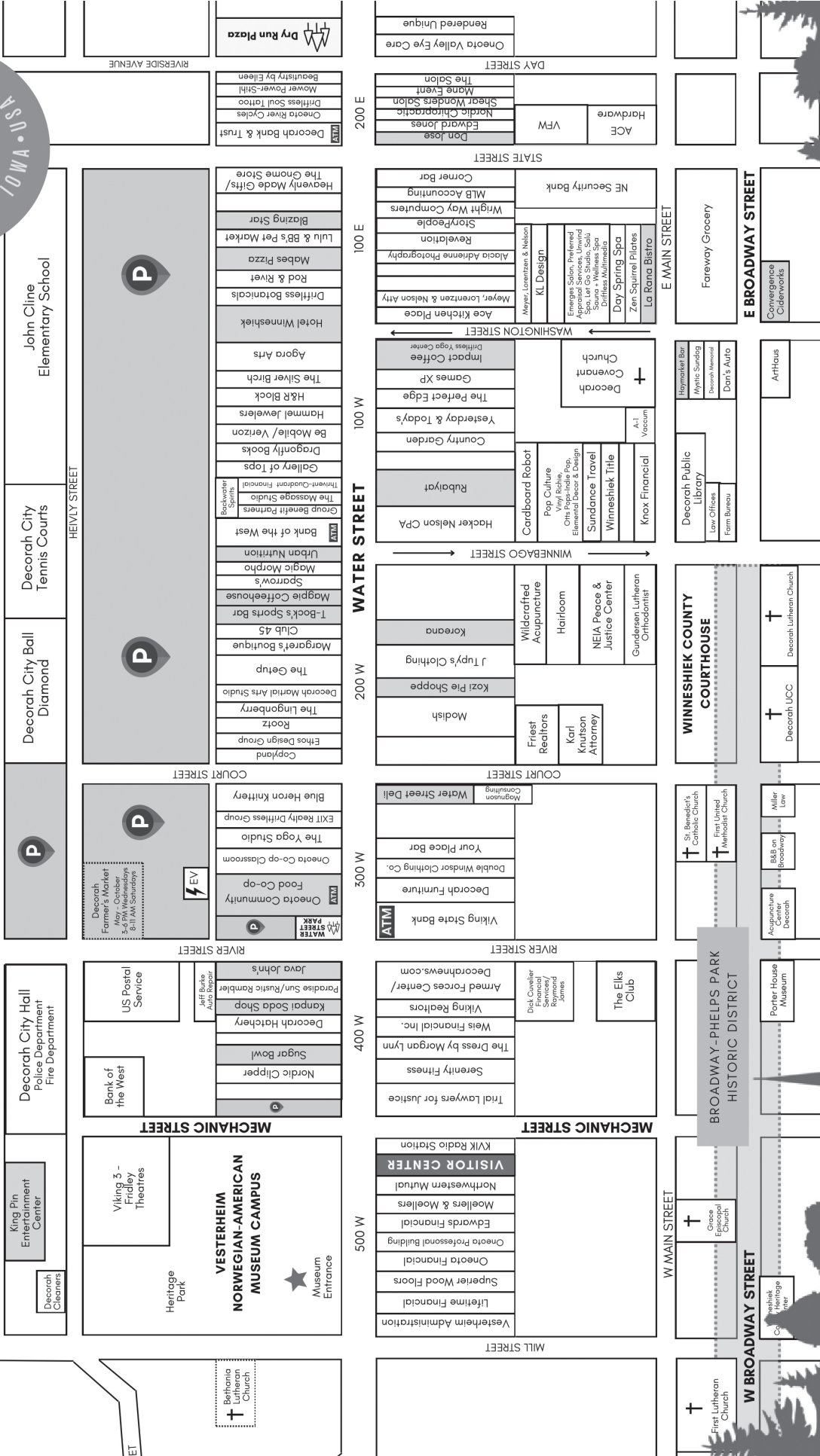
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