



For immediate release

2020 Elgin Short Film Festival Cancellation

Elgin, IL - The 2020 Elgin Short Film Festival, slated to run on September 19, has been canceled out of concern for public safety in the face of the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak.

The 12th annual festival was set to present short films from across the world during the Elgin Fringe Festival and the finals at The Hemmens Cultural Center. Festival co-chair Joe Vassallo expressed sadness over the cancellation, "We have been struggling with this decision for some time and had hoped, like everyone has, that we would be in a different position than we currently find ourselves. At this time, we must take action that is consistent with public health guidance to limit non-essential large gatherings."

Ticket holders will be refunded and updates posted at hemmens.org.

The Elgin Short Film Festival is grateful for the filmmakers' and the public's understanding of this difficult situation and their support through the years. Festival organizers are already looking forward to next year's Elgin Short Film Festival, September 18, 2021.

The hearts of festival organizers and staff go out to all of the people and communities affected by COVID-19.

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