



10th
Anniversary

UNITING & CONNECTING
STORYTELLERS AT THE
SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL
— 2024 —



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HOLA LFN FAMILIA,

I am excited to welcome you to our **10th year Anniversary of the birth of Latino Filmmakers Network (LFN) in Park City, UT at the Sundance Film Festival** where it all started. This whole journey began in 2015, to bring visibility, opportunities, and proper representation to our wonderfully diverse Latiné community. Throughout these 10 years, I have volunteered my time to make this happen, and I want to personally **THANK** everyone who has also volunteered their time throughout the years in helping bring our mission to life. I have seen so many of you participate and come together as a big familia of artists, storytellers, and industry professionals. Throughout the years, there has been some progress, more opportunities, and even greater representation of our community, but there is still so much work to be done! We have such a great big power in our own community to overcome any obstacles we constantly talk about yearly, and the one thing that can help solve that problem is coming together, supporting each other, and continuing to create. **I believe in the power of UNITY! I believe that as FILMMAKERS, we are CHANGEMAKERS and TOGETHER WE WIN!**

Cinema changes lives. Stories move people. Our eyes are like the lens of a camera which makes that memory, that shot, and that special story last forever. Through proper representation, the world can be a better place. Keep encouraging and uplifting each other. Let's tell stories together. I hope **Latino Filmmakers Network** continues to create a positive impact for years to come and continues to uplift and bring the community together. At LFN, we are here for you, the independent storyteller. You are always welcome to share your projects with the network. Thank you all for your support and for attending! You are a voice of change just by being present.

Besos, Abrazos & Warm Wishes,



Maylen Calienes
Founder

Latino Filmmakers Network
IG: @latinofilmmakers
LatinoFilmmaker.org



10 years ago. Latino Filmmakers Network event at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival. Our 1st event which was titled; A Royal Social Affair : Taking Latinos to the Top



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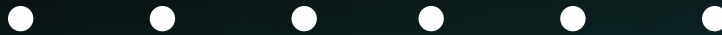
PRODUCER / WRITER /
DIRECTOR / FOUNDER LATINO
FILMMAKERS NETWORK
@the_maycal

MAYLEN CALIENES

Maylen Calienes, is an award-winning producer, writer, director. She was born in Cuba and raised in Miami, FL where her career began in writing, directing and acting for theatre. In Los Angeles, CA she has established herself in the indie film world. Calienes has written, directed and produced several films, which have played at some of the top film festivals. Two of the films she produced the Student Academy Award Winning Film "*Esta es tu Cuba*" and "*And The Brave Shall Rise*" have been Academy Award contenders. Her comedy *The Three Bilinguals* has received international attention and awards.

Maylen is an advocate of diversity and inclusion in the entertainment industry and founded Latino Filmmakers Network, a nonprofit organization, in 2015 at the Sundance Film Festival to bring visibility, opportunity and proper representation to the Latiné community. She is co-founder of Que Eye TV.com a platform for Bilingual (English/Spanish) voices to expand the narrative.

She is co-founder of Multi- Studios a longand short form content film studio that specializes in commercially viable and diverse stories that have an impactful and lasting social message. "*The Shadow of theSun*" the latest movie she executive produced is the official selection for Venezuela for Best International Feature Film for the 96th Academy Awards.



AUTHOR/CREATOR/LATINO
FILMMAKERS NETWORK TEAM
MEMBER
@melissa_trendalert

MELISSA MORALES

Melissa Morales is a writer, entrepreneur, and fashion-industry veteran. She has collaborated as a columnist/blogger for El Diario (New York) and La Opinión (Los Angeles). Morales has been featured in magazines such as People (US), Ego (Dubai), and Versus (Puerto Rico). Early in her fashion career, Melissa won an apparel design contest from Teen Vogue magazine and JustSweet. In addition, she was picked as one of the Top 100 designers to watch by ustrendy.com.

In 2018, her first book, *A Gracious Hot Mess: Navigating Friendship, Love, and Life in NYC*, was published. The next year, Melissa was highlighted as an author by the HBO Resource team during Hispanic Heritage month. This event took place at the HBO corporate office. The same year, Morales completed a Psychology of Leadership certification from Cornell University.

