

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## THE AMERICAN FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS TO THE DGA THEATER COMPLEX FOR ITS 29TH ANNUAL EDITION OCTOBER 28 – NOVEMBER 2, 2025

## North America's Largest Festival Dedicated to French Film and Series Showcases Premieres for U.S. and International Distributors and the General Public

LOS ANGELES – May 13, 2025 – The Franco-American Cultural Fund (FACF) announced today that The American French Film Festival (TAFFF) will return for its 29th annual edition and awards competition from October 28 to November 2 at the Directors Guild of America (DGA) Theater Complex on Sunset Boulevard in Hollywood.

"The 2024 Festival marked an incredible return, featuring a star-studded Opening Night and a lineup of films that went on to receive prestigious awards in the U.S., France, and internationally. The overwhelming support from filmmakers, actors, composers, producers, and distributors was truly inspiring. This year, we look forward to discovering more cinematic gems and welcoming audiences for six days of the best in French film and series," said Cécile Rap-Veber, President of the Franco-American Cultural Fund and CEO of SACEM.

Founded in 1996, TAFFF is the largest French film festival in North America and the largest festival dedicated to French films and TV programs in the world. Over the years, it has become a key launchpad for French films, filmmakers, and actors in the U.S. The 2024 Festival underscored this impact, with the official Hollywood premiere of Opening Night film *EMILIA PERÉZ* receiving 236 major award nominations, including 13 Oscar nominations, and winning 120 awards—among them Best Film at the BAFTA (non-English film), Golden Globes, César, European Film, and Lumière Awards.

TAFFF's 2024 lineup featured 56 films nominated for the César Awards, including *EMILIA PERÉZ, THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO, MARCHING BAND, HOLY COW,* and *THE MOST PRECIOUS OF CARGOES*. Additionally, numerous filmmakers debuted their films at the Festival—whether as U.S., international, or world premieres.

"TAFFF is more than a platform for French cinema to gain exposure in Hollywood; it serves as a bridge between the U.S. and French filmmakers—offering a space in which to connect, explore shared issues, collaborate," said Michael Mann, FACF Board member. "The Festival also plays a role for international sales companies, U.S. distributors, and digital platforms and is timed at the start of awards season. TAFFF's been increasingly important for presenting films like Ladj Ly's Les Misérables and Jacques Audiard's Emilia Pérez and many others."

Beyond its film and series programming, TAFFF is at its core a celebration of cultural exchange— fostering dialogue between French and American filmmakers. Through industry workshops, TAFFF fuels transatlantic creative partnerships, while its High School Screenings Program inspires the next generation of filmmakers and film lovers. Films and series have long been powerful tools for bridging cultures, sparking dialogue, and fostering empathy—especially among young audiences—which is at the heart of TAFFF's overall mission.

The American French Film Festival also includes a series of industry honors. Last year, the Festival presented its first-ever Franco-American Cultural Fund Achievement Award to director Jacques Audiard and the first-ever Impact Award to film distributor Richard Lorber.

## ABOUT THE AMERICAN FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

The American French Film Festival is produced by the Franco-American Cultural Fund (FACF)—a unique collaboration between the Directors Guild of America (DGA), the Motion Picture Association (MPA), France's Society of Authors, Composers, and Publishers of Music (SACEM), and the Writers Guild of America West (WGAW).

TAFFF is also supported by Unifrance, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Villa Albertine), CNC, Air Tahiti Nui, Champagne Louis Roederer, ELMA, L'Oréal, TV5 Monde, and Variety. The TAFFF Education Program is supported by ELMA.

For more information, visit: <a href="https://www.theamericanfrenchfilmfestival.org">www.theamericanfrenchfilmfestival.org</a>

US Media Contact: Patricia Frith Marketing 310-490-2368 patricia@patriciafrithmarketing.com