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New CU Cinema Crawl Film Festival Coming to Champaign-Urbana in March 2027

Champaign, IL — Film CU, a division of Experience Champaign-Urbana, and the Film-Fanatic.Club are proud to announce the inaugural CU Cinema Crawl, taking place March 3–8, 2027, at more than a dozen venues throughout Champaign-Urbana.

The festival will transform familiar cultural spaces, theaters, museums, and gathering places into destinations for cinematic discovery. Participating venues include the Virginia Theatre, Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Parkland Staerkel Planetarium, Analog Wine Library, Spurlock Museum, University YMCA, The Literary Book Bar, Krannert Art Museum, Savoy 16, and many more. The festival's complete film lineup and schedule will be announced soon.

The CU Cinema Crawl encourages audiences to “Start somewhere. End somewhere better.” It is a weeklong celebration of moving, watching, arguing, discovering—and doing it all over again the next night. Attendees are invited to bring a friend to something they would never choose for themselves, let a stranger's favorite film become their own, and find themselves decades in the past, a continent away, or eerily close to home.

By presenting films in venues across Champaign-Urbana, the festival will encourage audiences to explore the community while experiencing cinema in new and unexpected ways. Each stop on the crawl will offer another opportunity to encounter a different story, perspective, place, or fellow film fan.

The CU Cinema Crawl is currently seeking sponsors interested in supporting the inaugural festival and helping build an engaging new cultural experience for residents and visitors. Sponsorship opportunities are available for organizations seeking to connect with film audiences while supporting arts, culture, and community vitality.

Film selections, ticket information, participating venues, and additional festival details will be released in the coming months. To learn more about the festival or sponsorship opportunities, visit cucinemacrawl.org or contact Terri Reifsteck at terrir@experiencecu.org.

About Film CU

Film CU is a division of Experience Champaign-Urbana dedicated to supporting film production and promoting film culture throughout the greater Champaign County area. Through industry resources, partnerships, and community programming, Film CU works to strengthen the region as a destination for filmmakers and film audiences.

About Experience Champaign-Urbana

Experience Champaign-Urbana is the certified destination management organization for the greater Champaign-Urbana area. Their mission is to promote a welcoming destination experience for visitors to strengthen economic opportunity and enhance the lives of residents. Visit experiencecu.org to learn more.

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