

# V A N C O U V E R QUEER FILM FESTIVAL



2025

PARTNERSHIPS REPORT

# VQFF 2025

THE 37TH ANNUAL  
**VANCOUVER QUEER FILM FESTIVAL**  
SEPTEMBER 2025

## LOUDER & BRAVER: OUR COMMUNITY IN ACTION

The 37th annual Vancouver Queer Film Festival took place September 11-21, 2025 and online September 22-28, 2025 with an incredible **16,329 attendees!**

Cowichan filmmaker **Mary Galloway** stepped in as **VQFF's first Indigiqueer Artistic Director**. This year's festival embraced an Indigenized vision that meaningfully centered Two Spirit and Indigiqueer voices throughout the program.

We also celebrated filmmakers in powerful new ways. A huge **\$62,350 CAD in cash and in-kind prizes** was distributed to 2SLGBTQIA+ filmmakers—the highest in VQFF history! We introduced the inaugural **Matriarch of the Year Award**, honouring an Indigiqueer or Two Spirit leader shaping Indigenous and 2SLGBTQIA+ storytelling across Turtle Island. New touches like the **Gifting Lounge for filmmakers** reinforced a culture of reciprocity and recognition.

**Left:** Musician Edzi'u performs at the Closing Weekend Party; Filmmakers Rosie Choo, Sam Chang Bravo, and Ezra Rose speak on a panel with actor Lea DeLaria; Actor Johnny Wu smiling in theatre. **Right:** Haus of Hua Mulan perform for the Youth Ballroom Workshop; Mary Galloway welcomes audiences at the Opening Presentation.



## 16,329 ATTENDEES

38 screenings  
3 sold out screenings  
7 screenings >80% sold out  
27% watched online

## 100 FILMS FROM 25 COUNTRIES

26 features, 74 shorts  
12 world premieres  
6 international premieres  
7 North American premieres  
21 Canadian premieres

## 43 VISITING ARTISTS

21 post-screening Q&As  
52 industry speed dates  
14 parties & receptions

**Industry initiatives expanded to give more opportunities to movers and shakers:** five teams of 2SLGBTQIA+ filmmakers presented their original ideas at the **first VQFF Pitch Competition**. We also launched Industry Speed Dating, matching emerging filmmakers with network executives to move their projects forward.

From sold-out screenings to packed parties and socials for all, the 37th Festival was alive with connection, community, and care.

*"Thank you, thank you, thank you, VQFF. Feel so lucky to have been able to attend and screen. Incredible programming and events."*

- Ezra Rose, Director, **Old Dykes**

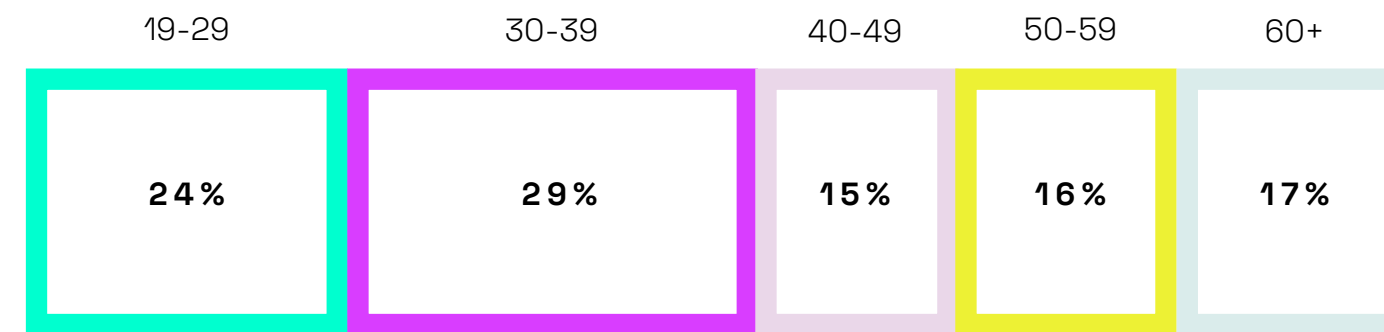
## SHIFTING AND CONNECTING CULTURES

VQFF audiences are creative tastemakers, socially conscious, politically engaged, and fun-loving event-goers. Our accessible ticket prices allow us to reach a diverse audience across income and age groups, and our programs attract folks across the spectrum of sexual orientation, gender identity, and other intersections. We have a strong core audience of longtime attendees, as well as a growing newer and younger audience.

