

April - June 2026 Hot Sheet

Alisher Balfanbayev's '21 and **Max Walter Joelson '21** had a debut feature premiered at the Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival.

Cynthia (Kaplan) Baseman's '87, MFA '88 novel, *Weirdos Welcome*, reached #1 New Release on Amazon, named a BookLife Editor's Pick, recommended by Kirkus, and awarded 5 stars by Readers' Favorite.

Trauma 4 Life, a feature film by **Roy Berekley '20**, was selected and screened at the Los Angeles Independent Filmmakers Showcase - IFS Film Festival.

Ryan Coogler '11 is set to executive produce a new live-action *Animorphs* series for Disney+ through his Proximity Media banner.

Paul Feig '84 will be featured as the keynote speaker at Variety's 2026 Power of Law Breakfast, presented by City National Bank.

(0, ∞) produced by **Bobbie Green '23, Sayali Upadhye '23, Trey Sutton '23, and Achim Mendoza '23** won the Lawrence Kasdan Award for Best Narrative Film at the Ann Arbor Film Festival.

Robert Greenblatt '87 signed a first look deal at Universal TV.

Matt Harry '01 released his sixth novel, *Ash Land* with **Juliane Crump '01** as the cover and graphics designer.

Steak House's '86 feature film *By Hook or By Crook* was re-released and premiered at Anthology Film Archives in New York and Vidiots in Los Angeles.

ITVS and PBS's Independent Lens have launched their inaugural production fund and accelerator program, the Independent Lens Creator Lab, and selected **Fernando Hurtado '15** as a member of its first cohort.

Farah Khalid '00 directed the documentary portion of *Stray Kids: The Dominate Experience*, which debuted #1 at the global box office in February 2026.

Kiki Kuhakan '26 earned three major award nominations in 2026. Her documentary *Songs They Buried* was selected as a DGA Student Spotlight Awards finalist and nominated for a BAFTA

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Student Award for Best Documentary. She also received a BAFTA Student Award nomination as a producer on *Talk Straight, Duda!*.

Charlotte (Fullerton) McDuffie '89 was a judge for the 53rd Annual Annie Awards sponsored by ASIFA-Hollywood (Association Internationale du Film d'Animation), in the category of Short Subject Animation.

Patrick Michael '21 was selected as a 2026 Stowe Story Labs fellow for his feature screenplay *Black Silk*.

Blaine Morris '22 was an associate producer with Tremolo Productions on a new CNN food travel show starring chef David Chang.

Nihaarika Negi '19's short-film *TENFA* premiered at the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles. **Peter Lam '16 (Thornton)** served as composer.

Heather Olsen '99 just received her third Children's and Family Emmy Outstanding Sound Mixing and Sound Editing for a Preschool Animated Program award for her sound design and editing work on *Star Wars - Young Jedi Adventures*.

Ari Sandel will direct an upcoming untitled Netflix rom-com with Nick Jonas signed on to star.

Ian Schorr '07 sold his spec *71 Minutes to Sunrise* to Sony after a multi-studio bidding war. **Jason Reitman** is attached to produce.

Anna Schwartz '17 is set to produce *The Cackling of the Dodos* for Netflix.

Mike Strickland '95 recently won the Writers of the Future Contest and earned his honors at the 2026 Writers & Illustrators of the Future Awards Gala. His short story *As Long as You Both Shall Live* appears in the new anthology *Writers of the Future* Volume 42.

Megan Sullivan '24 is pursuing a career in entertainment law and will be attending Harvard Law School as a member of the Class of 2029.

Dion Watkin's '09 short film *Afterlight* won Best Sci-Fi film at the New York Short Awards, the Kyoto Cinematica Film Festival, Ottawa Short Film Awards, Cine-Vista Oasis Film Festival, and the London Women Film Festival. Several additional Trojans were featured on the project including **Larry Bryant '07** and **Matt Cohen '14 (Thornton)**.

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Amanda Rome West '20 made her international debut on NBCUniversal's Peacock series *The 'Burbs* and has a second song, "Fuckin' Sweet," featured in Amazon Prime Video's *Jerry West: The Logo*.

Sprott Woods '16 published his first book titled *Life is a Smelly Oyster* and published a historical guide to the iconography of UFOs and how German filmmaker Fritz Lang inspired the concept of flying saucers titled *OSTENSION: UFO Rhetoric, From Symbols to Sightings*.

New Films in Release

Animal Farm

Matt Reeves '88 (Executive Producer)

Joe Della Rosa '11 (Executive Producer)

Backrooms

Shawn Levy '94 (Producer)

Carolina Caroline (Theaters)

Eric B. Fleischman '11 (Producer)

Kyle Smithers '15 (Associate Producer)

Corporate Retreat

Lucas Jarach '88 (Executive Producer)

The Death of Robin Hood

Rama Gottumukkala '11 (Executive Producer)

Faces of Death

Adam Hendricks '03 (Producer)

Isaac Bauman (Director of Photography)

Fake\$

John Hayeck '20 (Director/Writer/Producer)

Girls Like Girls

Samantha Sadoff '20 (Associate Producer)

Adam Siegel '14 (Producer)

Hive

Felipe Vargas '20 (Director/Writer)

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Nick Scully '20 (SCA/Marshall) (Producer)

Hokum

Evan O'Brien '21 (Executive Producer)

I Love Boosters

Megan Ellison (Executive Producer)

The Invite

Megan Ellison (Producer)

Jaunt

Alexi Papalexopoulos '12 (Director)

Just Sing In

Abraham (Abie) Troen '17 (Co-Director)

Angelique Molina '17 (Co-Director)

