

Welcome to CANADA INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL

The Festival was established to honor the art of filmmaking and the talented individuals who bring it to life.

If you are interested in submitting your project to the Festival, please read the information carefully.

The Festival operates in two rounds of judging. In the first round, the jury reviews films and scripts on a broader basis. Selected projects will receive an official selection Laurel.

In the second round, the jury carefully evaluates the chosen films and scripts before deciding on the category winners and special awards.

ONLY THE WINNERS will be invited to attend the AWARDS CEREMONY and the SCREENING OF WINNERS, where they will receive a trophy and certificate.

Please note that trophies and certificates WILL NOT BE MAILED TO ABSENT WINNERS. They will only receive a digital version of the certificate.

***** IMPORTANT INFORMATION *****

When registering for this film festival, it is important to bear in mind that providing your email address implies the possibility of using it for future promotional campaigns about all our film festivals, without the need for prior notice or request for consent additional.

If you would like to stop receiving our emails, please get in touch.

Therefore, it is always advisable to consult the festival's privacy policy to fully understand how your personal data will be used and make an informed decision before registering.

This Festival is presential but in case of political instability, martial law, war, natural disaster, pandemic diseases, or any situation that puts at risk the organization of the event and the people involved, automatically the Festival will be switched to ONLINE FESTIVAL.

All submitters will be notified about that on the notification date.

The winners will receive the online version of the certificate.

Awards & Prizes

Trophy and Award Certificates:

Best Short Film
Best Documentary
Best Feature Film
Best Canadian Short Film
Best Canadian Documentary
Best Canadian Feature Film
Best Student Film
Best Animation
Best Web Series
Best Screenplay Short
Best Screenplay Feature
Best Music Video

Rules & Terms

All non-English films must have English subtitles.

At this time, we are only requesting online submissions and all materials must be viewable online, as we want to remain as green as possible.

By submitting to the festival, you agree to allow your film (or other artistic work) to be screened by the festival during the festival run, for which you are submitting, at no charge to the festival. If there are to be any additional screenings, we will come to a mutual agreement between the filmmaker and the festival. All media selected by the festival will be asked to provide promotional materials, but we ask that no promotional materials be sent until selection. By submitting to the festival you are admitting copyright ownership of everything submitted.

The festival reserves the right to disqualify any submission at any time, if there is any question of ownership, copyright infringement or any sign of disrespect (in any form of media) to the festival or its representatives.

RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING POSTERS AND TRAILERS

It is very important for all filmmakers to readily have available posters and trailers and additional materials possible to submit to film festivals at the submission stage. Film festival directors appreciate these materials to work with, should your film get accepted to the festival submitted. As a Festival Director, I see professionalism and dedication to the film when the submitter sends a well-made poster and a short trailer. This also helps the film festival better promote selected films.

POSTER :

It's important to get a frame from the movie or a photo still of the film that makes people look at it and think "I want to see this film" or "Who is that guy and why he is running?" or "Why is that woman crying?".

A good poster should immediately grab people's attention. A poster with only the title a background doesn't convey any emotion and doesn't mean anything.

Film festivals prefer to have posters in the following proportion.

Recommended file size: 1400 pixels x 2100 pixels at 300dpi.

Make the Title stand out, but don't make it so big that it distracts the important images in your poster.

Make sure to export it as a JPEG, PNG, or PDF.

TRAILER:

The trailer has to give the audience a glimpse of your film and just enough so as not to reveal important parts of it. This will make the viewer curious about your film.

Place important information like Title, Directed by..., important actors in the poster. Include festival laurels like Winner of Best Film or Best Director, and Official Selections from important festivals such as Sundance, TIFF, etc...

Duration: The recommended length of a trailer should be between 1 and 2 minutes maximum.

Export : 1080p – MP4 or Quicktime mov file.

Even if your short film is 3 to 5 minutes long, creating a 1-minute trailer will make a good impression.

FINAL THOUGHTS

When a film is submitted to my festivals without a poster or trailer or sometimes without both, the judges take points off the final rating of the film.s points off the final rating of the film.

Categories, Deadlines and Fees

Early Deadline: 30, October, 2025

Regular Deadline: 30, April, 2026

Late Deadline : 31, May, 2026

Notification Date: 01, June, 2026

Festival date: 16, July 2026

These fees are without your 10% discount

Best Animation

Early Deadline: \$ 15.00

Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00

Late Deadline: \$ 40.00

Best Student Film

Early Deadline: \$ 15.00

Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00

Late Deadline: \$ 40.00

Best TV & Web Series

Early Deadline: \$ 15.00

Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00

Late Deadline: \$ 40.00

Best Music Video

Early Deadline: \$ 15.00

Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00

Late Deadline: \$ 40.00

Best Short Screenplay

Early Deadline: \$ 15.00

Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00

Late Deadline: \$ 40.00

Best Feature Screenplay

Early Deadline: \$ 20.00

Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00

Late Deadline: \$ 45.00

Best Documentary

Early Deadline: \$ 20.00

Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00

Late Deadline: \$ 45.00

Best Short Film

Early Deadline: \$ 15.00
Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00
Late Deadline: \$ 40.00

Best Feature Film

Early Deadline: \$ 20.00
Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00
Late Deadline: \$ 45.00

Best Canadian Documentary

Early Deadline: \$ 20.00
Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00
Late Deadline: \$ 45.00

Best Canadian Short Film

Early Deadline: \$ 15.00
Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00
Late Deadline: \$ 40.00

Best Canadian Feature Film

Early Deadline: \$ 20.00
Regular Deadline: \$ 35.00
Late Deadline: \$ 45.00