



October 22, 2016

### **IFFF Youth Fest! Short Film & Short Screenplay & Comic Book Official Competition Guidelines**

The IFFF Youth Fest! Short Film & Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition is a youth program presented by the International Family Film Festival (IFFF), a California nonprofit Educational/Cultural Corporation, Federal tax ID # 95-4464954 and located at 146 West Cypress Ave Suite 102, Burbank, CA 91502. All inquiries should be directed to the International Family Film Festival (IFFF) at the above address.

#### **Purpose of the IFFF Youth Fest!**

The purpose of the IFFF Youth Fest! is to support the International Family Film Institute's (IFFI) vision to foster a greater understanding of family through discovery, the creation and sharing of quality stories from around the world. The IFFF Youth Fest! gives young filmmakers and storytellers from across the US and abroad, the opportunity to join important film panels, network with their peers and professional filmmakers, and premiere their films and screenplays before a live audience.

#### **Eligibility**

The Short Film & Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition is open to all youth who are between 8 to 13 or 14 to 17 years of age ("Participating Individual or Group(s)"). Any individual or member of a Participating Group younger than 13 years of age must belong to a group in which their parent or guardian is responsible for the submission of the Short Film & Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition entry, and the parent must with the youth, submit a signed document verifying their identity and their authorization for including the short film or short screenplay or comic book entry for their Participating Individual or Group.

The Short Film & Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition is subject to all federal, state and local laws and regulations and, if prohibited by law in any jurisdiction, is not available to participants in that area.

Staff of the IFFF, the IFFI or Freshi Films, LLC and their affiliated divisions, the judges and their immediate family members and members of the same households, whether related or not, are not eligible to participate in this Short Film & Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition. This Competition is open to worldwide participation.

Each Participating Group will be able to select only one of the two age brackets, and at least one of the members of the Participating Group must be of an age in their respective bracket to qualify for that bracket. Additional members, including parents, grandparents and siblings are allowed and encouraged to work with the eligible youth or group on a short film or short screenplay or comic book, but the individual youth or group of youth are the primary individual(s) who are responsible for the pre-production, production and post-production of the submitted short film(s) and/or the writing of the submitted short screenplay(s).

The IFFF Youth Fest! and the Short Film & Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition Selection Committee reserves the right to disqualify a short film or short screenplay or comic book if they deem an entry to not be the product of a collaborative effort directly involving the youth in the creation of the short film, short screenplay or comic book. Entrants understand that each submission is in no way a guarantee of acceptance into the IFFF Youth Fest!, and that nobody representing the IFFF Youth Fest! has guaranteed the acceptance of a short film and/or short screenplay or comic book into the festival prior to this submission. The entrant(s) acknowledge he/she/they has/have read and agreed to the rules and conditions of the IFFF Youth Fest!.

#### **Categories**

The categories eligible for the Youth Fest! competition are as follows:

**Short Film:** Animation, Comedy, Documentary, Drama, Mixed Media, Music Video

**Short Screenplay:** Animation, Comedy, Drama, Musical, Sci-Fi/Fantasy

**Comic Book:** Action/Adventure, Fantasy, Humor, Manga, Mystery, Science Fiction, SuperHero

Only short films, short screenplays & comic books made and entered in one of the above categories shall be considered for competition.

### **How To Enter The Short Film & Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition**

Visit [www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest](http://www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest) Homepage to click on live links to entry forms on how to enter the Short Film, Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition All short films, short screenplays & comic books entered must not contain any of the following:

- Brand names, trademarks and any/all copyrighted material not in the public domain or for which you have not obtained the rights, in writing, to use;
- Voice-overs not performed by Participating Individual or Group members;
- Photography or artwork not created by Participating Individual or Group Members while making their short film;
- Any content that would not be suitable for viewing by all audiences and be a positive viewing experience such as gratuitous violence, nudity, lewd or vulgar behavior; offensive language and/or gestures;
- Images and/or comments from people who have not given their permission to appear in the short film for the purpose of entering this short film competition and being used as detailed herein by IFFF Youth Fest!

At its sole discretion, the IFFF Youth Fest! Competition Selection Committee reserves the right to refuse entry of any short film and/or short screenplay and/or comic book, if it is determined that the entry violates the above rules and therefore is not eligible.

Participating Individuals or Group Members represent and warrant that (i) the films, screenplays and comic books that they submit are their own original creations and do not infringe on any other person's or entity's rights; (ii) they have obtained permission, if applicable, from the people featured in this film or screenplay or comic book competition with the understanding that some parts of the entries may be used for other purposes as disclosed herein these rules; and (iii) the submission of the entry will not violate any agreements or understandings the Participating Individual or Group Members has/have with any third party.

