

# IFFF Youth Fest! Film & Screenplay Official Competition Rules

The IFFF Youth Fest! film and screenplay Film & Screenplay Competition is a youth program organized by International Family Film Festival (IFFF), a California nonprofit Educational/Cultural Corporation, Federal tax ID # 95-4464954 and located at 4531 Empire Avenue, Suite 200, Burbank, CA 91505. All inquiries should be directed to 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) mission 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 from across the US and abroad the opportunity to join important film panels, network with their peers and professional filmmakers and premiere their films before a live audience.

## **Eligibility**

The Film & Screenplay Competition is open to all youth who are between 8 and 13 or 14 and 18 years of age ("Participating Group(s)"). Any member of a Participating Group younger than 13 must belong to a group in which their parent or guardian is responsible for the submission of the Film & Screenplay Competition entry, and the parent must separately submit a signed document verifying their identity and their authorization for including the film or screenplay entry for their Participating Group.

The Film & Screenplay 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.

Employees of the IFFF (the Film & Screenplay Competition organizer), the IFFI and 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 Film & Screenplay Competition. The Film & Screenplay Competition is open to worldwide participation.

Each Participating Group will be able to select only one of the two brackets, and at least one of the members of the Participating Group must be of an age to qualify for that bracket. Additional members, including parents, grandparents and siblings are allowed and encouraged to work with the eligible child on the film or screenplay.

However, each Participating Group is asked to remember that this is a YOUTH Film & Screenplay Competition.

The IFFF Youth Fest! and the Film & Screenplay Competition organizer reserve the right to disqualify a film or screenplay if they deem an entry to not be the product of a collaborative effort directly involving the youth in the creation of the film or screenplay.

## **Theme**

The categories eligible for the Film & Screenplay Competition are as follows:

### Film

- Drama
- Comedy
- Animation
- Music Video
- Documentary
- Mixed Media (may include 1 or more of other categories)

Screenplay:

- Drama
- Comedy
- Animation
- Sci-Fi/Adventure

Only films & screenplays made and entered in one of the above categories shall be considered for winning in the Film & Screenplay Competition.

## **How To Enter The Film & Screenplay Competition**

Visit [www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest](http://www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest) to find instructions (entry forms) on how to enter the Film & Screenplay Competition.

All films and screenplays entered must not contain any of the following:

- Brand names, trademarks and any copyrighted material not in the public domain or for which you have not obtained the rights, in writing, to use;
- Voice-overs not done by Participating Group members;
- Photography or artwork not created by Participating Group Members while making their film;
- Any content that would not be suitable for viewing by all audiences and be a positive viewing experience such as 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 film or screenplay for the purpose of entering this Film & Screenplay Competition and being used as detailed herein by IFFF Youth Fest!

At its sole discretion, the IFFF Youth Fest! and/or the Film & Screenplay Competition Organizer reserves the right to refuse entry of any film and/or screenplay if it is determined that the film and/or screenplay violates the above rules and therefore is not eligible.

Participating Groups represent and warrant that (i) the films and screenplays 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 the film or screenplay to enter the film or screenplay in this Film & Screenplay Competition with the understanding that some parts of the film and screenplay may be used for other purposes as disclosed herein these rules; and (iii) the submission of the film and screenplay will not violate any agreements or understandings the Participating Group has with any third party.

Each Participating Group can submit only one film or screenplay 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. Films and screenplays must be made or written in English or subtitled in English. Each film and screenplay submission must be accompanied by an email address, mailing address and phone number of a contact person and a statement that the Participating Group has

obtained signed releases from each of its participating members and that it has complied with all the rules of the Film & Screenplay Competition. Also, parents of minor youth under 13 years of age must provide a signed consent form for their Film & Screenplay Competition submission, which can be downloaded from the Film & Screenplay Competition website and faxed or emailed to the Film & Screenplay Competition organizer.

All Participating Groups grant to IFFF Youth Fest! the right to contact you regarding your entry, publicize your entry, promote your entry for any other purpose related to the Film & Screenplay Competition and/or broadcast your entry.

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

Except where prohibited by law, in exchange for participation in the Film & Screenplay Competition, each Participating Group hereby grants to IFFF Youth Fest! and the Film & Screenplay Competition Organizer:

- Consent by Participating Group and its members for IFFF Youth Fest! 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 and/or screenplay, 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.