In February 2020, her script for *A Gracious Hot Mess* was selected to represent the Latino group in the New Normal Reading Series-East coast edition. Her second book, called *The Meta Gamers*, was published in 2020. In 2022, Melissa was featured at *Comic Con PR*. Her books are being sold on Amazon and Walmart.com. Both of her books have been featured on the coveted Times Square billboards. More recently, her work managing projects and products has brought her accolades and an award from her peers in the fashion industry.



KAILA GUTIERREZ

Kaila Gutierrez is a writer, director from the Coachella Valley who is passionate about telling coming of age stories from the perspective of young Latina women. She got her start in filmmaking at the University of California, Riverside, and received her MFA in Film Directing at Chapman University. She recently premiered her thesis film, "Touch," at the New York Latino Film Festival, and is currently developing her first feature.

DIRECTOR / LATINO
FILMMAKERS NETWORK TEAM
MEMBER
@kailag22

ERIC VOLLWEILER

This is the 2nd event that Eric is co-producing with the Latino Filmmaker Network at the Sundance Film Festival and first was in 2022 , other Sundance Film Festival events Eric produced include the Independent Filmmaker Day in 2020, the Artists United event in 2019 and the Indislate Magazine event in 2006. Eric's volunteer work at Sundance back in 2002 was the main reason he fell in love with producing and marketing film festivals, movie premieres, trade shows, conferences and music festivals.



EVENT CO-PRODUCER

www.linkedin.com/in/eric-vollweiler-7382882



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Latino Filmmakers Network 10th Year Anniversary Celebration: Uniting and Connecting Storytellers at the Sundance Film Festival

Our Main Street event at United Airlines where Stories Take Flight

751 Main St, Park City, UT 84060

Friday 1/19/2024 - 2 PM MST - 5 PM MST

2:00 PM Empowering Introduction by John Leguizamo

Maylen Calienes - (LFN Founder) - Your Host & Moderator

2:05 PM Our Road to the Sundance Film Festival

Highlighting some of the Filmmakers whose movies are playing at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival, their journey in getting their movies made that led them to this moment in time. Get inspired to never give up on telling your stories.

Speakers:

Nico Casavecchia (Director) Border Hopper

Lynette Coll (Producer) In the Summers

Carla Gutiérrez (Director) Frida

Dylan Guerra (Director) Didn't Think I'd See You Here

Klaudia Reynicke (Director) Reinas

2:45 PM - Marco Giron - Film Commissioner for Miami-Dade County

3:00 PM Representation Matters

A conversation with Independent Artist Group agents and the creative minds steering productions, with a focus on Uniting diverse communities in the industry and pursuing representation.

Speakers:

Gabi Mayers (Producer) A Different Man

Deirdra Govan (Costume Designer) Exhibiting Forgiveness & Rob Peace

Lio Mehiel (Actor) In the Summers

Halle Mariner (IAG Agent) Scripted Literary

Natalia Gonzalez (IAG Agent) Physical Production

3:45 Networking Mixer

Sip some drinks and Mix and Mingle with the elite of the entertainment industry and your future collaborators. Don't leave the room without an email or a new friend. It's time to unite and tell your stories!