Each Participating Individual or Group Member may submit only one film, screenplay or comic book per entry form. Multiple entries may be made, but each entry will be considered as its own unique entry and will not be considered as part of a group submission or larger family submission. The entries must be produced or written in English and/or subtitled in English. Each entry must be accompanied by an email address, mailing address and name and phone number of a contact person and a signed Letter of Writer or Production Authenticity by the youth filmmaker or writer.

If the youth filmmaker or writer is 13 years of age or younger, the youth filmmaker or writer **AND** a parent, legal guardian or teacher of the youth filmmaker or writer must both sign a Letter of Writer or Production Authenticity form in order to complete the entry process.

### **Grant of Rights in Films, Screenplays and/or Comic Books Submitted**

Except where prohibited by law, in exchange for participation in the IFFF Youth Fest! Short Film, Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition, each Participating Individual or Group hereby grants to IFFF Youth Fest! and IFFF the following:

- Consent by the Individual or Participating Group and its members for IFFF Youth Fest! and or IFFF the use of their/its/his/her name, likeness, voice, opinions; and assigns to IFFF Youth Fest! a free, non-exclusive license to use, copy, sublicense, edit, modify, make derivative works, publish, exploit, transmit, distribute,

publicly perform, publish, delete or display the content of and elements embodied in the submitted film, screenplay and/or comic book, in whole or in part, in perpetuity in any and all media (whether now existing or hereafter devised) without limitation, and without additional consideration, payment or acknowledgment to the entrant.

- IFFF *Movies on the Move!* program: All IFFF Youth Fest! Official Selection short films may be given the opportunity to be screened at Schools, Libraries, Park & Recreation Centers, Senior Centers and/or Community Centers across America (the “Free Community Screenings”) and /or other venues deemed appropriate by the IFFF Youth Fest!/IFFF organization. The short film selection process will be determined at the discretion of the IFFF Youth Fest! selection Committee. The Free Community Screenings will not enable the facilities to charge entrance or admission fees, and no royalties will be paid for films included in the Free Community Screenings. The IFFF Youth Fest! and IFFF will use their best efforts, however, to provide online links (e.g. to Amazon or iTunes) and/or other such promotional consideration (as appropriate) to the filmmakers and by permission of the filmmaker if their film is selected for the *Movies on the Move!* program inclusion.
- All Participating Individual or Group Member and Members grant to IFFF Youth Fest! the right to contact the filmmaker/writer regarding their entry, publicize, promote or broadcast their entry for any other purpose related to the Short Film, Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition.

### **Requirement to Supervise/Copyrights**

All Participating Individuals or Group Members agree:

- If the person appearing in the short film or comic book is a minor then permission is to be obtained from the minor’s parent or legal guardian. If the short film or comic book is of a crowd shot containing a number of people without focusing on any one person, then no permission is required. Each Participating Individual or Group may incur costs while creating their short film and/or short screenplay and/or comic book but these costs are the sole responsibility of the Entrant.

**2016 Youth Fest! (IFFF)** submission dates are as follows:

|                                     |                    |             |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| <b>Early Submission Deadline:</b>   | <b>May 1</b>       | <b>\$20</b> |
| <b>Regular Submission Deadline:</b> | <b>August 15</b>   | <b>\$25</b> |
| <b>Late Submission Deadline:</b>    | <b>September 2</b> | <b>\$30</b> |

### **Jury & Jury Criteria**

Short film, short screenplay and comic book decisions shall be determined by IFFF Youth Fest! and the Selection Committee. All decisions are final. Only those entries that are deemed appropriate for inclusion in their respective categories will be an ‘Official Selection’ in the festival.

### **Short Film, Short Screenplay and Comic Book Awards**

The Judges will recognize finalists and winners in each category. The finalists and winners will be chosen for their quality and appropriateness in the various categories, as shown below and determined by the sole and absolute discretion of the IFFF Youth Fest! Jury. Each of the categories below includes two (2) age brackets to enter in: One for youth 8 -13 years of age, and the second for youth 14 -17 years of age. Each Participating Individual or Group will need to select one of the two brackets, and the individual or at least one of the members of the Participating Group must be of a designated age to qualify for that bracket.

- Finalists and Winners will receive a Certificate of Recognition;
- ALL Official Selections, Finalists and Winners will have use of the IFFF Seal that corresponds to their appropriate designation of achievement;
- ALL Official Selections, Finalists and Winners will be displayed on the IFFF Youth Fest website ([www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest](http://www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest))

### **Delivery of Certificates/Awards**

If the Certificates/Awards are not received at the IFFF Youth Fest! on the festival day and/or at the IFFF Youth Fest! Awards Ceremony, certificates will be sent by mail to the addresses provided by the Individual/Participating Group. IFFF Youth Fest! shall not be held responsible for the failed delivery of any documents provided that IFFF Youth Fest! addresses the documents to the address provided by the Official Selections participant, finalist or winner.

