

**TU**  
**CUENTAS!**  
CINE YOUTH  
FEST  
2021



**YOUNG**



**FILMMAKERS**



**CONFERENCE**

**Wednesday,**  
**September 29th, 2021**



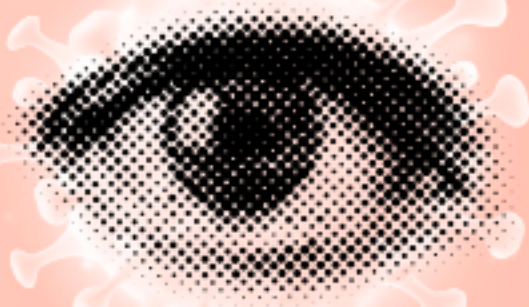
**ST. FRANCIS**  
**COLLEGE**



**Cine Youth Fest, powered by HITN, is committed to bringing a community of talented storytellers together to share their experiences, diversity, and cultures to lift and inspire the next generation of young, up and coming content creators. Together, we aim to uplift and educate Latinx voices to grow on and off camera.**

# MY PANDEMIC YEAR

**Covid-19 changed the film industry in many ways.  
How did it change your story?**



**Send us your film created during the Pandemic for a chance to win a \$100 Gift Card!**

**Guidelines:**

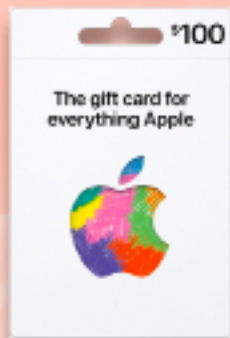
**Format: .mov or .mp4**

**Submission Deadline is Friday  
October 1, 2021 by 5pm ET.**

**Length: Up to one minute**

**SUBMIT HERE:**

**[Google Drive Link](#)**



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# PROGRAM

**11:15-11:30AM**

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

- Welcome: Dr. Miguel Martínez-Saenz, President, St. Francis College
- Introduction: Luis Alejandro Molina, Director, Cine Youth Festival
- Details of "My Pandemic Year" contest
  1. Theme: "My Pandemic Year"
  2. Format: 60-second movie in .mov or .mp4 format
  3. Submission Deadline is Friday, October 1, 2021, at 5pm Submission Link: [Google Drive Link](#)



**11:30AM-12:15PM**

## **FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN AND THE ART OF STORYTELLING:**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Workshop**

**Dr. Augusta Palmer (SFC) Moderator**

Filmmaker & Scholar

**Dr. Raquel Ortiz (TCCYF) Panelist**

Emmy-nominated Storyteller & Anthropologist

**Waldo Cabrera (TCCYF) Panelist**

Emmy-nominated Journalist & Storyteller

**Kathryn Grant (SFC) Panelist**

Playwright, Instructor

12:15PM-1:00PM

## PRODUCTION - LIGHTS, CAMERA, AND CINEMATOGRAPHY



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop

Ben Guzman, Moderator

Grammy-nominated Platinum Record Producer, Director

José "Jay" Rivera Panelist

Film & Technical Director

Kacho López Mari Panelist

Latin Grammy Award Winner & Filmmaker

Ana Maria García Panelist

Director & Scholar

1:00PM-1:15PM

### CYF Sneak Peek

Featuring the Films:

Chicago (01:35), Coqui Serenade (01:49), PandeMates (05:22)

1:15PM-1:30PM

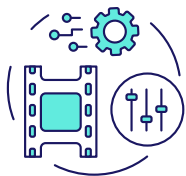
### Intermission

1:30PM-2:15PM

### Filmmaker's Roundup

Panelists:

Kris Merc, Alex Ramírez, Neyda Martínez,  
Tami Gold, Juan C. Davila, Sade Falebita



2:15PM-3:00PM

## EDITING: MAKING THE RIGHT CUT

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop

Aura María Jiménez-Villanueva (HITN) Moderator

Post Production & Digital Content Coordinator

Adrian Nuño (TCCYF) Panelist

Filmmaker, Actor

Andrew Nuño (TCCYF) Panelist

Writer, Podcaster

Tami Gold Panelist

Producer & Professor

3:00PM-3:30PM

### Closing of Conference

- Lina Sands, CYF Marketing, with a message about the Judges and Awards show.
- Sizzle reel produced by SFC student Johnnely Saldaña, Social Media Coordinator



**Dr. Augusta Palmer**  
(Moderator)

Augusta Palmer is an

Associate Professor and Chair of Communication Arts at St. Francis College in Brooklyn. She is a filmmaker and scholar who holds a Ph. D. in Cinema Studies from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. As a documentarian, she is best known for *The Hand of Fatima* (2009), a feature documentary about music, mysticism, and family history. Her award-winning documentary and experimental video work has screened in national and international festivals, as well as at venues like New York's Anthology Film Archives. Her first fiction short, *A is for Aye-Aye: An Abecedarian Adventure* has been screened at children's film festivals from New York to New Zealand. She is currently at work on a new feature documentary, *The Blues Society*, which is about blues and bohemia in 1960s America.



