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## **Women Take Center Stage at 2025 Pan African Film Festival: Spotlight on *The Bucket Wish* and More**

Los Angeles, CA - The **2025 Pan African Film Festival (PAFF)** is turning the spotlight on women—both in front of and behind the camera—with a slate of films that tell bold, uncompromising, and deeply personal stories. Among this year’s most anticipated selections is *The Bucket Wish*, a stirring documentary from **Ericka Nicole Malone** that challenges audiences to face their fears and embrace their dreams.

Directed by and starring powerhouse entrepreneur, writer, and producer Ericka Nicole Malone, *The Bucket Wish* is more than just a film—it’s a movement. Malone takes viewers on an intimate and raw journey of self-discovery, laying bare the fears, triumphs, and transformative moments that have shaped her path. Whether you’re a dreamer, a realist, or someone who has ever questioned their own potential, *The Bucket Wish* is an invitation to rewrite your narrative and step into the life you’ve always envisioned.

“What is your Bucket Wish?” That’s the question at the heart of this inspiring documentary, which delivers a powerful message about self-belief and perseverance. Malone’s story is one of courage, resilience, and an unshakable commitment to breaking barriers—not just for herself, but for anyone ready to claim their destiny. Audiences will leave not only moved but emboldened to chase their biggest, wildest dreams.

*The Bucket Wish* will screen on Mon., Feb. 10 at 7:05 p.m. at The Culver Theater. Tickets are on sale at paff.org.

Alongside *The Bucket Wish*, PAFF 2025 will showcase an array of films that put women’s voices at the forefront. From hard-hitting documentaries to boundary-pushing narratives, these films are not just stories—they are testaments to the strength, complexity, and brilliance of women across the diaspora.

Narrated by **Viola Davis**, *The Ebony Canal* is a documentary that delves into the disparities of infant mortality among Black women, weaving together powerful stories of healing, and the hope of solution-driven practices.

*Bam Bam: The Sister Nancy Story* will have its Los Angeles premiere during this year's PAFF. *The documentary tells the story of Sister Nancy's iconic dancehall recording "Bam Bam" and how it became a part of the world's collective consciousness for over 40 years. While Nancy's impact on dancehall music and her legacy is often overlooked, through this film it's Sister Nancy's time to be celebrated and given her rightful place in music history.*

Anais Cisco's *Drip Like Coffee* tells the story of an intimate connection between two Brooklyn baristas brews a journey of mutual empowerment and sensual transformation.

"As a festival that has long championed diverse and authentic storytelling, PAFF is thrilled to highlight films that elevate women's perspectives and amplify their voices in cinema," said **PAFF Executive Director Oduduwa Olatunji**. "This year's lineup proves that women's stories are not just essential—they are revolutionary."

For a full list of films at PAFF by or about women, please click [here](#).

The 2025 Pan African Film Festival will take place February 4-17 in Los Angeles with screenings, panels, and exclusive Q&A sessions featuring the filmmakers and stars who are shaping the future of cinema. For tickets, schedules, and more information, visit [paff.org](http://paff.org).

Join us as we celebrate the voices that refuse to be silenced and the art that brings us together.

The Pan African Film and Arts Festival is proud to be supported by an incredible lineup of sponsors who share our commitment to celebrating Black art, culture, and storytelling. This year's sponsors include Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, District 2, the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, Culver City, the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles City Council President Marqueece Harris-Dawson, District 8, Los Angeles City Councilmembers Curren D. Price Jr., District 9 and Heather Hutt, District 10, and Westfield Culver City. Additional support for PAFF comes from Stocker Street Creative, Gilead Sciences, SAGindie, Sony Pictures, DGA, US Bank, BeiGene, and the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI).

### **About Pan African Film & Arts Festival:**

The Pan African Film & Arts Festival (PAFF) is one of the longest-running and most respected cultural events dedicated to showcasing the artistic achievements of the Black and African diaspora. Since its inception, PAFF has provided a dynamic platform for filmmakers, artists, and performers to share their stories, celebrate their heritage, and inspire audiences through powerful and thought-provoking works. More at [paff.org](http://paff.org).

2025 PAN AFRICAN FILM AND ARTS FESTIVAL  
**DREAMBEYOND**

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