### **Announcement of Official Selections**

IFFF Youth Fest! will announce the Official Selections, finalists and winners and post their short film or short screenplay or comic book title and the youth filmmaker or screenwriter's full name (unless requested not to) at [www.iffifest.org/youthfest](http://www.iffifest.org/youthfest) on October 22, 2016 or soon thereafter.

### **Use of Participants' (Official Selections, Finalists and Winners) Names and Likeness**

Each participating individual or group who accepts any award or certificate will be deemed thereby to have granted to IFFF Youth Fest! and IFFF the right to print, publish, broadcast and use, worldwide and in any media now known or hereafter developed, including but not limited to the Internet the name, portrait, picture, voice, likeness and biographical information of each such Official Selection, finalist or winner as news or information and for advertising and promotional purposes without additional consideration, except where prohibited by law.

### **Severability**

If any one or more provisions of these Official Rules are held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect the validity, effect or enforcement of any other provision or provisions of these Official Rules.

### **Binding Arbitration, Venue, Choice of Law**

By participating in the Short Film, Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition, each Participating Individual or group and its members agree:

- Any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or in connection with this Youth Fest! Competition, or any prizes awarded, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action;
- The parties will first try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation under the Commercial Mediation Rules of the American Arbitration Association, before resorting to arbitration;
- Any remaining unresolved controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Competition, or the breach thereof, shall be settled by binding arbitration in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association, and judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator(s) may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof;
- All mediations and arbitrations shall be held in Los Angeles County, California;
- Any and all claims, judgments, and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, including costs associated with entering this Competition, but in no event shall include attorneys' fees;
- Under no circumstances will a participating individual or group or its members be permitted to obtain awards for, and entrant hereby waives all rights to claim, punitive, incidental, and consequential damages, and any other damages, other than for actual out-of-pocket expenses, and any and all rights to have damages multiplied or otherwise increased;
- All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Official Rules, or the rights and obligations of a participating individual or group or its members, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules or provisions (whether of the State of California or any other jurisdiction), that would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of California.

### **Release**

By participating in the IFFF Youth Fest! Film, Screenplay & Comic Book Competition, each participating individual or group and its members agree to release and hold harmless IFFF Youth Fest!, IFFF, its officers, directors, employees

and agents (the "Released Parties") from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of their participation, including but not limited to their performance of any activity in connection with their film, screenplay or comic book, or receipt or use of any prize. The Released Parties are released of any liability for any damage, destruction, wreckage, breakage, impairment or potential damage to any materials, software or systems used in connection with the Film & Screenplay Competition. The Released Parties are not responsible for late, lost, misdirected, altered or damaged entries.

**Limitations of Liability:** The Released Parties are not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by the Film, Screenplay Competition organizers, printing errors or by any of the equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the Film & Screenplay Competition or by any technical or human error which may occur in the processing of Entry Forms in the Film & Screenplay Competition. The Released Parties are not responsible for any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, entries. The Released Parties are not responsible for any problems or technical malfunction of any telephone network or lines, computer on-line-systems, servers or providers, computer equipment, software or failure of email on account of technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet or at any web site or combination thereof, including injury or damage to Short Film, Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition organizer's or to any other person's computer related to or resulting from participating in the Competition.

By participating in this Competition, participating individuals or groups agree that they understand and agree to abide by all the terms of these Official Rules and by the decisions of IFFF Youth Fest! Selection Committee and Staff and that they are final and binding on all matters pertaining to this Short Film, Short Screenplay & Comic Book Competition.

**DELIVERY INFORMATION:**

- α.** Short Film on 2 DVD's (NTSC) or short screenplay & comic book on 2 printed copies per entry
- β.** b. completed Entry Form
- χ.** Entry Fee with a check or money order made out to **IFFF** (International Family Film Festival),
- δ.** 50-word or less synopsis
- ε.** signed Letter of Writer or Production Authenticity from Individual youth or youth **AND** parent, legal guardian or teacher if youth is 13 years of age or younger to confirm the authorship of entrant
- φ.** SASE if entrant wants the project returned after the festival is over (allow for at least 2 weeks following the festival's conclusion)

**Send all Submissions, Inquiries and Correspondence to:**

IFFF Youth Fest!  
c/o IFFF  
146 West Cypress Avenue, Suite #102  
Burbank, CA 91502