

Backlight Student Film Festival, Inc. is a non-profit whose mission is to foster innovation and creativity within the Georgia film community by promoting and highlighting the work of aspiring student filmmakers across the state. BLSFF, Inc. oversees the Backlight Student Film Festival held annually in Athens, GA. The Backlight Student Film Festival is a two-day student short film festival that takes place every April at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. Backlight is a competitive festival that accepts submissions from undergraduate and graduate students at colleges and universities across the state of Georgia, with an average acceptance rate of 12%. Backlight accepts films in two categories: short-form (1-7 minutes) and mid-length (7-25 minutes). Founded in 2022, Backlight is an emerging festival offering a variety of opportunities for students to develop their talent in the media entertainment industry through a networking mixer, red carpet, film screenings, industry panels, and an awards ceremony featuring industry professionals, film academics, and notable alumni of Georgia colleges and universities. Backlight's board includes executive directors Aleesa de Castro, Cate de Castro, and Rayna Sklar and works in conjunction with Backlight Student Film Festival of Athens, a campus organization at the University of Georgia to plan and execute the festival including events such as a red carpet, panels, and a mixer in order to give students platforms to share their talents and craft with established professionals. As the film industry expands into Georgia, Backlight Student Film Festival, Inc. provides outlets for student filmmakers to showcase their talents and build connections within their local film community.