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**Contact:**

Yasmin Chin Eisenhauer  
Executive Director  
(413) 253-2547 x6  
yeisenhauer@amherstcinema.org

## **Amherst Cinema announces return to full capacity October 29**

*New vaccination policy will help ensure continued safety of audiences and staff*

Amherst, MA — Amherst Cinema announced today that effective October 29 it will resume operations at full capacity. To ensure the safety of audiences and staff, the Cinema will also require all guests to present proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or a negative PCR test (within 72 hours prior to showtime) and a valid photo ID.

According to a statement issued by the Cinema, the new vaccination policy “will help ensure the continued well-being and safety of our audiences and staff, which remains our top priority as we continue to navigate the ever-changing COVID-19 landscape.” Local arts and culture venues such as Academy of Music in Northampton and the UMass Fine Arts Center have announced similar policies in recent months.

Face masks will continue to be required for all guests, regardless of vaccination status. Guests may only remove their masks while actively eating or drinking in their theater seat.

The Cinema encourages patrons to arrive early to account for health and safety verifications.

To accommodate varying comfort levels within the community, the Cinema continues to offer “Masked Mornings” on Saturday and Sundays. During these first screenings of the day, face coverings are required to be worn by all guests at all times, audience capacity is capped at 25%, and no concessions are sold. Additionally, for those not yet ready to return for an in-person experience, the Cinema’s artfully-curated Virtual Cinema platform remains an option.

To learn more about Amherst Cinema's full health and safety policies, visit: [www.amherstcinema.org/health-safety-precautions](http://www.amherstcinema.org/health-safety-precautions).

The Cinema’s fall line-up promises an entertaining and eclectic menu of arthouse fare. Forthcoming first-run features include THE ELECTRICAL LIFE OF LOUIS WAIN (opens October 22) starring Benedict Cumberbatch, director Wes Anderson's ode to print journalism THE FRENCH DISPATCH (opens November 5) starring Timothée Chalamet, and Diana, Princess of Wales bio pic SPENCER (opens November 5) starring Kristen Stewart.

Two specialty series make a return, Bolshoi Ballet and Exhibition On Screen, along with a new “Big Scream Classics” series, which features seasonally appropriate movies best enjoyed on a towering screen and in the company of others. The series lineup includes: THE SHINING (Oct 17 and Oct 19), GET OUT (Oct 24 and Oct 27) and THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (Oct 31 and Nov 2).

Tickets are available online and at the Box Office. For more information, visit: [www.AmherstCinema.org](http://www.AmherstCinema.org)

## About Amherst Cinema

Amherst Cinema is an independent, nonprofit arts and education center brimming with world-class programs. The comfortable, fully accessible theater offers state-of-the-art projection and sound and is a welcoming crossroads for all. Amherst Cinema presents over 250 programs a year on four screens in more than 35 languages.

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