

TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL

Tribeca Film Festival: Celebrating Filmmaking in NYC

Listening Questions 1:

1. Who are the founders of the Tribeca Film Festival?
2. Why did they start the event?
3. How many films were screened at the first TFF?
4. Why did some local filmmakers criticize the first TFF?

Listening Questions 2:

1. How many films are submitted to the TFF each year?
2. How much does it cost to attend a Tribeca Talk?
3. What happens after a lot of screenings?
4. What is the closing event of the 2015 TFF going to be?

Transcript 1:

The Tribeca Film Festival (TFF) has been held in New York City every year since 2002.

It was founded by actor Robert De Niro, film producer Jane Rosenthal and real estate investor Craig Hatkoff in response to the September 11th terrorist attacks. They wanted to help revitalize the economy and culture in the Lower Manhattan section of New York City.

The first festival, held in April 2002, featured more than 150 films including short films, documentaries, and feature films. Some of the highlights included the premiere of *Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones* and a collection of films about New York that was curated by director Martin Scorsese.

Although De Niro's name helped attract a lot of attention to the TFF, some local filmmakers criticized the festival for being more about big Hollywood productions like *Star Wars* instead of films made in the community.



Transcript 2:

Each year, the Tribeca Film Festival receives over 6,000 submissions from around the world. Over 1,600 films from over 80 countries have been screened at the TFF since 2002.

The 2015 TFF is being held from April 15th to 26th at 10 venues around the Tribeca area. Tickets for the films are affordable with weekday matinees as low as \$10. The evening and weekend screenings are \$18 and the Tribeca Talks are \$35. After many of the screenings, the director, and members of the cast and crew are available to answer questions.

Tribeca Talks are conversations or panel discussions with prominent people from the world of film and media. Some of the talks take place after screenings of particular movies.

The closing event of the 2015 TFF is going to be a screening of director Martin Scorsese's classic mobster film *Goodfellas*, which is going to be followed by a reunion discussion of Scorsese, Robert DeNiro, and other members of the cast. The discussion is going to be hosted by comedian Jon Stewart.