

SAM DAVIS
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Sam Davis is a recent graduate of USC's School of Cinematic Arts and an Oscar-nominated filmmaker.

Originally from small-town Michigan, Sam moved to Los Angeles after the too-good-to-be-true opportunity of apprenticing with cinematographer Theo van de Sande, ASC, on "Love and Honor," a feature film shooting in Michigan during the peak of his home state's short-lived film industry boom.

Since graduating in 2016, Sam has worked as a Director of Photography on commercials, music videos, documentaries, short and feature-length narrative films, and feature documentaries for Blumhouse Productions and Netflix Originals.

On many projects, such as "Madaran" and "Period. End of Sentence.," Sam's contributions have gone beyond cinematography. He produced, shot, edited, and sound-designed these films, both of which won awards at major festivals. "Period. End of Sentence." is currently nominated for the Oscar for Best Documentary Short in the 91st Academy Awards. Sam's holistic approach to filmmaking has made him a versatile and mature storyteller.

As a writer/director, Sam's thesis film "Red Rider" premiered at the Palm Springs International Shorts Fest and his screenplays have won awards at Cinequest and Hollyshorts screenwriting competitions. Sam is currently completing two short films—"Shnoof," a mockumentary portrait of two empty-nesters who've created and mastered their own language, and "Days Gone By," a documentary time capsule celebrating the amateur short films Sam's dad made while growing up in Michigan during the '60s.

Sam is currently gearing up for his feature directorial debut in 2019—his screenplay "Cents," a coming-of-age story set amidst a real-life train derailment which took place in his hometown in 2002. The story follows a boy with a mild intellectual disability who sets a penny on the railroad tracks the morning of the freak train derailment. Assuming responsibility, he goes into hiding amidst a week-long citywide evacuation.