



BETTER WORLD FUND

Cannes

MAY 18, 2026 | COPAL BEACH
DURING THE CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

PRESS BOOK

COUNTRY OF HONOR
EGYPT



IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE HOPE GIVER CAMPAIGN



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Cannes
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Hollywood Star Tells Audience to 'Put Your F***ing Phone Down'

The 'Basic Instinct' star has had enough of tech-fuelled social alienation.

Sharon Stone received the Better World Award for Best Engagement at the Gala for Humanity on May 18, 2026 at Copal Beach. Her largely improvised speech — calling guests to put down their phones, embrace strangers, and choose human connection — became one of the most viral moments of the 79th Cannes Film Festival.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

GALA HIGHLIGHTS



Parade

MAY 18, 2026

Sharon Stone Makes a Dazzling Return to the Red Carpet After Announcing Devastating Loss Last Week

She put on a brave face to receive a major award.

Just five days after announcing the death of her older brother Michael, Stone smiled for cameras at The Better World Fund Gala Cannes 2026 on May 18, where she was honored for her decades of philanthropic work. It was, by any measure, a remarkable display of strength.



[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

GALA HIGHLIGHTS



MAY 18, 2026

Sharon Stone Interrupted the Cannes Glamor With a Raw Emotional Message

Sharon Stone told Cannes attendees to “put down your f—king phones” and embrace the strangers next to them during a speech at the Better World Fund gala on Monday.

While Cannes 2026 dominated headlines with celebrity frenzy, Stone quietly created one of the festival's most unexpected viral moments - breaking from the glamour to demand the room choose human connection over distraction.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

GALA HIGHLIGHTS



MAY 19, 2026

'Euphoria' Star Sharon Stone Calls Out Cannes Audience Mid-Event: "Put Your F****ing Phone Down"

The moment came during a gala evening linked to the Better World Fund, an organization focused on supporting "cinema and art at the service of humanity."

Stone moved away from typical industry talk and focused on kindness, empathy, and real-world connection: "I want you to tell them, and I want you to mean it, that you're sorry for the thing that hurt them."

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

GALA HIGHLIGHTS



MAY 21, 2026

Sharon Stone Stuns the Gala for Humanity in Cannes

Sharon Stone Deeply Moves The Better World Fund Gala For Humanity On The Croisette — The World Film Festival In Cannes — Remember The Future Was A Partner Of The Evening

"Not politicians. Not presidents. Not grand speeches. None of that will change anything. Only you. By changing yourself." Stone received the Better World Award for Best Engagement at Copal Beach — an award for those who commit, inspire and mobilize for a cause.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

GALA HIGHLIGHTS



MAY 19, 2026

Sharon Stone, 68, Dazzles at Cannes 2026 With a Series of Showstopping Looks

Sharon Stone has always carried herself with grace. On Sunday, May 18, she proved it once again.

Dressed impeccably and smiling warmly for photographers, she gave little outward sign of the grief she was carrying privately. Stone's recognition at one of the world's most prestigious film festivals felt like a fitting tribute to her decades of humanitarian commitment.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

GALA HIGHLIGHTS



MAY 18, 2026

Sharon Stone Doms Cannes

A major cultural review from Vulture, one of New York Media's flagship entertainment publications, covering Sharon Stone's commanding presence at the Better World Fund Gala for Humanity. Bylined by senior critic Alison Willmore.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

GALA HIGHLIGHTS



MAY 19, 2026

Egypt honored at Cannes: Rich history, culture, and dialogue

Egypt was the “Guest of Honor” at the “A Better World for Humanity” ceremony, held on Monday May 18, 2026, during the Cannes Film Festival.

Egypt served as Guest of Honor at the Better World Fund Gala. Ambassador Dr. Tariq Dahroug underscored the country's role as a civilizational crossroads and commemorated the centenary of director Youssef Chahine, whose films bridged Egypt, France, and the world.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

EGYPT AS COUNTRY OF HONOR



MAY 12, 2026

Sharon Stone to Be Honored at the Better World Fund Gala in Cannes

Better World Fund Cannes Gala for
Humanity to Honor Egypt and Global
Changemakers with Sharon Stone Expected
to Attend: May 18, 2026

Pre-event announcement confirming Sharon Stone as the honoree at the Better World Fund Gala for Humanity on May 18 at the Cannes Film Festival — ahead of what became one of the festival's most talked-about evenings.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

PRE-EVENT COVERAGE



MAY 30, 2026

The Better World Fund Cannes Edition: A Gala for Humanity

A full editorial account of the Gala for Humanity by Alice Kanterian, covering the evening's humanitarian programme, honorees, and the significance of Egypt as Country of Honor at the 79th Cannes Film Festival.

