

HIGH DREAM

PRESS KIT



LOGLINE & SYNOPSIS

LOGLINE: A gymnast spends a day at the gym with her mother, a devoted coach whose praise is reserved for her top athletes. Desperate to catch her mom’s eye, Genna obsessively strives to make the gymnastics team.

SYNOPSIS: HIGH BEAM follows Genna, a 9-year-old gymnast who spends a day at work with her mother, a dedicated gymnastics coach. When it’s finally her turn to perform for her evaluation, she finds herself unable to execute the skill in front of the one person whose approval she craves most. Forcing her to question if this sport is worth pursuing anymore.



[POSTER LINK](#)

HIGH BEAM

OFFICIAL TRAILER

Latino Film Institute Presents

A Tempered Films and Loomlight Production Starring Alani Guzman, Cecilia Salinas, Andrea Campa
Casting by Alan Luna, Director of Photography Emilia Mendieta Córdova, Music By René G. Boscio, Edited by Mario Fierro
Executive Produced By the Latino Film Institute, Associate Producers Risanta Li & Braden Kimble,
Produced by Raghav Puri, Written and Directed by Kaila Gutierrez

OFFICIAL TRAILER LINK

DIRECTOR BIO

Kaila Gutierrez is a Mexican-American writer and director from the Coachella Valley with a passion for telling stories about young women grappling with identity, desire, and self-worth. She received her M.F.A. in Film Directing from Chapman University and has since participated in various programs such as LFI's Inclusion Fellowship Program, sponsored by the Netflix Creative Fund; the Mitu x Walmart Filmmaker Mentorship Program; and Hola Mexico's Tomorrow's Filmmakers Today program. Her work has screened at Palm Springs ShortFest, BOGOSHORTS, and the Mexican American Film and Television Awards, where she was awarded "Best Director." Her films explore the ever-changing dynamics of personal relationships through generational, cultural, and familial divides.



DIRECTOR STATEMENT



Growing up with a gymnastics coach for a mom, I often felt the weight of expectation. I watched her train champions and believed that, to earn her approval, I had to be like the girls she was coaching. As a child, I was consumed with jealousy and often frustrated because of this.

As I grew older, I began to understand that my mother was trying to juggle the demands of her career with the responsibilities of parenting. A challenge many immigrant families face as they navigate the roles of parent and provider. While I now recognize this, the experience has shaped a part of who I am.

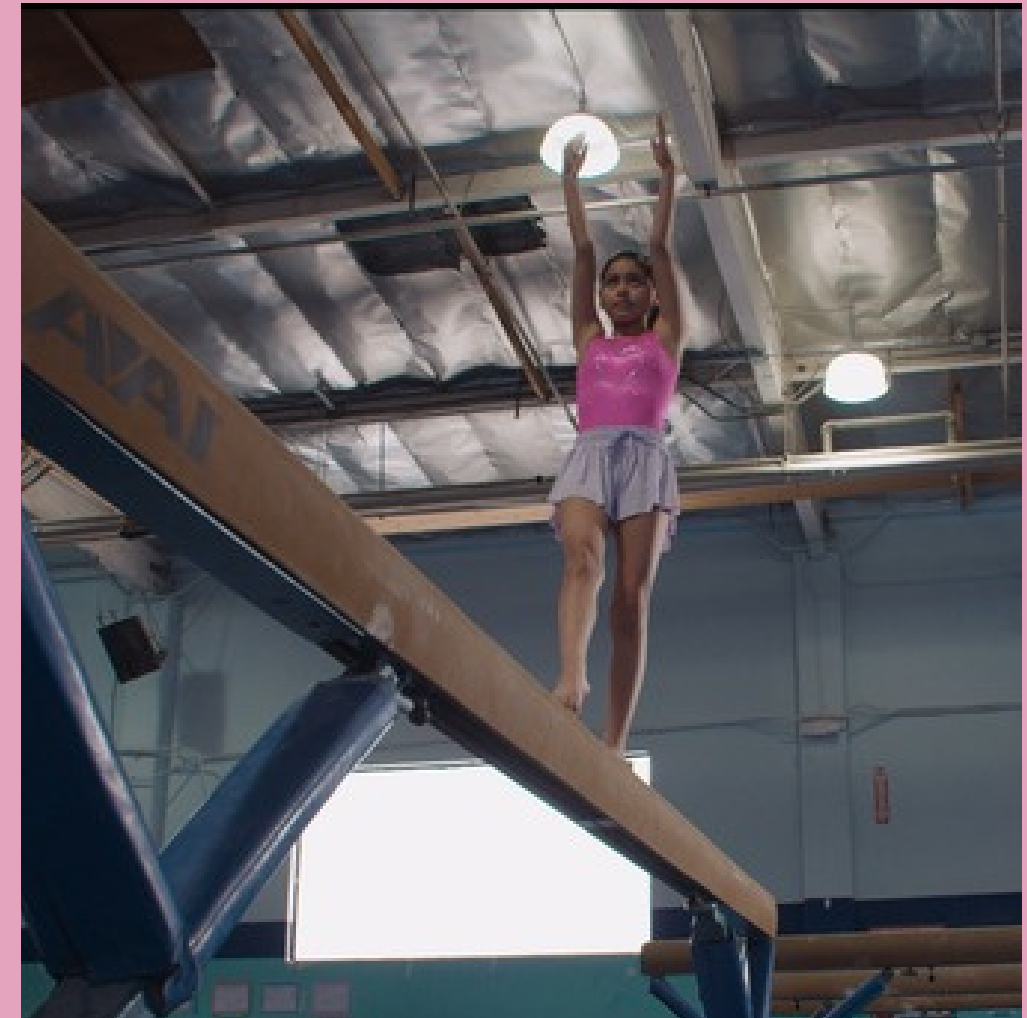
With this story, I hope to capture the nuances of this dynamic and explore the emotional journey of seeking validation from those we love the most.



