

Arkansas Film Connections

A Cinematic Web Project Showcasing Arkansas Film Culture

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Client Background

- Self-directed project
- Focus on Arkansas film culture
- Goal: modern, user-friendly film website

Problem Definition

- Film information scattered across websites
- No Arkansas-focused film discovery hub
- Users struggle to find state-connected films

Project Analysis

- Users want clarity + simplicity
- Consistent visual layout improves UX
- Lightweight structure suits GitHub Pages

System & Design Choices

- HTML, CSS, JavaScript
- Cinematic dark theme design
- Card-based film layout

Home Page Screenshot

DRAMA

Sometimes a hero comes from the most unlikely place.

Sling Blade (1996)

Written, directed, and headlined by Billy Bob Thornton, this film follows Karl Childers after his release from a psychiatric hospital as he tries to adjust to small-town life.

Arkansas connection: Thornton is from Arkansas, and the film was shot in the state. It also earned him an Academy Award.

[Billy Bob Thornton](#) [Academy Award](#)

DRAMA

Mud (2012)

Two boys growing up along the Mississippi River discover a fugitive named Mud hiding on a river island. As they help him, they are pulled into his complicated past.

Arkansas connection: Filmed in Arkansas and tied to actor Wes Bentley's career, this movie brought more attention to Arkansas riverfront locations.

[Wes Bentley](#) [Filmed in Arkansas](#)

ROMANTIC COMEDY / DRAMA

Chasing Amy (1997)

A story about relationships, friendship, and identity in the comic book industry. Joey Lauren Adams plays a key lead role that helped shape her career.

Arkansas connection: Adams is an Arkansas native and was widely praised for her performance in this film.

[Joey Lauren Adams](#) [Arkansas Native](#)

Featured Section Screenshot

IMDb Menu All Search IMDbPro Watchlist Sign in EN

Cast & crew · User reviews · Trivia · FAQ · IMDbPro · All topics

IMDb RATING YOUR RATING POPULARITY
★ 7.2/10 Rate 4,988 ▲ 345

Chasing Amy

1997 · R · 1h 53m

It's not who you love.
It's how.

Ben Affleck
Joey Lauren Adams
Jason Lee

chasing AMY

Finally, a comedy that tells it like it feels.

The new film from the director of 'Clerks'.

3 VIDEOS

99+ PHOTOS

STREAMING RENT/BUY

pluto tv prime video amazon

Films Grid Screenshot

```
<!-- Mud -->
<article class="card">
  <p class="badge">Drama</p>
  <a href="https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1935179/" target="_blank">
    
  </a>
  <h3>Mud (2012)</h3>
  <p class="muted">
    Two boys growing up along the Mississippi River discover a fugitive named Mud hiding on a river island.
    As they help him, they are pulled into his complicated past.
  </p>
  <p class="film-meta">
    <strong>Arkansas connection:</strong> Filmed in Arkansas and tied to actor Wes Bentley's career,
    this movie brought more attention to Arkansas riverfront locations.
  </p>
  <p class="film-meta">
    <span class="tag">Wes Bentley</span>
    <span class="tag">Filmed in Arkansas</span>
  </p>
</article>

<!-- Chasing Amy -->
<article class="card">
  <p class="badge">Romantic Comedy / Drama</p>
  <a href="https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0118842/" target="_blank">
    
  </a>
  <h3>Chasing Amy (1997)</h3>
  <p class="muted">
    A story about relationships, friendship, and identity in the comic book industry. Joey Lauren Adams
    plays a key lead role that helped shape her career.
  </p>
  <p class="film-meta">
    <strong>Arkansas connection:</strong> Adams is an Arkansas native and was widely praised for her
    performance in this film.
  </p>
  <p class="film-meta">
    <span class="tag">Joey Lauren Adams</span>
    <span class="tag">Arkansas Native</span>
  </p>
</article>
```

About Page Screenshot

BEHIND THE SCENES

About this project

This project was built over the course of a semester as part of my Capstone 2 class. I started with a simple idea—shine a light on Arkansas films and actors—then broke it down into pages, sections, and data I could actually manage.

From there, I focused on structure first and style second. Once the content was organized, I layered on design choices like gradients, motion, and highlight cards so the site feels like a small movie experience instead of just another list of links.

I prepared this page to be hosted on GitHub so I can point to it as proof that I can plan, design, and ship a complete front-end project on my own—from idea, to layout, to final polish.

The screenshot shows the 'About this project' section on the left and a preview of the main site on the right. The main site preview features a large orange '#5' over a map of Arkansas, followed by the text 'ARKANSAS FILM & ACTOR CONNECTIONS' and two buttons: 'Browse Featured Films' and 'Explore Actor Connections'. Below this is a section titled 'FEATURED FILMS' with a list of eight titles: 'SLING BLADE', 'WALK THE LINE', 'TRUE GRIT', 'JOEY HOMME', 'Chasing Amy', 'PIRATES', 'DRAMA V', and 'ROMANTIC COMEDY CRASH'.

How My Film Links Work

- Each film card links directly to its official IMDb page
- Keeps the website lightweight and fast
- Ensures accurate film details without copyright issues

How I Structured Film Cards



What This Project Shows About Me

- Creative project execution
- Independent front-end development
- Research, planning, and deployment

Technical Skills Strengthened

- HTML/CSS layout and styling
- UI/UX design principles
- GitHub workflow & version control

Future Enhancements

- Search filter options
- Interactive filming-location map
- Custom film detail pages

Conclusion

- Solved a real film discovery problem
- Built a polished Arkansas film platform
- Demonstrates growth as a developer

Thank you for your time!

<https://github.com/SBurkes84/arkansas-film-connections>