**Aura M. Jiménez Villanueva**  
(Moderator)

Aura Maria is HITN's Post Production &

Digital Content Coordinator, handles all the incoming video content that runs on HITN's linear channel and OTT platforms. As part of the Content Operations department, Aura Maria ensures that producers, editors and scheduling personnel adhere to the broadcasting industry standards. She also serves as the Unit Production Manager for original productions in the Eastern Region. Aura Maria is an excellent problem-solver and well-versed in technical concepts, possesses first-rate written and verbal communication skills. She strongly believes in an

active environment and working as a collaborative team.



**Ben Guzman**  
(Moderator)

Ben is an award-winning director, producer, editor, and storyteller

from Brooklyn, NY. Most recently, he served as Senior Creative Producer at Better Noise Music, managing a small team and creating content that led to three Grammy Nominations and multiple RIAA Gold and Platinum Records. Drawing inspiration from the music videos and films he grew up studying, he has spent the past decade creating a name for himself through his aggressive editing and highly stylized imagery. Garnering over 1 billion video views, Ben has created visuals for an eclectic group of artists such as The Notorious B.I.G., Nelly Furtado, Mötley Crüe, Kehlani, and Lupe Fiasco. His approach to each client and project is the same: tell the story the way it should be told.

## PANELISTS



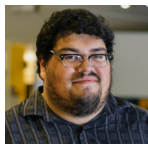
**Adrian Nuno**

Adrian Nuño is a filmmaker, actor and content creator from Chicago, Illinois.

With over ten years

of filmmaking experience, his work shines a light on underrepresented topics and communities. He co-directed, produced and edited a short film on mental health entitled *Little Things* which received recognition from film festivals in Portugal, Ireland and here in the United States. His most recent project is a Latinx web series entitled *Border'd* which will premiere

its first season this year on the Emmy-nominated platform Open Television



### Alex Ramírez

Alex Ramírez is an award-winning Mexican-American filmmaker and educator based in

San Antonio, Texas. He has worked professionally since 2014 and is the head of his own film production company, Mala Bruja Pictures. In 2020, his film, *The Quiet Shore*, was distributed by ShortsTV. In 2021, he was named "Best Local Filmmaker" by San Antonio Current Magazine. He currently teaches media and film at SAY Sí in San Antonio and serves as the Education Coordinator of the San Antonio Film Society. He is also a videographer/editor and contributing writer for La Prensa Texas.



### Ana Maria García

Ana Maria García is a Cuban-Puerto Rican director widely known for her work

on *La Operación* (Latin American Film Project, 1982) in Puerto Rico. She was one of the first women of color to work in independent documentary film. Her previous work focuses on the US-imposed forced sterilization policies on Puerto Rican women, and *Cocolos y Rockeros* (1992), a study on rock and salsa subcultures in Puerto Rico. Ana Maria García currently resides in Puerto Rico, where she teaches and works in Universidad del Sagrado Corazón and Universidad de Puerto Rico.



### Andrew Nuño

Andrew Nuño is a writer, director, producer, and actor from Chicago,

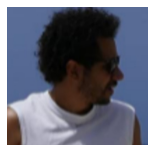
Illinois. Andrew creates content that focuses on untapped communities. Over the years, his work has been recognized at film festivals in both the US and abroad in countries like Portugal and Ireland. In addition, his work has screened through partnerships with organizations like the National Alliance on Mental Illness and at venues like The Chicago Cultural Center. Andrew's current project, the web-series *Border'd*, is currently streaming on the Emmy and Streamy-nominated web platform Open Television where the full season of *Border'd* is expected to premiere this summer.



### Jose "Jay" E. Rivera

José has been a director and music video producer for the past ten years, focusing

on the news business. His early experience ranges from customer service at Apple to working as a Media Producer for the Chicago Tribune, Technical Director for the City of Detroit, Technical Director for WGBO-WXFT, to his present position as Technical Director for News Nation. He proudly calls Humboldt Park, Chicago, his home and is a graduate of Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School.



### Juan Carlos Davila

Born in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, Juan Dávila started in the film industry since 2006 by directing/

producing short films, music videos and working as a production and camera assistant for both local and Hollywood films shot in Puerto Rico. In 2012 he landed his first distribution deal with Cinema Libre Studio with his first documentary feature *Compañeros de lucha*. He is well known as a producer and



director, for his work in *Fast Five* (2011), *Probabilidades* (2009) and *The Stand-by Generation* (2015). His latest work is *Latinos are Essential* (2020) and *Simulcros de Liberación* (2021).



### **Kacho López Mari**

Kacho López Mari is a filmmaker and founder of Filmes Zapatero. He is a

6-time nominee and two time Latin Grammy Award winner for his music videos *Ojos Color Sol* (Calle 13) and *Loco de Amor* (Juanes). He got his start directing music videos for urban artists like Tego Calderón and Daddy Yankee, directing the videos for the singles *Abayarde* and *Gasolina* respectively. López Mari has directed music videos for Ricky Martin, Bad Bunny, Juanes, Daddy Yankee, Calle 13, Tego Calderón, Myke Towers and Chayanne among many others.



