Welcome Urban Mediamakers Filmmakers!

We are thrilled to welcome you to this year's film festival! To make your stay as smooth, comfortable, and convenient as possible, we have put together this travel guide with lodging and transportation options across our festival host locations in **Atlanta** and **Gwinnett County**.

Where to Stay: Lodging Options

Whether you prefer a full-service hotel, a mid-range stay with great amenities, a budget-friendly option, or an Airbnb with your crew, here are our recommended accommodations tailored to our festival dates and venues:

1. Downtown Atlanta Events - *(Dates: October 12, 17, 18, 19)*

- **Mid-Range Hotel Options:**
    - **SpringHill Suites by Marriott Atlanta Downtown:** All-suite layout offering extra workspace for teams, complimentary hot breakfast, and an on-site fitness center.
    - **Courtyard by Marriott Atlanta Downtown:** Set in a historic building right in the heart of the city, featuring an on-site bistro and comfortable lobby workspaces.
    - **The American Hotel Atlanta Downtown (Tapestry Collection by Hilton):** Boutique mid-century styling with a full-service restaurant, lounge, and outdoor pool.
- **Budget-Friendly Hotel Options:**
    - **Barclay Hotel Atlanta Downtown:** An affordable, centrally located choice right in the heart of the city within easy walking distance of major event spaces and transit.
    - **Motel 6 Atlanta Downtown:** A simple, cost-conscious choice located just north of central downtown.
    - **La Quinta Inn & Suites Atlanta Midtown - Buckhead:** Located a short train ride or drive north of downtown, featuring free continental breakfast and **free parking** (a great savings if you are driving in).
- **Airbnb & Shared Rentals:**
    - Search near **Downtown, Midtown, Old Fourth Ward, Inman Park,** or **Castleberry Hill** for easy access to venues and public transit.
    - **Pro-Tip:** Booking a 2- or 3-bedroom townhome or apartment with cast or crew members can lower costs to $35–$50 per person per night!

2. Gwinnett County Events (Norcross & Lawrenceville) - *(Dates: October 16, 22, 23, 24, 25)*

- **Mid-Range Hotel Options:**

    - **Home2 Suites by Hilton Atlanta Norcross:** Spacious suites with in-room kitchenettes, free breakfast, and pet-friendly rooms near Historic Norcross.
    - **Tru by Hilton Lawrenceville Atlanta I-85 Sugarloaf:** Modern, energetic hotel located between Lawrenceville and Duluth, featuring social workspace areas and fast I-85 access.
    - **Hilton Atlanta Northeast:** A full-service hotel on the border of Norcross and Peachtree Corners with an on-site restaurant, lounge, and indoor/outdoor pool.
- **Budget-Friendly Hotel Options:**
    - **Super 8 by Wyndham Norcross/I-85:** Affordable lodging situated right off I-85 with complimentary basic breakfast and free Wi-Fi.
    - **Extended Stay America Select Suites (Atlanta - Duluth):** Conveniently located between Norcross and Lawrenceville with in-room kitchenettes to prepare your own meals and save on food costs.
    - **Days Inn by Wyndham Lawrenceville:** Simple rooms with free breakfast and parking, located near our Lawrenceville venues.
- **Airbnb & Shared Rentals:**
    - Focus your search on **Historic Norcross, Downtown Lawrenceville,** or **Peachtree Corners**.
    - **Pro-Tip:** Gwinnett features spacious full homes, carriage houses, and guest suites at very competitive rates compared to city center hotels.

Getting Around

Downtown Atlanta (Transit-Friendly)

- **MARTA (Public Transit):** The most economical way to travel from Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL). Take the **Red** or **Gold** line directly to the **Peachtree Center** station ($2.50 per ride, or $19 for a 4-Day Unlimited Pass).
- **Rideshare:** Uber and Lyft operate continuously from dedicated airport pickup zones. Rides to Downtown generally run $25–$40.

Gwinnett County (Driving Recommended)

- **Rideshare & Carpooling:** Venues in Gwinnett are spread across Norcross and Lawrenceville. We recommend grouping up with fellow attendees to split Uber/Lyft rides or rental cars.
- **Free Parking:** All recommended Gwinnett hotels and Airbnb properties offer free surface parking.

If you have any questions or need assistance planning your trip, please don't hesitate to reach out to our event team. We look forward to seeing your work on the big screen!

Safe travels,

The Film Festival Organizing Team
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