ALANI GUZMAN

PLAYS THE ROLE OF
GENNA

Alani Guzman is a 13-year-old actress and competitive dancer with a passion for performance and self-expression through dance and jazz music. She makes her narrative film debut in the lead role of High Beam.





CECILIA SALINAS

PLAYS THE ROLE OF
PALOMA



Cecilia L. Salinas was born and raised on the US/Mexico border in Laredo, TX. She received her BA from Texas State University with degrees in Theatre Performance and Production and Public Relations. She began her acting career performing in local theatre productions at the age of 8 and since then has transitioned into film and has fortunately been able to work with director Richard Linklater in *Everybody Wants Some* (2016) and other independent short films such as *Mile Marker 48* (2014) and *Hypnotic* (2014). Cecilia is currently based out of Los Angeles, CA. She is managed by The ESI Network and represented by Eris Talent Agency.



ANDREA CAMPA

PLAYS THE ROLE OF
SOFIA

Andrea Campa is a Level 10 gymnast from the Coachella Valley. She makes her on-screen debut in *High Beam*, where she plays Sofia, a standout competitive gymnast.



THE GYMNAST



The gymnasts featured in High Beam are former and current competitive athletes from the Coachella Valley and Los Angeles regions, ranging from Level 4 gymnasts to nationally ranked Level 10 competitors. The film was shot at Broadway Gymnastics in Los Angeles and also features gymnasts from Broadway Gymnastics and The District Gymnastics in Indio, California. Which is the gym where director Kaila Gutierrez's mother coaches. Many of the athletes on screen were her mom's own students, bringing an added layer of authenticity and personal connection to the film. High Beam also marked the gymnasts' first experience working on a film set, and they fully embraced the experience with excitement and joy.

PRODUCTION TEAM



RAGHAV PURI
PRODUCER

Raghav is a film producer based in Los Angeles, California. He grew up in New Delhi, India and graduated with an M.F.A in Film Production from Dodge College, Chapman University.

His short films have won awards at Anchorage International Film Festival, Sioux City International Film Festival and Southeast New England Film Festival.

His commercial credits include spots for Cadbury Oreo, BMW, Clark Hotels, and Adidas, and he is the co-founder of Tempered Films – a Los Angeles based film production agency



RISANTA XIAODAN LI
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

Risanta has over five years of hands-on experience in film production and commercial ventures. Now the owner of Loomlight Production. Conceptualizing and managing projects from inception to final delivery. Diverse responsibilities include scheduling, coordination, budget management, crew recruitment, editing, cinematography, scriptwriting, and marketing distribution.



BRADEN KIMBLE
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

Braden Kimble is a director and producer who produced the short series Banana, winner of Best Digital Short at Seriesfest 2026. His directing work includes an episode of the series, as well as the short films Stratosphere (2022) and The Mare Above the Thread (2024), which have screened at festivals worldwide.

Stratosphere is featured on Gunpowder & Sky's DUST sci-fi streaming platform. He holds an MFA in Film Production from Chapman University.