#TogetherWeWin

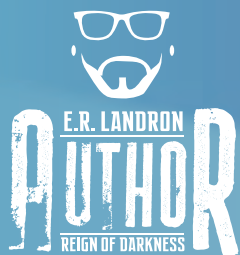
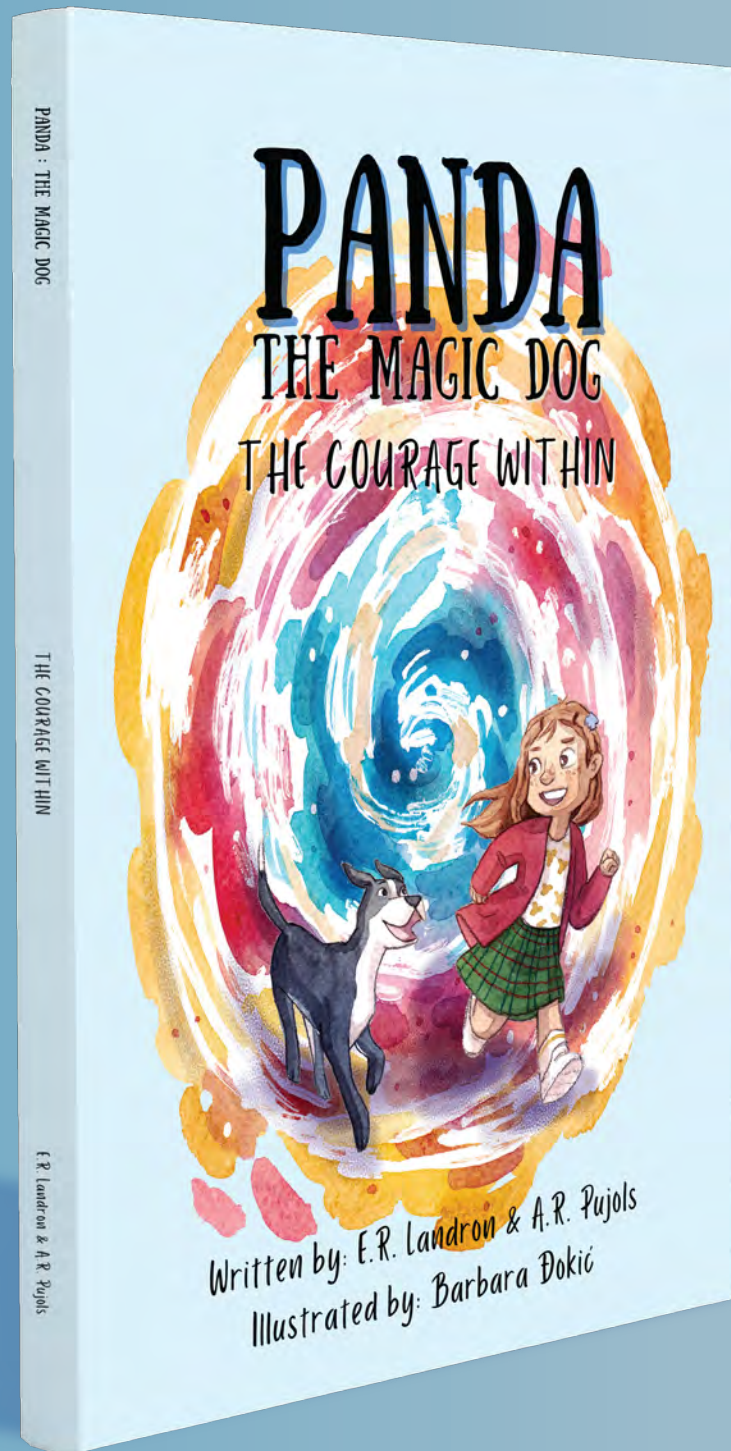
Sunday 1/21/2024 - 3 PM MST - 5 PM MST

10 Year Anniversary Reception hosted by: Miami-Dade Film Commission and the Greater Miami Conventions & Visitors Bureau (invite only)

Latino Filmmakers Network Filmmakers Hub House - Hosting selected Filmmakers in Park City, UT 1/18/2024 - 1/22/2024



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LATINO

FILMMAKERS NETWORK

10th YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENT

AT THE SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

We want to Thank John Leguizamo for his empowering introduction in kicking off our 10th year LFN event.

Friday 1/19/24 at 2 PM MST

Special Guests

Empowering Introduction by:

Actor - John Leguizamo

We want to thank the Miami Dade Film Commission for their support and we are happy to have Marco Giron with us at our 10th year anniversary, Main St event celebrating Filmmakers and hosting our industry mixer at the Latino Filmmakers Hub House.



Marco Giron serves as the Film Commissioner for Miami-Dade County

Mr. Giron is the chief executive overseeing the growth of the entertainment production industry. As Miami-Dade's Film Commissioner, he directs the Office of Film and Entertainment's governmental interactions with some 200 production companies; numerous sound stages and recording studios; three Spanish-language production facilities; and a multitude of businesses supportive or adjacent to the motion picture, TV, video, digital and still photography industries. He represents the county in fostering key relationships with production companies to attract projects to ensure Miami-Dade County is a top global destination for Film and Entertainment.



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We aim to ensure accessibility for every producer and company seeking straightforward or intricate insurance advice. Feel free to discuss any concept, scene, company, film, series, stunt, VIP insurance, corporate requirements, micro-budget, mega-budget, equipment inventory, and much more with us.



