



Acton-Boxborough  
Cultural Council

**The Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council presents**

**Our World Film Series Short Program  
2022**

**PROGRAM 1:**

**“Sebastian”**

**Directed by Xudong Liu, Emerson College**

Running Time 6:02

*Walking in the alley with a camera, wandering in the park with a pen... This is Sebastian, a millennial from Chile.*

Xudong Liu was born in Shanghai. Before coming to the United States, he worked as a documentary director at Shanghai TV Station for six years, producing over 100 short documentaries from all walks of life, which also became his inspiration and convinced him that even the most ordinary characters deserve attention. Xudong Liu also has a film in Program 2, “The best bird photographer”.

**“The Process”**

Directed by Eden G. Harfield, Gordon College

Running time 7:17

*“The Process” follows the journeys of a barista, an artist, and a hiker. The film illustrates the beauty that lies within every step of the creative process.*

Eden Harfield is an undergraduate student in the class of 2024 at Gordon College. Double-majoring in Communication Arts and Christian Ministries, Eden dreams of using her passions for creative storytelling and spiritual formation to foster positive change in the communities around her. “The Process” received Best Action/Adventure Film and People’s Choice Award at Gordon’s annual student film festival *Gordon Globes* in 2022.

**“Sit down, Mr. Burton”**

Directed by Max Gofstein, Middlesex Community College

Running time 6:57

*Daniel Burton is being asked seriously uncomfortable questions during his job interview. He needs to escape before he’s introduced to a new form of torture.*

Max Gofstein is experienced in many creative fields such as filmmaking, editing, music, and art. He spent a few years doing community theater, and now works on many film-related projects. Max has many personal projects he's working on and plans to release soon.

**“Methadone Mile”**

Directed by Li Lucy Brandt, Emerson College

Running time 9:28

*This documentary sheds light on an encampment in Boston. Through interviews with recovered drug addicts, we find out about the drug epidemic in the US.*

Li Lucy Brandt was born and raised in Germany. She tells us “As soon as I turned 20, I moved to Boston to study Media Arts Production. I am a creative filmmaker. Not only am I constantly working on my own projects, but I also work on film sets as a production manager, camera operator, director’s assistant, or intern whenever I can. I have created commercials, short films, music videos, and more, and I’m excited to see what projects, and films we will create together, in the future.”

**“Place: Digital Fluidity”**

Directed by Lee-Hwang Yujin, Wellesley University

Running time 1:56

*“Place: Digital Fluidity” reflects on my identity as a third-culture kid and immigrant through the instability I felt when my presence was dominantly online during the pandemic.*

Lee-Hwang Yujin is a Media, Arts, and Science major at Wellesley College, interested in combining film studies with computer science. Having been born in Germany to Korean parents, I had an interesting cultural experience growing up that has profoundly shaped my identity, and the way that I see the world.

**“Mazel Tov”**

Directed by Eli Zuzovsky, Harvard University

Running time 24:59

*At a banquet hall in Israel, at the height of a war, Adam Weizmann's bar mitzvah party turns into a glorious catastrophe.*

Eli Zuzovsky is an Israeli-born director and writer. A 2021 Rhodes Scholar, he graduated summa cum laude from Harvard University with a BA in Filmmaking and English. At Harvard, he received The Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts, The Thomas T. Hoopes Prize, and The Artist Development Fellowship. “Mazel Tov” has been shown at the 2021 Tel Aviv International LGBT Film Festival, the 2021 Austin Jewish Film Festival, the 2022 New York Jewish Film Festival, the 2022 Washington Jewish Film Festival, and the 2022 Roze Filmdagen: Amsterdam LGBTQ+ Film Festival.

**PROGRAM 2:**

**“A Seal Story”**

Directed by Sabrina Crockton, Aimee Ham, Willow Machado, Lesley Art + Design

Running time 3:08

*“A Seal Story” follows a day in the life of a mother seal and her pup as they navigate the challenges imposed by human interference on the beach.*

Directors Sabrina Crockton, Aimee Ham, and Willow Machado are New England based animators, friends, and collaborators. Their work has been showcased at film festivals worldwide. "A Seal Story" has won awards at the 2021 Good Natured Conservation Optimism Film Festival and the 2021 Emerging Artists Film Festival. The film was an official selection at 2021 Friday Harbor Film Festival, the 2021 Florida Environmental Film Festival, the 2021 On The Beach International Film Festival, the 2021 Life Screenings International Short Film Festival, and the 2022 Ocean City Film Festival.