The Better World Fund brings together year on year celebrities from all over the world. This edition the Egypt was the country of focus and so Egyptian charity founder Anwar Elkamony, H.E. the Ambassador to Egypt in France and last but not least superstar Laila Eloui were in the middle of attention.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

[EVENT COVERAGE](#)





MAY 30, 2026

The Better World Fund Cannes 2026 Edition

VIDEOS: Ambiance Interviews in Cannes

The Better World Fund brought together cinema, culture, diplomacy, philanthropy, and global advocacy during its Gala for Humanity on May 18, 2026, at Copal Beach on the Boulevard de la Croisette, held during the Cannes Film Festival. Former bond girl Olga Kurylenko came with a new project which she presented on stage.

[VIEW THE VIDEOS →](#)

[EVENT COVERAGE](#)



MAY 18, 2026

Stephen Mao Recipient of the Better World Fund First Annual 2026 Cultural Ambassador Award at the Cannes Film Festival

American producer Stephen Mao honored at Cannes for advancing international understanding through film, culture, and sports diplomacy.

Trade and legal press placement confirming Stephen Mao as recipient of the Better World Fund's inaugural 2026 Cultural Ambassador Award - positioning BWF as a principal vehicle for soft power and international cultural cooperation.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

EVENT COVERAGE



MAY 2026

Sharon Stone Honoured at Better World Fund Gala 2026

Official Getty Images photographic archive of the Better World Fund Gala for Humanity, Cannes 2026 — providing licensed wire photography for global editorial distribution.

(Event ID: 2276978567)

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

EVENT COVERAGE



MAY 2026

Celebrity Arrivals at Better World Fund Gala 2026

NurPhoto agency gallery covering celebrity arrivals at the Better World Fund Gala for Humanity — available for licensed editorial use across international media.

(Event ID: 632362)

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

EVENT COVERAGE



MAY 21, 2026

Sharon Stone Stuns the Gala for Humanity in Cannes

Sharon Stone Deeply Moves The Better World Fund Gala For Humanity On The Croisette — The World Film Festival In Cannes – Remember The Future Was A Partner Of The Evening

Full French-language editorial from the official partner of the BWF 2026, including Stone's full speech in French translation and a complete list of ministerial delegates.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

EVENT COVERAGE





MAY 25, 2026

Nandana Dev Sen Wins The Humanitarian Award At Cannes 2026

Indian-origin actor, writer, and child-rights activist Nandana Dev Sen received the Best Achievement Award for Humanitarian Advocacy from the Better World Fund during the 79th Cannes Film Festival on May 18.

Official institutional coverage from one of the Gala's beneficiary organisations, including Sen's X post thanking BWF and citing the WRC's work directly.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

[EVENT COVERAGE](#)



MAY 25, 2026

Sharon Stone & Olga Kurylenko at the 79th Cannes Film Festival Better World Fund Gala

Following a premiere, Sharon Stone along with Olga Kurylenko attended the Better World Fund Gala during the 79th Cannes Film Festival on Monday(May 18th) in Cannes, France.

Fashion and red carpet coverage including Kurylenko's Leonard Paris Spring 2026 look and Stone's Michael Cinco gown.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

EVENT COVERAGE



MAY 19, 2026

Sharon Stone Honors Vialina Lemann at the Better World Fund Awards During the Cannes Film Festival

Double international recognition for female empowerment and social impact with the “Best Achievement” and “Voice of Change Award”

Coverage of the Vialina Lemann Best Achievement Award, including a photo of Manuel Collas de la Roche, Lemann, Stone, and Kurylenko together.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

EVENT COVERAGE



MAY 20, 2026

Sharon Stone Awards Vialina Lemann at the Better World Fund Awards

Double international recognition for female empowerment and social impact with the "Best Achievement" and "Voice of Change Award"

Additional international lifestyle coverage of the Lemann recognition.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

EVENT COVERAGE



MAY 30, 2026

Sharon Stone at Cannes: Hollywood Glamour, Iconic Cinema and the Art of the Exclusive Gala Invitation

An evening at the crossroads of diplomacy, art, and humanitarian commitment — the Better World Fund Gala for Humanity stands as one of the most exclusive philanthropic gatherings on the international calendar.

