There is much more to a successful premier at a festival than watching films. If you are accepted into a film festival you have to prepare several things for your project and make a festival business plan and schedule.

- Research what the festival is like to attend. Do you know anyone who has been to festivals? Talk to them.
- Make a schedule of events and screenings you should attend to benefit your career.
- There are many different aspects to a festival aside from watching films. Familiarize yourself with the festival from a business perspective and identify events that would be beneficial to your career.
- There are many networking opportunities at festivals, many in the form of cocktail parties, make sure you take a professional approach to these events and maximize your networking opportunities. Consider making business cards and make sure to engage with other industry people.
- Learn the markets and sidebars. These are places where films are screened and/or sold, often outside of the main festival. Research the festival you are attending and understand all of the possible ways to promote yourself and your film. Check out How to Work the American Film Market for an idea of what is involved.
- Make a great press kit for your film. See examples from the Tribeca Film Festival
- Make a pitch deck for your film.