### **"Ring My Bell"**

Directed by Cayleigh Pine, Emerson College

Running time 4:08

*Boy meets Girl. Boy loves Girl. Boy impresses Girl, a little too much...*

Originally from Florida, Cayleigh Pine has set out to Boston at Emerson College to pursue her film career. A lover of the arts, she has explored all avenues of entertainment, through her writing, directing, producing, and acting. She has worked with the companies A24 and Horseless Cowboy to enhance her knowledge of the film industry, and she has written and directed multiple short films, with her recent "Heather&Harper" winning the EVVY Award for Most Outstanding Short Film. She is currently working on "The God Couple" as her BA Capstone Thesis Film.

### **"A Thousand Words"**

Directed by Kely Maloney, Suffolk University

Running time 5:19

*A young woman in the Boston area details her coming out story and the impact it had on her relationships with family members.*

Kely Maloney is a Media/Film major at Suffolk University. He was born in Manchester, Connecticut as the youngest of 3 siblings. Outside of film he enjoys running, the beach, and spending time with family.

### **"So Powerful"**

Directed by Isabel Miranda, Emerson College

Running time 17:08

*A Cameroonian and American coming from very different backgrounds find harmony and a higher power through their music making.*

Isabel Miranda is a Boston-based artist who grew up in South America, South-East Asia, and Southern Africa. Growing up aboard influenced her interest in street photography and documentary filmmaking, where she explores topics such as spirituality, music, and identity. Artist website: <https://isamiranda.com/work>

### **"The best bird photographer"**

Directed by Xudong Liu, Emerson College

Running time 6:49

*A German chemistry doctor has a dream to become a bird photographer in the wetland of Shanghai.*

Xudong Liu was born in Shanghai. Before coming to the United States, he worked as a documentary director at Shanghai TV Station for six years, producing over 100 short documentaries from all walks of life, which also

became his inspiration and convinced him that even the most ordinary characters deserve attention. This film is an official selection of the 2022 Salem Film Festival. Xudong Liu also has a film in Program 1, "Sebastian".

### **"LifeLine"**

Directed by Jack Boyle, Suffolk University  
Running time 9:28

*As a depressed 16-year-old Jack calls his future self from a one-time hotline, we see how the call affects the both of them...*

Jack Boyle from Stow, MA, is a 19-year-old freshman at Suffolk University pursuing a BA in Media & Film. Thriving off his innate passion for creative expression and storytelling, Jack dreams of directing feature-length films about minorities' unheard struggles, social class, and the mundanities of life. This is Jack's first ever film.

### **"Be a Dreamer"**

Directed by Jinhong Shangguan, Emerson College  
Running time 10:45

*"Be a Dreamer" is about college decisions, adolescent uncertainty, and friendship, which appeals to a strong connection between a music lover and Berklee College of Music.*

Jinhong Shangguan is passionate about telling a story that resonates with people. Although there were limited resources during Jinhong's high school and the widespread pandemics, he still managed to create this film with talented peers, applying every storytelling and cinematographic technique learned through the Internet.

The Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council ([www.actonboxboroughculturalcouncil.org](http://www.actonboxboroughculturalcouncil.org)) was established in 1982 to promote the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, to help develop cultural programs in the Acton and Boxborough communities and to award and administer Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) Grant funds. We accomplish these goals by:

- Reviewing grant applications from individuals, schools, and arts organizations and awarding MCC grant funds to projects that provide a local public benefit;
- Sponsoring annual cultural programs for the Acton and Boxborough communities using funds generously designated by the towns. These funds have been used by the ABCC to present jazz and classical music concerts, vocal performances, opera, public art installations and more;
- Advocating for the arts through community outreach and publicity.



Scene from "A Seal Story" by Sabrina Crockton, Aimee Ham, and Willow Machado



Scene from "A Thousand Words" by Kely Maloney



Scene from "Mazel Tov" by Eli Zuzovsky



Scene from "Place: Digital Fluidity"  
by Lee-Hwang Yujin



Scene from "Ring My Bell" by Caleigh Pine



Scene from "The Process" by Eden G. Harfield



Scene from "Sebastian" by Xudong Liu



Scene from "Methadone Mile" by Li Lucy Brandt

The Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that promotes excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

