

# ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL USA OF BOSTON April 16, 23 & 25, 2026



Enjoy the local premieres of three recent, critically-acclaimed Italian films at the 2026 Italian Film Festival USA of Boston. Films shown in original language with English subtitles at Boston College (BC), Boston University (BU) and Cinema Salem. Sponsored by the Consulate General of Italy in Boston and the Comitato degli italiani all'estero Boston. In collaboration with BC Romance Languages and Literatures, BU Romance Studies and Salem State University World Languages and Cultures. Admission is **FREE**. For further information, visit [www.italianfilmfests.org](http://www.italianfilmfests.org)



## PATERNAL LEAVE

Thursday, April 16 • 7:00 pm • BC Higgins Hall 300

Director, Alissa Jung, Drama, 2025, 90 min.

*Film Sponsor: Consulate General of Italy in Boston*

Alone, angry, and searching for answers, a German girl decides to embark on a journey to the Romagna Riviera to meet her biological father, whom she has never known. Their first encounter is a whirlwind of emotions, filled with unresolved questions, a longing for belonging, and tensions accumulated over time.



## SWEETHEART • GIOIA MIA

Thursday, April 23 • 7:00 pm • BU Law School Auditorium

Director, Margherita Spampinato, Drama, 2026, 90 min.

*Film Sponsor: Comitato degli italiani all'estero Boston*

Nico, a lively boy raised in a secular and technologically-connected family, is forced to spend the summer in Sicily, staying with an elderly, unmarried and very religious aunt who lives alone in an old building without Wi-Fi and completely out of time. The clash between modernity and the past marks the beginning of their stormy relationship. Yet, little by little, a deep bond is formed, one that neither knew they needed.



## FIVE SECONDS • CINQUE SECONDI

Saturday, April 25 • 1:00 pm • Cinema Salem

Director, Paolo Virzi, Drama, 2025, 105 min.

Adriano, a 50-year-old man haunted by a troubled past, lives alone in the renovated stables of a crumbling Tuscan villa. Suddenly, a group of young idealists, led by Matilde, takes over the villa hoping to restore its vineyards. Beneath the surface of their co-existence, old tensions and buried secrets begin to resurface. What is the heavy burden Adriano is trying so hard to conceal?



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