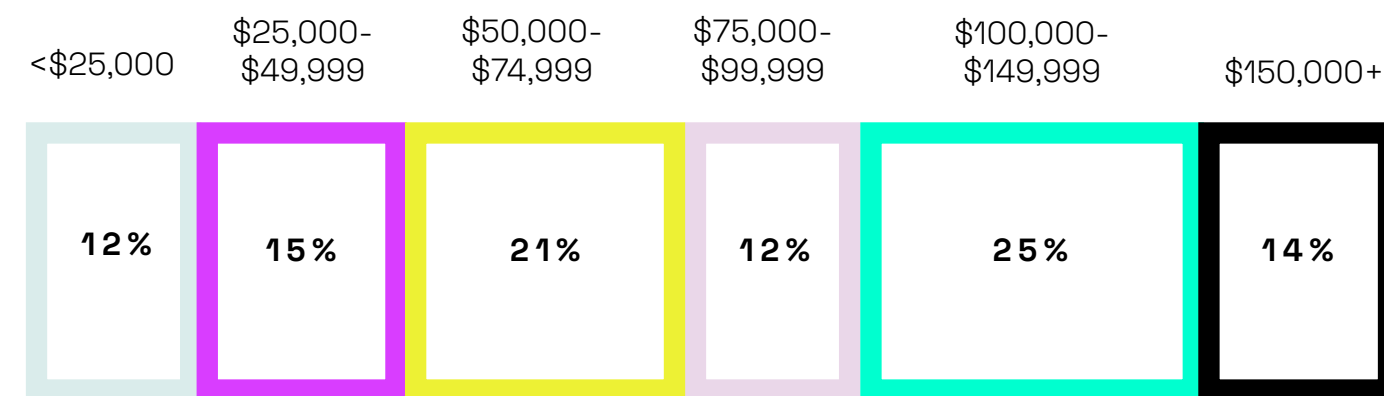
VQFF is where 2SLGBTQIA+ communities and allies discover and connect with brands they love. **3 in 4 attendees want to support businesses that partner with VQFF.**

