

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

MAY 19, 2026

Celebrating the Latino Film Institute and the 25th Edition of the Los Angeles

Latino International Film Festival

The Latino Film Institute has become a transformative force in the entertainment industry by championing Latino voices, expanding access to careers in film and media, and creating lasting pathways for emerging storytellers, creators, and innovators whose perspectives have too often been overlooked. Through its commitment to representation, education, and artistic excellence, the organization has helped reshape the cultural landscape while elevating authentic stories that reflect the richness and diversity of Latino communities.

Founded by acclaimed actor, director, and activist Edward James Olmos, the Latino Film Institute has advanced a bold vision rooted in cultural empowerment and opportunity. For decades, the organization has strengthened the creative economy through groundbreaking educational initiatives, mentorship opportunities, fellowships, and workforce development programs designed to cultivate diverse talent and foster a more inclusive entertainment industry reflective of the communities it serves.

One of its five signature programs, the Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival (LALIFF), has grown into one of the nation’s premier platforms for Latino

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Mitchell _____

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storytelling, bringing together internationally recognized artists, emerging filmmakers, industry leaders, and audiences from around the world to celebrate the transformative power of film, music, and visual storytelling. The festival has become an internationally recognized cultural institution that uplifts Latino creativity while creating space for dialogue, connection, and social impact through the arts.

Through the Youth Cinema Project, the organization's educational filmmaking program for students, and other educational initiatives, students across California and beyond are introduced to filmmaking, literacy, and creative expression at an early age, empowering young people with the tools to tell their own stories, strengthen academic achievement, and pursue meaningful opportunities within the entertainment and media industries. These programs continue to inspire and cultivate the next generation of storytellers, creators, and cultural leaders while expanding access to careers in one of California's most important economic sectors.

As the Latino Film Institute commemorates the 25th edition of LALIFF, this milestone reflects decades of visionary leadership, cultural impact, and unwavering dedication to advancing equity, representation, and opportunity through the arts. The organization's enduring contributions continue to strengthen Los Angeles County's leadership in film, television, and creative media while ensuring Latino voices and experiences are authentically represented and celebrated for generations to come.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

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1. Recognize and celebrate the 25th edition of the Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival for its extraordinary contributions to arts and culture, education, creative expression, and the advancement of Latino storytellers, filmmakers, and creators whose voices continue to shape and strengthen the entertainment industry; and
2. Commend the leadership, staff, educators, filmmakers, partners, and supporters of the Latino Film Institute for their enduring commitment to expanding opportunity, cultivating the next generation of diverse creators, and enriching the cultural and creative fabric of Los Angeles County.

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