



**For Immediate Release:**

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*The Grand Cinema's Annual*  
**253 Short Film Party**

*Sponsored by Katie Downs, Sammy's Pizza, Click! Cable, Stella Artois, Ice Cream Social, Tacoma Arts Commission, NW Stage, City Arts, Tacoma Weekly, and Weekly Volcano*

**Tacoma, WA** – Local filmmakers have an opportunity to shine as they share their work at The Grand's annual [253 Short Film Party](#) on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Urban Grace in downtown Tacoma.

Formerly known as the 72 Hour Viewing Party, this fun [event](#) gathers community to celebrate short films created by our area's emerging and established filmmakers. We'll screen all 31 projects created by filmmakers who were given 72 hours to complete the task of conceiving, creating, and editing an original short film (lasting only two-hundred and fifty-three seconds) in this year's [253 Short Film Competition](#). Film will all incorporate the four mystery criteria that will be announced on April 21 when the challenge clock begins ticking at The Grand's kickoff event.

When the challenge clock winds to a stop on April 24<sup>th</sup>, filmmakers will have submitted their finished works for review and The Grand will collect and arrange all of the films for presentation to a four-person jury panel.

This year, registration for the competition filled up quickly nearly three weeks in advance with an overflow of six hopeful 'wait listed' teams.

Talented filmmakers were recruited to compete for the opportunity to raise their work's visibility at the screening party and to produce a film worthy of a \$500 cash prize and bragging rights of the Jury Award and Audience Choice Award.

Audience members at the screening party can look forward to the chance of taking home door prizes in the form of swag like T-shirts, movie tickets, and restaurant gift certificates.

Pizza, beer, and wine will be available for purchase, and audience members are sure to see something truly one-of-a-kind with the screening of these locally conceived and created short

films. [Tickets](#) are \$12 in advance and \$15 day of the event (Grand Members receive a \$2 discount). Doors open at 6:00 PM and movies play at 7:00 PM.

Guest are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance to save a few bucks and ensure they'll have a seat. There were close to 650 attendees in a packed house last year.

The screening party will take place at [Urban Grace](#) 902 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

Tickets are on sale now and are available at The Grand's Box Office (606 S Fawcett Ave, Tacoma 98402) or online at [www.GrandCinema.com](http://www.GrandCinema.com)