# OUR AUDIENCE

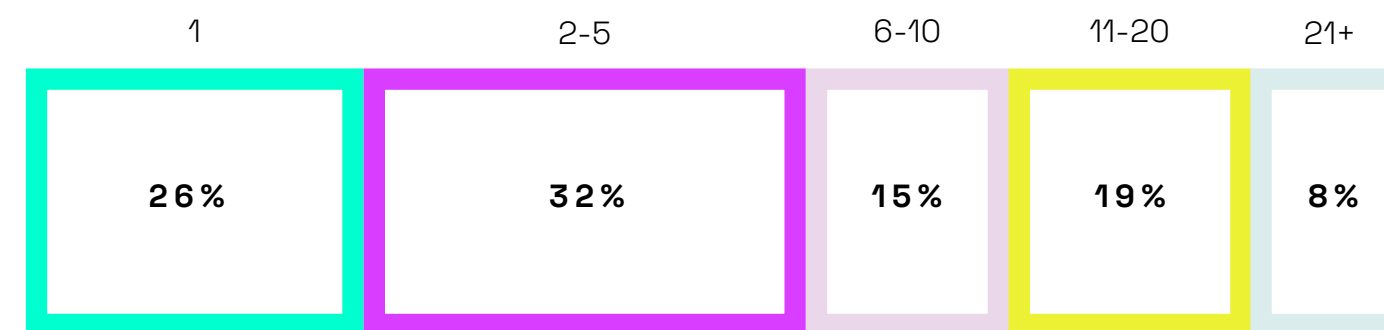
## AGE



## ANNUAL INCOME



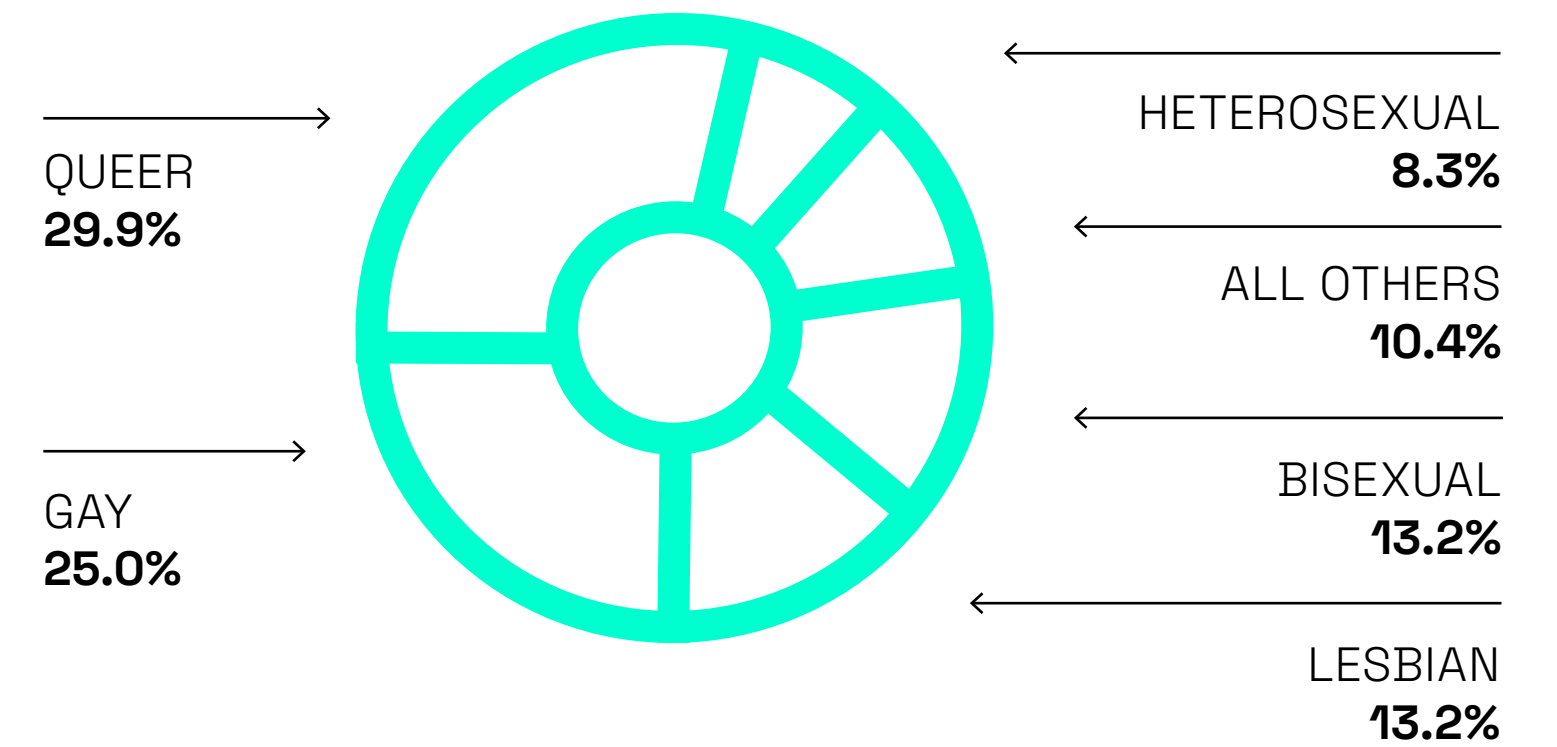
## # OF YEARS ATTENDING



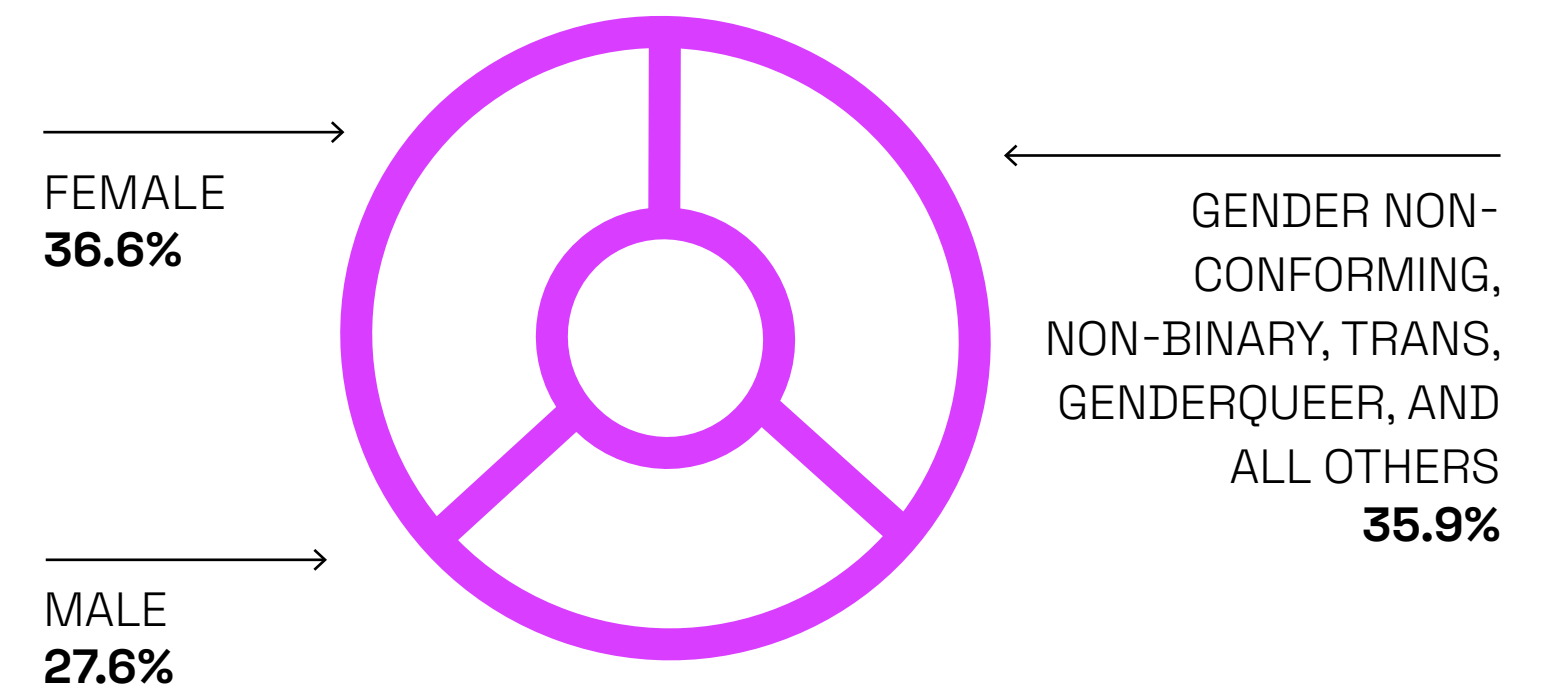
*"My partner... wanted to say thank you for allowing him to get a piece of his home being so far from it. He felt like it really showed the reality of back home. Thanks for everyone's hard work."*

- 2025 Festival Attendee

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION



## GENDER IDENTITY\*



\* For statistical purposes, only the first of multiple written sexual orientation and gender identity labels is included in figures.

# PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

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Each year, our partners join us in fostering 2SLGBTQIA+ talent, presenting bold and authentic storytelling, and building community.

Here's what we achieved together:

- **\$62,350 CAD** in cash and in-kind prizes distributed to 2SLGBTQIA+ filmmakers this year! Thank you to all of our Award Partners for celebrating and supporting the continued success of 2SLGBTQIA+ filmmakers: **Directors Guild of Canada - BC, Canada Media Fund, Keslow Camera, Cinelease, Elemental Post, Pender PR, Cracked Compass Media, Kris & Kara Casting, and Lark Productions.**
- **\$4,702 CAD** worth of products from **Arc'Teryx, Lululemon, Forbidden Vancouver Walking Tours,** and more, gifted to filmmakers and as audience prizes
- **99+ free all-access passes** distributed through our Industry & Student Access Initiative for multiply-marginalized and emerging filmmakers.
