

2023 Policies and FAQ

Outdoor Films at the North Carolina Museum of Art

Where do I park? Can I bring my dog? How about picnics? What happens if it rains? For answers to these questions and others, check out the information below.

Policies

- The Joseph M. Bryan, Jr., Theater in the Museum Park is a nonsmoking venue. Smoking and vaping are restricted to areas outside of venue gates.
- Ticketholders must enter through the Gipson Plaza gates at the top of the Park Theater.

Parking and Seating

- Free parking is available on campus in lots along Blue Ridge Road and close to the main Museum buildings.
- Accessible parking is available in Gipson Plaza between East and West buildings and behind West Building.
- Campus parking may not be sufficient to accommodate everyone on sold-out movie nights. Once all parking spaces on the NCMA campus are filled, security staff will allow only cars with accessible parking permits and taxi/ride-share drop-offs through the main entrance.
- If the entrance is closed when you arrive, please use concert parking on Reedy Creek Road across from the NCMA.
- Taxi and ride-share app drivers should make an immediate left after entering the campus and follow signage for drop-off, so riders can find the end of the line. (Please note: taxi and ride-share app drop-off is no longer located in the circular Plaza near the entry gates.) At the end of the movie, please use the Plaza outside the gates for all taxi and ride-share app pickups.
- After the film the lots can be congested. Please allow time to exit the grounds and be mindful of pedestrians. Note that there are three exits.
- Lawn seating is available on a first come, first served basis, so come early to claim your spot.

Food and Beverage

- The NCMA permits factory-sealed plastic water bottles and empty refillable water bottles at entry; otherwise, **no outside food or beverage is allowed in the Park Theater.**
- Water fountains are available near the restrooms to fill your bottles once inside the gates.
- The NCMA offers a variety of food and beverage for purchase, including beer and wine, during the event. **Please note: alcohol sales are prohibited at films by Disney, Pixar, and other distributors of children-friendly content.**
- Catering Works offers a variety of [picnic baskets](#) for our outdoor film screenings. Order 72 hours prior to the movie screening. Pick up at East Café, located on Level C of East Building, when gates open. See the weather section for the picnic basket cancellation policy.
- You must be at least 21 years of age to buy and consume alcohol; IDs are checked at points of sale.

Tickets

- Many movies sell out, so we encourage you to buy tickets in advance by ordering online or at the tickets and information desk in East Building.
- If the movie isn't sold out, you may purchase tickets at the gates using a QR code.
- Will Call is not available for movies.
- If you have questions regarding your ticket purchase, contact the visitor experience team at help@ncartmuseum.org during regular Museum hours.

Accessibility

- Visitors with wheelchairs or limited mobility may be dropped off in the circular Plaza near the entry gates or park in an accessible parking space. Seating is available until the rest of their party reaches the gates through the line.
- Wheelchair seating and wheelchair-accessible restrooms are available. Please note that due to limited capacity in our accessible seating area, a ticket purchaser is permitted to sit with one additional companion in this section. This companion must also have a ticket. Seats are not provided; camp chairs are recommended.
- A select number of screenings will include audio description and/or captioning. Please refer to [film web event pages](#) for the most up-to-date information.
- Please contact Molly Hull (mhull@ncartmuseum.org), accessibility coordinator, with questions or to request accommodations. Note: requests related to captioning and audio description require a minimum of two weeks' notice.

Weather

- If there is a high probability of heavy rains forecast for the night of an outdoor movie, the Museum will likely cancel the event by 6 pm. We'll give notice on the website and Museum Facebook and Twitter accounts (@ncartmuseum).
- If we're caught by surprise by a fast-moving storm during a screening, we will instruct patrons of proper safety procedures via the public-address system at the facility.
- [Picnic Basket Cancellation Policy](#): Picnic baskets purchased for a movie that is canceled due to inclement weather require 24 hours' advance notice to cancel and receive a full refund. Call (919) 664-6834 to process a cancellation. If you have not canceled your order with enough notice to qualify for a full refund, you may still retrieve your order. Orders not retrieved are donated to the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle or other local food recovery services.
- If we cancel the movie due to weather, you may use your tickets for another movie in the 2023 outdoor film series by bringing the canceled movie tickets to the new movie of your choice. Contact the visitor experience team at help@ncartmuseum.org during regular Museum hours with any questions.

What to Bring

- Blankets and folding chairs for lawn seating
- Money for concessions

What Not to Bring

- Dogs or other pets
- Outside food or beverage or unsealed water bottles
- Alcohol
- Glass containers and other breakable objects, knives, tables, and wagons

Additional questions you don't see answered here? We're always happy to help on social media via @ncartmuseum on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.