**Celebrating a decade of impact
by the Latino Filmmakers
Network at Sundance!**

Our Road to the Sundance Film Festival

Friday 1/19/2024 - 2:00PM MST

at United Airlines where Stories Take Flight, on Main Street

Highlighting some of the Filmmakers whose movies are playing at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival, their journey in getting their movies made that led them to this moment in time. Get inspired to never give up on telling your stories.



NICO CASAVECCHIA
Director
BORDER HOPPER



DYLAN GUERRA
Director
DIDN'T THINK I'D SEE YOU HERE



LYNETTE COLL
Producer
IN THE SUMMERS



CARLA GUTIÉRREZ
Director
FRIDA



KLAUDIA REYNICKE
Director
REINAS

Moderated by MAYLEN CALIENES | Latino Filmmakers Network



Thank You Dawn Page (PR)

for your continued support in helping
bring visibility to Latino Filmmakers Network.



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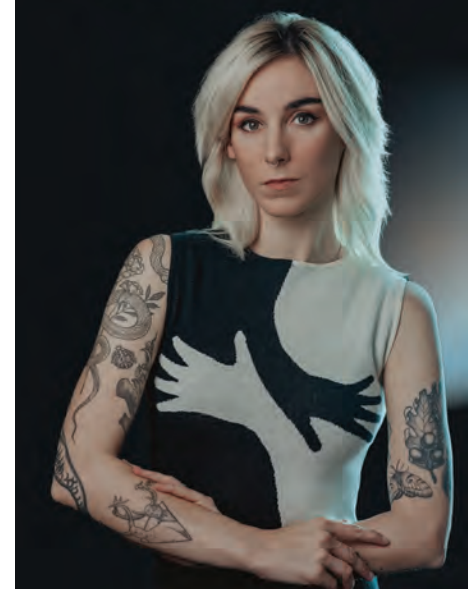
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REPRESENTATION MATTERS

Friday 1/19/2024 - 3:00PM MST

at United Airlines where Stories Take Flight, on Main Street

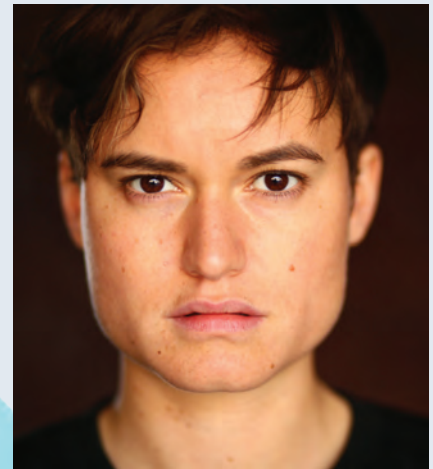
A conversation with Independent Artist Group agents and the creative minds steering productions, with a focus on **uniting** diverse communities in the industry and pursuing representation.



GABI MAYERS
Head of Film | Killer Films
Producer, A DIFFERENT MAN



DEIRDRA GOVAN
Costume Designer
EXHIBITING FORGIVENESS | ROB PEACE



LIO MEHIEL
Actor
IN THE SUMMERS



HALLE MARINER
Scripted Literary | IAG



NATALIA GONZALEZ
Physical Production | IAG

Moderated by MAYLEN CALIENES | Latino Filmmakers Network

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INTO
LOVE
AND
GOODNESS

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Our **Latino Filmmakers House in Park City, UT** has housed diverse, nationwide selected talents throughout the years who have been part of the Sundance Film Festival experience and much more. Yearly, we host about 6 to 8 filmmakers at our LFN House.

Here are a few of the filmmakers and their experience:



"Being a selected LFN filmmaker granted me the full Sundance experience with a jam-packed itinerary. The opportunity to pitch your feature script at Sundance is a golden ticket for filmmakers like myself. LFN helped open my networking circle and proved to me that my voice and stories matter. I am incredibly grateful that I was able to keep in touch with the filmmakers I met at Sundance and had a handful of generals lined up. The feature I pitched at the 2020 LFN Sundance house is called *Hija de tu Madre*, which is currently in development. My latest film is called *Kid Ugly*. It's a western short film that was created in association with McDonald's."