- An **exclusive in-store screening event** by **Patagonia** for a preview of Nat Segal's new film, *Beauty In A Fall*.

**Left:** Lead cast, Julianna Howatt, seated at the screening of her film *Beauty In A Fall* at Patagonia; Attendees spin a wheel to win prizes during a screening. **Right:** Staff present products for the filmmaker Gifting Lounge; Party-goers at the Closing Weekend Party applaud; **Top Right:** Award Sponsors Anna Steel and Rain Dove take a photo with actor Vico Ortiz and attendees at the Opening Presentation.



*"Opening night for the Vancouver Queer Film Festival was STELLAR. Tears were shed and laughter was shared amongst such a beautifully talented group of queer artists, movers and shakers. I am honored to share time and space with them and to feel empowered by the magic they are co-creating outside the confines of capitalism. Actively showing me a world we deserve to be in."*

- Vico Ortiz  
Actor and Artist

*"Was thrilled to be invited to the Coast is Queer, a fixture of VQFF. Film is such a powerful way to communicate and foster social connections. Through the camera, we are transported into someone else's life and experience their triumphs, struggles, and dreams."*

- Anne Kang  
BC Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

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# THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS

## **PREMIERE PARTNER**

Telefilm Canada

## **SIGNATURE PARTNER**

Langara College  
Canada Media Fund  
Downtown Van

## **AWARD PARTNERS**

Directors Guild of Canada - BC  
Keslow Camera  
Kris & Kara Casting  
Elemental Post  
Cracked Compass Media  
Cinelease  
Lark Productions  
Pender PR