Sara Fenton '17 (Additional Cinematography)

Sarah Winters '17 (Line Producer)

Leviticus

Robert Connolly '09 (Executive Producer)

Maddie's Secret

Harris Mayersohn '14 (Producer)

Masters of the Universe

Alex Litvak '95 (Writer)

Mile End Kicks (Theaters)

Simone Smith '20 (Associate Producer)

Over Your Dead Body

Timothy Olyphant (Roski) (Cast)

Poetic License

Judd Apatow (Producer)

Harrison Kreiss '11 (Executive Producer)

Jeffrey Waldron '03 (Director of Photography)

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Scary Movie 6

Jonathan Glickman (Executive Producer)

Neal Moritz '84 (Producer)

Jonathan Schwartz '00 (Editor)

Star Wars: The Mandalorian and Grogu (+ IMAX)

George Lucas '66 (Creator)

Ludwig Goransson '08 (Thornton) (Composer)

Stop! That! Train!

Ross Fremer '06 (Executive Producer)

Jacques Brautbar '15 (Composer)

Luka Bazeli '15 (Director of Photography)

Swapped (Netflix)

David Ellison (Producer)

Toy Story 5

Jessica Choi '10 (Producer)

Tuner

Christina Piovesan '04 (Executive Producer)

You, Me & Tuscany

Ryan Engle '01 (Writer)

Johanna Byer '09 (Producer)

John Debney '14 (Composer)

New TV Shows in Release

A Taste for Murder (BritBox)

Jon Jones (Director)

American Gladiators (Prime Video)

Jared Hernandez '02 (Host Producer)

Darryl Fox '01 (Editor)

America's Sweethearts: Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders, Season 3 (Netflix)

Ross Dinerstein '05 (Executive Producer)

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Anne Rice's The Vampire Lestat, Season 3 (AMC)

Yuka Shirasuna '04 (Editor)

The Audacity (AMC)

Alex Buono '95 (Director)

Avatar: The Last Airbender, Season 2 (Netflix)

Chester Howie '18 (Editor)

The Bear, Season 5 (FX)

Hiro Murai '06 (Executive Producer)

The Boroughs (Netflix)

Matthew Jensen '94 (Director of Photography)

The Boys, Season 5 (Prime Video)

Eric Kripke '96 (Creator/Executive Producer/Showrunner)

Ori Marmur '93 (Executive Producer)

Neal H. Moritz '85 (Executive Producer)

Brilliant Minds, Season 2C (NBC)

Lee Toland Krieger (Executive Producer/Director)

Citadel, Season 2 (Prime Video)

Greg Yaitanes (Director)

Craig Ferguson: American on Purpose (CNN)

David LaMattina '05 (Editor)

Dutton Ranch (Paramount+)

Greg Yaitanes (Director)

Expedition Files, Season 4 (Discovery)

Daniel Zagayer '12 (Director/Director of Photography)

The Food That Built America, Season 7 (History)

Daniel Leeds '15 (Story Producer)

Funny AF (Netflix)

Shawn Gutierrez '03 (Editor)

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Malcolm in the Middle: Life's Still Unfair (Hulu)

Ken Kwapis (Director/Executive Producer/Producer)

Michael Weaver '04 (Director of Photography)

Man on Fire (Netflix)

Stephen Caple Jr. '14 (Executive Producer/Director)

Kyle Killen '97 (Executive Producer/Writer)

Natalie Lehmann '11 (Executive Producer)

Margo's Got Money Troubles (Apple TV)

Eva Anderson '02 (Writer/Executive Producer)

Mating Season (Netflix)

Sam Brown '04 (Executive Producer)

Timothy Olyphant (Roski) (Cast)

Maximum Pleasure Guaranteed (Apple TV)

Bard Dorros '99 (Executive Producer)

Tiffany So '18 (Co-Producer)

Outlast: The Jungle (Netflix)

Brett McVicker '05 (Co-Executive Producer)

The Punisher: One Last Kill (Disney+)

Kevin Feige '95 (Executive Producer)

Brad Winderbaum '05 (Executive Producer)

Robert Elswit '75 (Director of Photography)

Rafa (Netflix)

David Ellison (Executive Producer)

Sofia the First: Royal Magic (Disney Jr.)

Craig Gerber '92 (Writer/Executive Producer/Showrunner)

Spider-Noir (Prime Video)

Greg Yaitanes (Director)

Star City (Apple TV)

Megan McDonnell '16 (Writer)

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David Weddle '78 (Executive Producer)

Cort Fey '97 (Director of Photography)

Star Wars: Maul — Shadow Lord (Disney+)

Christopher Yost '07 (Writer)

Stranger Things: Tales From '85 (Netflix)

Shawn Levy '94 (Executive Producer)

Emily Morris '11 (Producer)

Sugarcreek Amish Mysteries (UPtv)

Elana Zeltser '17 (Writer)

Sullivan's Crossing, Season 4 (The CW)

Luke Sargent '19 (Editor)

Temptation Island, Season 2 (Netflix)

Jessica Lipman '13 (Producer)

The Terror, Season 3 (AMC)

Christopher Cantwell '04 (Writer/Executive Producer/Showrunner)

The Testaments (Hulu)

Elise Brown '18 (Writer/Executive Story Editor)

Bayan Wolcott '12 (Writer/Producer)

The Valley, Season 3 (Peacock)

Jerry Shandy '04 (Producer)

Jessica Lipman '13 (Producer)

Widow's Bay (Apple TV)

Hiro Murai '06 (Director/Executive Producer)

Isaac Hagy '06 (Editor)

XO Kitty, Season 3 (Netflix)

Lindsay Armstrong '14 (Editor)