For VIP guests, collectors, luxury insiders, and cinema lovers, encountering Sharon Stone during Cannes often feels less like meeting a celebrity and more like stepping inside a scene from classic cinema itself.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

POST-EVENT COVERAGE



MAY 27, 2026

Inside the Better World Fund Gala for Humanity: Sharon Stone, Global Changemakers and the Art of Cannes Networking

VIP lifestyle coverage of Sharon Stone's presence at the Better World Fund Gala — one of Cannes' most exclusive charitable events of the 79th Festival edition.

During the glittering intensity of the Cannes Film Festival, where cinema, philanthropy, diplomacy, and luxury converge under the Riviera sky, few events captured the spirit of meaningful glamour quite like the Better World Fund Gala for Humanity at Copal Beach Cannes.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

POST-EVENT COVERAGE



MAY, 2026

Najat Vallaud-Belkacem honored at Cannes Film Festival... and Egypt makes history as the "State of Honor"

Honoring Najat Vallaud-Belkacem at Cannes... Egypt Writes History as "Guest of Honor"
Egypt was written into the history of Cannes as Guest of Honor — a recognition of the country's civilizational depth.

Elkamony presented the HopeGiver Shield to former French Minister Najat Vallaud-Belkacem in a symbolic act of Egyptian-French solidarity.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 25, 2026

Anwar Elkamony Honors Najat Vallaud-Belkacem at the Cannes Festival

Ms. Najat Vallaud-Belkacem, the former French Minister of Education and the first woman to hold this position in the history of France, in recognition of her humanitarian and cultural career and her role in supporting intercultural dialogue and rapprochement between peoples.

"I extend my deepest gratitude to Manuel Collas de La Roche, who proved that art can be a vehicle for healing the world, and that when humanity comes together, it creates miracles." — Anwar Elkamony at the Better World Fund Gala.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 25, 2026

Egypt at Cannes: Country of Honor at the Better World Fund Gala

The events witnessed a high-level official and diplomatic presence, with great support from the Egyptian Ambassador to France, Ambassador Dr. Tarek Dahroug.

Egyptian national coverage of the Better World Fund Gala and Egypt's recognition as Guest of Honor at the 79th Cannes Film Festival, under the patronage of Ambassador Dr. Tariq Dahroug.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 25, 2026

Egypt and the HopeGiver Campaign at Cannes 2026

"The HopeGiver campaign was born from pain, but it grows through hope — to become a global voice for the marginalized, the survivors, and the true fighters in the battles of life."

— Anwar Elkamony

The honor came as part of the Better World Fund events in partnership with The HopeGiver Campaign during the Cannes International Film Festival, in a historic event that witnessed Egypt being chosen as the "country of honor" for the first time.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 25, 2026

El Nabaa Feature — Better World Fund Cannes 2026

Coverage of Egypt's historic presence as Guest of Honor at the Better World Fund Gala for Humanity, highlighting Anwar Elkamony and the HopeGiver campaign's international humanitarian mission.

The honor came as part of the Better World Fund events in partnership with The HopeGiver Campaign during the Cannes International Film Festival, in a historic event that witnessed Egypt being chosen as the "country of honor" for the first time.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 25, 2026

Tahia Masr — Egypt Honored at Cannes

Tennis star Anwar Kammouni and founder of the Global Donors of Hope campaign honor Najat Vallaud-Belkacem at the Cannes Film Festival

The honor came as part of the Better World Fund events in partnership with The HopeGiver Campaign during the Cannes International Film Festival, in a historic event that witnessed Egypt being chosen as the "country of honor" for the first time.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 25, 2026

Al Wafd Coverage — Egypt at Cannes 2026

Tennis star Anwar Kammouni and founder of the Global Donors of Hope campaign honor Najat Vallaud-Belkacem at the Cannes Film Festival