EMILIA MENDIETA CÓRDOVA
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Emilia is an Ecuadorian-American Director of Photography known for her bold visual storytelling. A Vassar College graduate with an MFA from the AFI Conservatory, she's a three-time Women in Media Altitude Awards semi-finalist, a 2023-2024 ASC Vision Mentorship Program participant, and a Cinematography Fellow in the Inaugural 2023 WIF Artisan and Crew Fellowships. Emilia has shot award-winning films showcased at notable festivals such as LALIFF, LA Shorts, UrbanWorld, BOGOSHORTS, and Cinequest.



MARIO FIERRO
EDITOR

Mario Fierro is a Mexican American film editor who earned his MFA from the American Film Institute Conservatory in 2020. He was born in Veracruz, Mexico and raised in Denver, Colorado. He began his journey as Cardi B's personal videographer. After, Mario decided to focus exclusively on editing. Since then, he has edited several feature films, including A Place in the Field, which was acquired for distribution by Lionsgate, and Party People, which premiered at the 2024 Austin Film Festival. His latest short film, Sweet Talkin' Guy, had its world premiere at the 2025 Sundance Film Festival.



SAL OJEDA
SOUND

After graduating with honors from Berklee, Sal moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in sound. Since 2010, he's had the chance to work on projects by renowned directors such as George Miller, Ron Howard, Zack Snyder, Morgan Neville, H.E.R., Allen Hughes, Robert Rodriguez, Andrew Dominik, Chris Smith, and Paul Crowder. He's also worked on original series, feature films, and TV specials for Netflix, Warner Bros., Sony, Hulu, FX, Disney+, Apple TV+, and HBO.



RENÉ G. BOSCIO
COMPOSER

René G. Boscio is an LA-based Puerto Rican composer best known for his unique blend of acoustic Latino instruments with modern, experimental electronics. He most recently scored the Magnolia Pictures film, LAKE GEORGE, starring Carrie Coon (The White Lotus) and Shea Whigham (Mission Impossible), which was directed by Jeffrey Reiner (Friday Night Lights, The Affair).

A member of The Academy's music branch, René has composed music for a variety of projects ranging from psychological thrillers to dramas, comedies and more.



MELISSA ZHUANG
PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Melissa Zhuang is a production designer and set decorator with over 5 years of experience working in the commercial and narrative space creating and building set pieces and props. She is a graduate of Chapman University and is excited to continue to work on diverse stories and the art of visual storytelling.



ALAN LUNA
CASTING DIRECTOR

Alan Luna is a Casting Director and Producer for TV, Film and Animation. With over a decade of casting and development experience, he's collaborated on projects with Disney, Netflix, Max, Amazon, Nickelodeon, Hulu, Lionsgate, Marvel Studios, amongst many more. He cofounded ABL Casting, a casting office with Casting Directors Michelle Adams and Natalie Ballesteros.

FESTIVALS

FESTIVAL	LOCATION	DATE
BOGOSHORTS	Bogota, Colombia	World Premiere
FEAR NO FILM FESTIVAL	Salt Lake City, Utah	North America Premiere
PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL SHORTFEST	Palm Springs, CA	California Premiere
NFMLA	Los Angeles, CA	La Premiere



KEY FACTS

PRODUCTION COMPANY A Tempered Films and Loomlight Production	PRODUCTION LOCATION Los Angeles	SHOOTING FORMAT Digital	ASPECT RATIO 1.85 2.35
AUDIO FORMAT 5.1	LENGTH Short Film	ORIGINAL LANGUAGE English	PRODUCTION YEAR 2025
EXHIBITION FORMATS Digital Projection (DCP)	GENRE SUBCATEGORIES Sports Drama	TOTAL RUNNING TIME 12:24	SOCIALS @Highbeamshortfilm

FUN FACTS

- All of the daylight in the film is fake. Due to location availability, we had to shoot at night. To create the look of daylight, our DP, Emilia, used a special lighting setup that allowed us to simulate daylight coming through the windows.
- To prepare for the film, our director spent time at her mother's gym capturing test footage of the gymnasts in their natural environment. This process also helped her choreograph the gymnastics sequences in the film. The director and DP worked closely together, using these test shoots with the gymnasts to prepare visually and technically for production. **(Test footage available upon request.)**
- Because the film features multiple gymnastics sequences and three stunt falls, we had both a gymnastics consultant and a stunt coordinator on set to ensure everyone's safety.
- At any given moment, one of the gymnasts would randomly do a flip to excite the crew and occasionally scare the producers.



[LINK TO BTS PHOTOS](#)



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THANK YOU!

CONTACT INFO

FOR ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR
REQUEST PLEASE REACH OUT TO:
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