



ATHENA

BARNARD COLLEGE, NEW YORK CITY

FILM FESTIVAL

About Athena

Over the past ten years, the Athena Film Festival has established itself as the premiere festival dedicated to celebrating and elevating women's leadership. Our festival highlights films showcasing women's leadership from underexplored perspectives; women leading in all places and spaces who are resisting and refuting preconceived notions of all they can be and do. Through our Parity Pipeline Program we are bolstering the pipeline of women creatives who are telling these stories and fostering a network of women in film.

Now, more than ever, we need to continue advancing this mission — to push our culture to be more equitable and inclusive, and to inspire the next generation.

Our Impact

- Screened 400+ films curated from 6,700 submissions
- Honored 50 scripts on the Athena List selected from more than 2,000 submissions
- Hosted more than 100 Panels, Masterclasses, and events
- Honored over 50 women and 4 men who are making change in the industry
- Championed women creators:
 - 71% of our directors are women
 - 66% of our writers are women
 - 26% of our directors are women of color
- Mentored 65 emerging women writers in our Writers Lab
- Showcased 24 films in our Works-in-Progress program; 14 films have been completed
- Welcomed thousands of volunteers and hundreds of community and organizational partners who help the festival reach diverse audiences, communities and populations.



A Look Ahead

Together, we must remain vigilant — the work of equity is never complete. We must continue to challenge harmful stereotypes that hold our society back, foster a community of individuals committed to advancing this mission, while simultaneously educating and inspiring the next generation.

Plans for the 2021 Athena Film Festival are still underway, but we hope you will join us. Sponsorship levels begin at just \$5,000.

For more information or questions on how to get involved, please contact Victoria Gordon at vgordon@barnard.edu.



Athena's Impact

"The first time I was at the Athena Film Festival, I got to meet Ava DuVernay [she] was an honoree and I've obviously watched her explode and **it changed my life.**"

– [Greta Gerwig](#), Barnard Class of 2006,
Academy award-nominated director, *Lady Bird*

"The Athena Lab really made me feel like I deserved a seat at the table and meeting all of these **inspiring women** that the network introduces you to is worth more than anything I've ever attended."

– [Liann Kaye](#), Athena Film Festival
Writer's Lab Alum

"The Athena Works in Progress program was like **rocket fuel** for my project. Thanks to Melissa Silverstein and Judith Helfand I was able to refine my pitch and connect with industry leaders that felt heretofore out of my reach."

– [Patricia Gillespie](#), director
work-in-progress film *The Fire That Took Her*

"I think one of the best parts of the lab was that it didn't just help my screenplay, it really gave me **clarity** on my point of view and my artistic voice in a way I didn't necessarily expect. The discussion that you have with your fellow writers, in your one-on-ones with your mentors and the support you get from the lab, it just gave me a good sense of why I wanted to tell this story and why I was the right person to tell this story. With that clarity I have a different sense of confidence in my writing and purpose."

– [Molly Powers Gallagher](#),
Writers Lab Alum

"The **enthusiasm** of the audience in the theater!
Best movie watching experience ever"

– [Athena Film Festival Attendee](#)

"Amazing women's stories, so inspiring and also about sexism flat out and **bold** and the energy of the festival team—amazing"

– [Athena Film Festival Attendee](#)



SAVE THE DATE
11TH ANNUAL ATHENA FILM
FESTIVAL AT BARNARD COLLEGE
MARCH 2021

Founding Organizations



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for Leadership
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