Coverage of the Better World Fund Gala, Egypt's recognition as Guest of Honor, and Anwar Elkamony as a symbol of Egyptian humanitarian achievement on the global stage.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 25, 2026

El Balad — Better World Fund Gala for Humanity 2026

Tennis star Anwar Kammouni and founder of the Global Donors of Hope campaign honor Najat Vallaud-Belkacem at the Cannes Film Festival

El Balad national coverage of Anwar Elkamony's global humanitarian mission and his ongoing partnership with Manuel Collas de La Roche and the Better World Fund at Cannes 2026.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 28, 2026

Anwar Elkamony — Egyptian Tennis Champion — Honors Icons of Humanity at Cannes

Tennis star Anwar Kammouni and founder of the Global Donors of Hope campaign honor Najat Vallaud-Belkacem at the Cannes Film Festival

At a gala dinner attended by Hollywood stars and icons of art, politics, and media, Elkamony presented the HopeGiver Shield to former French Minister Isabelle Lonvis Rome in recognition of her work for women's rights, diversity, and human solidarity worldwide.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 19, 2026

Egypt honored at Cannes: Rich history, culture, and dialogue

The ceremony, organized by the “A Better World Fund for Humanity” at Cannes’ “Coupal Beach,” featured international figures like Sharon Stone, recognized for her artistic and humanitarian contributions, and celebrated Youssef Chahine’s centenary, confirming Egypt’s

Egypt was the “Guest of Honor” at the “A Better World for Humanity” ceremony, held on Monday May 18, 2026, during the Cannes Film Festival in partnership with the “Givers of Hope” campaign, under the patronage of the Egyptian Ambassador to France and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, Dr Tariq Dahroug, and his wife, Aliaa El-Sirafi.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

ARABIC LANGUAGE PRESS



MAY 21, 2026

Festival de Cannes 2026... Sharon Stone récompensée lors du gala du Better World Fund

"The most memorable moment of the evening was the presentation of the Best Engagement Award to Sharon Stone — honored for her long-standing humanitarian commitment and international cultural influence." — IDmedia Cannes

The Better World Fund brought together the worlds of cinema, diplomacy, culture and philanthropy at its prestigious Gala for Humanity held on May 18, 2026 at COPAL BEACH, on the Boulevard de la Croisette, on the sidelines of the Cannes Film Festival.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

FRENCH & EUROPEAN PRESS



MAY 20, 2026

Cannes 2026: Sharon Stone sharply rebukes guests

Sharon Stone sharply reprimanded guests distracted by their phones at a gala in Cannes

In an event where guests are often more concerned with being seen than with listening, Stone's intervention functioned as a sharp call to order — reminding Cannes that some words still demand to be heard.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

FRENCH & EUROPEAN PRESS



MAY 20, 2026

Sharon Stone Dominates the Better World Fund Cannes 2026

At the Cannes Film Festival, there are evenings that seem designed solely to be photographed. Perfect red carpets, candlelit tables, champagne, and phones raised faster than people's eyes. And then there are evenings that, at least for a few minutes, manage to break that mechanism completely.

In a place where everyone is searching for visibility, Sharon Stone asked for presence. On a Croisette dominated by smartphones and vertical videos, a woman on stage asking people to stop looking at their phones and start truly looking at each other was always bound to leave a mark.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

FRENCH & EUROPEAN PRESS



MAY 20, 2026

Sharon Stone Domina Il Better World Fund Cannes 2026 Con Un Potente Discorso Su Donne, Empatia E Umanità

At the Cannes Film Festival, there are evenings that seem designed solely to be photographed. Perfect red carpets, candlelit tables, champagne, and phones raised faster than people's eyes.

Bilingual Italian/English analysis of Stone's speech in the context of BWF's women's rights and gender equality theme.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE →](#)

FRENCH & EUROPEAN PRESS



MAY 20, 2026

Sharon Stone reprimands Cannes guests for using their phones during the gala

Actress Sharon Stone was at the center of one of the most talked-about moments of the 2026 Cannes Film Festival, after calling out several attendees who were using their phones while she was giving a speech at the Better World Fund gala.

Visibly resolute, the actress urged the audience to focus on those around them, speak with purpose, and rediscover gestures of closeness.

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SPANISH LANGUAGE PRESS