### **Kathryn Grant**

Kathryn Grant's most recent playwright, *Order My Steps* was seen at The Actors

Studio Playwright's and Director's Unit and will be adapted into a short film directed by Dr. Augusta Palmer. Her play, *The Wound of Love*, received the Berilla Kerr Award in playwriting and went on to full productions at The Actors Studio, Penguin Repertory Theater, the John Houseman Studio Theater and Provincetown Repertory Theater. Her play, *The Good Counselor*, garnered The Jerry Kaufman Award in Playwriting, The Premiere Stages Festival Award and a citation from The Harold and Mimi Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award. The play was produced at Premiere Stages in New Jersey and 1st Stages in DC. Other plays include *The Alabaster*

*Virgin*, *The Khmer Shiva* and *Aliyah*. She is an instructor of acting, public speaking and dramatic writing at Saint Francis.



### **Kris Mercado**

Kristian Mercado is a Puerto Rican filmmaker whose music video "PA'LANTE" won

the '19 SXSW Jury Award. He's directed comedy specials for Hannibal Buress and SNL's Sam Jay. Recently, his screenplay *MELA* received a Cinereach grant. His work is celebrated for its portrayal of working class struggles, systemic oppression and visionary mixed media style.



### **Neyda Martinez**

Neyda Martinez is Producer of the documentary films *Bartolo* and *Birth of an American Museum*

(in production); *Decade of Fire* (2018) which won PBS' Independent Lens 2020 Audience Award; *Lucky* (2013); & Co-Executive Producer of the narrative short *Acuitzeramo* acquired by HBO. For over 14 seasons, Neyda's communication & marketing efforts helped build national recognition of American Documentary's (AmDoc) award-winning nonfiction series' *POV* and *America Reframed*. She earned an MPA from Columbia University, and is an Associate Professor in The School of Media Studies, The New School.



### **Dr. Raquel M. Ortiz**

Dr. Raquel M. Ortiz is an Emmy nominated writer, anthropologist, storyteller, educator, lyricist, and children's book author. She wrote a song and the script

for *Cucarachita Martina's Musical Adventure*, which was shown at the 2021 Tribeca Film Festival. Her first picture book, *Sofi and the Magic, Musical Mural / Sofi y el mágico mural musical* (Arte Público Press, 2015), was named to the 2016 Tejas Star Reading List. and *When Julia Danced Bomba / Cuando Julia Bailaba Bomba* (Arte Público Press, 2019), is a Junior Library Guild Golden Selection. *Vicki & a Summer of Change / Vicki y un verano de cambio* was published by Red Sugarcane Press in December, 2020) *Broken Butterfly Wings / Alitas de Mariposa* will be published by Arte Público Press in 2021.



### **Sade Falebita**

Sade Falebita is a multimedia producer and educator on a mission to nurture potential, educate, and empower creatives to produce transformative art. She graduated from St. Francis College with a B.A. in Film and Broadcasting and B.S./M.S. in Accounting. Following her work as an auditor at one of the top four global accounting firms, Sade obtained an M.S. in Journalism from Columbia University, where she reported on a wide range of hard news and features exploring issues including civil rights, immigration, healthcare, and poverty. Her work has been featured at the Museum of the City of New York. Her passion for teaching and fostering positive growth and change in people's lives has led to her current work as a nonprofit leader.



### **Tami Kashia Gold**

Tami Kashia Gold's films have been at the forefront of social justice, focusing on race, LGBTQ

issues and policing. Her films have screened at Sundance, Tribeca and The New York Film Festival, and in over 250 festivals worldwide. Gold is a recipient of fellowships from Rockefeller, Guggenheim and Fulbright and is a professor at Hunter College.



### **Waldo Cabrera**

Waldo Cabrera is a two-time Emmy® Nominated journalist with over 30 years of professional

advertising and marketing experience. After getting an advertising degree from Syracuse University, Waldo joined 4Kids Entertainment, the company that brought Pokémon to the United States. In 2009 Verizon added Waldo's online news program to its FiOS1 News channel. Over an eight-year run, Waldo produced over 1,200 episodes that focused on outstanding people in the community. He continues telling the stories within the Hispanic community as the head of the media unit at the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at CUNY Hunter College.

**Thank  
you!**

### **From the Cine Youth Fest Team**

Caitlin Agrón • Angel Azalea Cruz  
Luis Alejandro Molina • Cynthia Rivera  
Lina Sands • Johnnely Saldaña

## SPONSORS

Cine Youth Fest would like to thank our sponsors for their dedication and contribution in igniting and supporting emerging creatives in our communities.



# TU

## CUENTAS!

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# 2021

★ AWARDS SHOW ★

**OCTOBER 24, 2021**

● ● **Sunday** | 9:30AM ET ● ●



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