- Jazmin Aguilar (LFN Sundance House 2020) @thisjazzcat

"Being selected to attend the LFN House at Sundance was hugely helpful because it was there that I met the folks at HBO. After they showed interest in my pitch, I decided to apply to their directing program, which I was accepted into a few months later. Latino Filmmakers Network is important because it provides filmmakers with access and connections that we wouldn't have otherwise. When I attended the Filmmakers House at Sundance, there wouldn't have been another way for me to pitch to all the execs I did without the support of LFN. You can find my current and upcoming films @waterlightfilms."

- Emil Gallardo (LFN Sundance House 2020) @emilg80



"It was such a wonderful experience being a part of the LFN 2023 Sundance House. The programming was incredible, and LFN provided us with comprehensive workshops to support filmmakers - especially Latinos. Everything from development to finding the right insurance for your indie project. Also, the LFN party and free cafecito provided were some of my highlights of the week! Aside from the networking opportunities LFN provides, having a community where you can fall back on, support one another, and be in each other's corner is so important. I've also met some of my closest colleagues and friends through LFN. I got the opportunity to pitch "*Huevos*," a half-hour workplace comedy."

- Jacqueline Pereda (LFN Sundance House 2023) @thejacquelinepereda

#FilmmakersAreChangemakers #TogetherWeWin





"Being one of the selected filmmakers was a joyous and inspiring experience. I gained great insight from the panels that LFN hosted, as well as other panels at the festival. The camaraderie in the filmmakers' house was genuine and special. I am truly grateful for the experience and for the filmmakers I met there. LFN provided a welcoming space, met with support and opportunities for filmmakers like myself. LFN truly cares as it closely understands our struggles; their support for our community is authentic. I got to pitch one of my projects as a producer to 3Pas Studios after we had an insightful fireside chat with Eugenio Derbez and Ben Odell at the LFN house."

- Sandra Varona (LFN Sundance House 2023) @varonaproductions

"I had a great experience at the LFN Filmmakers House at Sundance. I got to meet and connect with Sundance programmers, industry executives, and fellow filmmakers with common objectives, distinct perspectives, and a shared experience. It was an awesome opportunity to learn more, share ideas, and expand my community. Organizations like Latino Filmmakers Network are important because they serve as a necessary connector - connecting filmmakers and industry professionals to information, resources, and most importantly, each other. LFN helped me connect and share with other Latino filmmakers who are passionate about their craft and their mission of bringing their culture to the screen. "Esta Es Tu Cuba" is the film I directed and presented in 2019 at Sundance."

- Brian Robau (LFN Sundance House 2019) @brian.robau



"Back in 2017, I started finally transitioning into full time filmmaking. It wasn't a leap, it was baby-steps. In three years, I felt like I had done a lot of work, but it wasn't until I was at LFN in 2020 at Sundance where I believed I could make it. They had a filmmaker speed dating activity with execs from all over Hollywood. I met with HBO and made connections I still have to this day. Soon, my short will be on MAX. I really believe it all started for me at LFN."

LFN broadened who I believed I could reach at the time. LFN believes in creating access. The films I had pitched with LFN is a feature now titled Summer of Mercedes and a short (@jerome.film)"

- Gianfranco Fernandez Ruiz (LFN Filmmaker House 2020 (physically) and 2022 (via online) @gianfranco_f_ruiz



"LFN provides a platform for a community that doesn't have many opportunities to shine. It puts Latinos in the spotlight as major players and nurtures talent. It also helps facilitate filmmakers' careers and dreams. LFN founder Maylen Calienes has always helped with my projects, whether it's connecting me with the proper creatives to bring my vision to life or serving as an executive producer. Her mission of bringing the community together is something that Latinos all over the country and abroad should learn from and pay forward, so that our voices can grow and be stronger in the film and TV spaces. It was a wonderful experience, both in 2022 when Sundance was "Remote" and in 2023 when it was in person. The people I had the opportunity to meet, the workshops, and the overall atmosphere were truly fruitful. I had the chance to pitch and learned a lot about the marketing side of movies and the behind-the-scenes world of premiere film festivals. "The Shadow of the Sun" (@lasombradelso_Venezuela) is the latest film I directed, supported by LFN."

-
Miguel Angel Ferrer (LFN Sundance House 2022 (remote) & 2023)
@elmiguelferrer



#FilmmakersAreChangemakers #TogetherWeWin





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THROUGH THE YEARS







**LATINO FILMMAKERS NETWORK
10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION**

#TogetherWeWin

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AT THE SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL**

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