

The best parties that went down on the first weekend of TIFF

Find out where Elliot Page, Nelly Furtado, Director X, Shaquille O'Neal and more were hanging out after hours

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Despite fears that this year's TIFF would be lacking star power due to the ongoing SAG-AFTRA strike, the red carpets have been littered with big names, and a time-honoured Hollywood tradition has returned: the invite-only after-hours TIFF bash. Here, an inside look at the most star-studded galas, premieres and kick-offs that took place over the festival's first weekend.

Artists for Peace and Justice Gala



Photo by Kennedy Pollard, courtesy of Getty Images and RBC TIFF House at Petros82

The RBC house at Petros82 hosted a music-themed party, which was deejayed by former NBA star Shaquille O'Neal, a.k.a. DJ Diesel.





Photo by Kennedy Pollard, courtesy of Getty Images and RBC TIFF House at Petros82 O'Neal also met Priyanka, the winner of Canada's Drag Race season one.

Black Academy Legacy Awards Kick-Off Party



Photo by Ryan Emberley/Getty Images, courtesy of RBC TIFF House at Petros82

The RBC House and Petros82 hosted a celebration of Black Canadian talent. Here, Director X is seen hanging out with actor Stephan James, founder of the awards.



Photo by Ryan Emberley/Getty Images, courtesy of RBC TIFF House at Petros82

Zaib Shaikh, consul general of Canada in Los Angeles, with Kirstine Stewart, head of Shaping the Future of Media at the World Economic Forum.

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Photo by Ryan Emberley/Getty Images, courtesy of RBC TIFF House at Petros82

Siphesihle November, a principal dancer at the National Ballet of Canada and the subject of the documentary Beyond Moving, made an appearance.