## **HOTEL PARTNER**

Sandman Suites Vancouver - Davie Street

## **MEDIA PARTNER**

Stir Magazine

## **EXCLUSIVE RADIO PARTNERS**

MOVE 103.5  
94.5 Virgin Radio

## **TRANSPORTATION PARTNER**

Modo

## **SCREENING PARTNER**

Union of BC Performers/ ACTRA

## **FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS**

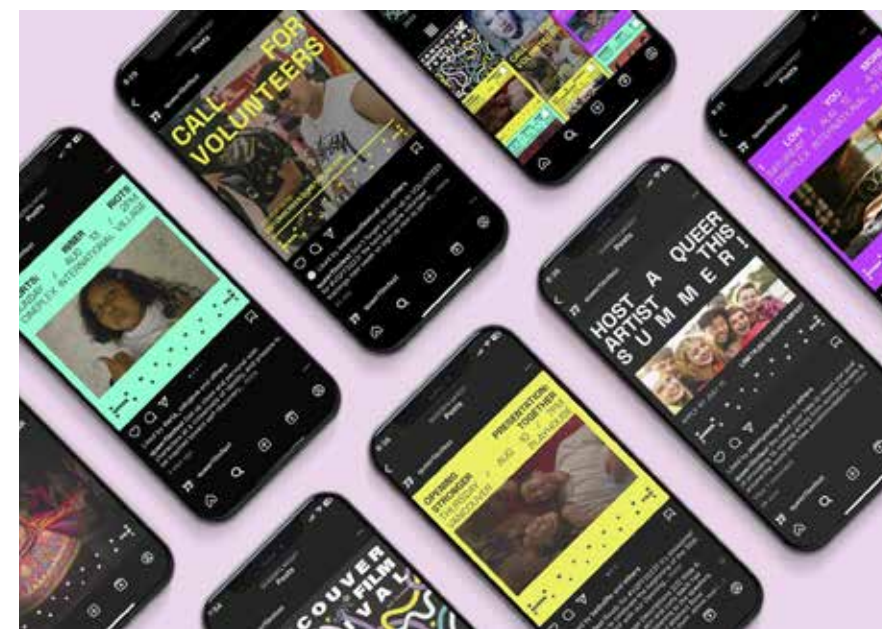
Aqua Bus  
BED  
Chandler Fogden Lyman Law  
Canadian Media Producers Association  
Club Card  
Dickie's Ginger Beer  
Fluffy Cow Crafts  
Gayvan.com  
IATSE Local 891  
Miller Titerle + Company  
Patagonia  
RBC Foundation  
Western Media Group

**GET IN TOUCH  
ABOUT  
PARTNERSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES!**

partnerships@outonscreen.com  
604.844.1615

# PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

THE 37TH ANNUAL  
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 SEPTEMBER 11-21, 2025



## IN-PERSON

## PRINT

## DIGITAL

## INDUSTRY

## NAMING

- On-screen ads** +30k impressions
- Video ads** 15s-60s
- Speaking opportunities** (by request)
- Banners & activations** (by request)

Make a lasting impression and put your brand front & centre at the Festival's in-person screenings and events!

- Festival guide booklet** 1,020 copies
- Festival calendar flyer** 6200 copies
- Festival poster** 100 copies
- Volunteer t-shirt** 300 worn at VQFF
- Branded merchandise** Custom

Place your logo, ads, and branding in print materials distributed at major Pride events and queer-friendly events and businesses across Vancouver.

- Website** 63k annual visitors
- Newsletter** 9000 subscribers
- Social** 34,000 followers
- Festival trailer** +48k views
- Digital poster** +37k views

Get your brand before the eyes of events-going, arts & culture-loving adults aged 18-65 in Vancouver & BC.

Be a catalyst for emerging talent and **support industry programs**, including our newest initiatives:

- Pitch competition
- Industry speed dating
- Gifting lounge
- Industry Access Initiative
- Matriarch of they Year Award

Get your name out there by supporting a **program, award, or initiative** at VQFF!

Our work—and your support—is amplified by local, national, and trade publications like Deadline, The Hollywood Reporter, Playback, Vancouver Sun, Georgia Straight, and CBC News every year.

# OUT ON SCREEN

## VISION

An equitable society where 2SLGBTQIA+ people are respected, valued, and protected across all our intersections of identity.

## MISSION

Illuminate, celebrate, and transform 2SLGBTQIA+ lives through film, education, and dialogue.

## PROGRAMS

Our two core programs are the annual Vancouver Queer Film Festival and the award-winning Out In Schools program.



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O U T O N S C R E E N . C O M

Out On Screen operates on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwáxwú7mesh, and sə́lilwətaʔ peoples.