## **Requirement to Supervise/Copyrights**

All Participating Groups agree:

- To obtain permission, written if possible, from each and every person appearing in a film (screenplay not applicable) for his or her image and/or comments to be entered into this Film & Screenplay Competition and for it to be used by IFFF Youth Fest! as set forth herein. If the person appearing in the film is a minor then permission is to be obtained from the minor's parent or legal guardian. If the film is of a crowd shot containing a number of people without focusing on any one person, then no permission is required; (A copy of the written release to be obtained where possible is available as a downloadable file on this website.)
- To explain these Official Rules to its members, their parent or legal guardian if the member is a minor under age 18.
- To ensure that all of the Participating Group's members, or their parent or legal guardian, have signed the **AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE FOR PHOTOGRAPHS AND/OR AUDIO AND/OR VIDEO RECORDING AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY**. These forms are available as PDF downloadable files on this website.

## **Cost**

There is a processing payment (see the IFFF entry form for details) to IFFF Youth Fest! (All checks are made out to the **International Family Film Festival**). 2010/2011 Film and Screenplay processing fees are as follows:

Film: \$25/entry. Each and every entry must be accompanied by the \$25 payment to be included in the competition.

Screenplay: \$25/entry. Each and every entry must be accompanied by the \$25 payment to be included in the competition.

Each Participating Group may incur costs while creating their film and/or screenplay but these costs are the sole responsibility of the Participating Group.

## **Judging & Criteria**

Judging shall be determined by IFFF Youth Fest! and the Film & Screenplay Competition Organizer. Elements of the judging may include, but is not limited to: audience viewing and rating on the Film & Screenplay Competition website and/or adjudication by official judges appointed by IFFF Youth Fest! and/or the Film & Screenplay Competition Organizer.

Judging may be done by audience voting once the finalists have been selected by IFFF Youth Fest! and the Film & Screenplay Competition Organizer. Only those films and/or screenplays that are deemed appropriate for inclusion in their respective categories will be selected for participation in the festival.

## **Dates**

Announcement of official selections into the festival will be made on February 4th, 2011.

Official film screening schedule announced February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Winners will be notified on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Awards Ceremony.

## **Film and Screenplay Awards**

The Judges will recognize finalists and winners in each film and screenplay category. The film or screenplay finalists and winners will be chosen for their quality and appropriateness in the various categories, as shown below and determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Judges. Each of the categories below includes two (2) age brackets, one for entries between 8 and 13 years old and a second segment for youth 14 to 18 years of age. Each Participating Group will need to select one of the two brackets, and at least one of the members of the Participating Group must be of an age to qualify for that bracket.

The Film & Screenplay Awards are:

- Certificates of Recognition will be awarded to ALL Official Selections, regardless of qualifying as a “finalist” or “winner.”;
- 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
- Winners will receive an IFFF Youth Fest! Trophy

## **Notification of Selection**

Filmmakers and screenwriters included as “Official Selections (including the Finalists and Winners from the same youth selected)” will be notified via email, mail and/or phone and their names will be posted at [www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest](http://www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest).

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

If not received at the IFFF Youth Fest! on the festival day and/or Awards Ceremony, certificates, award seals and/or trophies will be sent by mail to the addresses provided by the Participating Group. IFFF Youth

Fest! shall not be responsible for the failed delivery of any documents and/or awards provided that IFFF Youth Fest! addresses the documents and/or awards to the address provided by the official selections participant, finalist or winner.

## **Announcement of Winners**

IFFF Youth Fest! will announce the Official Selections, finalists and winners and post their full names and city and state of residence at [www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest](http://www.iffilmfest.org/youthfest).

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

Each Participating Group festival participant who accepts any award or certificate will be deemed thereby to have granted to IFFF Youth Fest! the right, at any time and from time to time, to print, publish, broadcast and use, worldwide and in any media now known or hereafter developed, including but not limited to, the Internet and world wide web, the name, portrait, picture, voice, likeness and biographical information of each such 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 Film & Screenplay Competition, each Participating Group and its members agree:

- Any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or in connection with this Film & Screenplay 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 Film & Screenplay 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 attorneys' fees;
- Under no circumstances will a Participating 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 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 Film & Screenplay Competition, each Participating Group and its members agree to release and hold harmless IFFF Youth Fest!, IFFF, its officers, directors, employees and agents, including the Film & Screenplay Competition Organizer (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 or screenplay, or in the Film & Screenplay Competition 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 Film & Screenplay Competition organizer's or to any other person's computer related to or resulting from participating in the Film & Screenplay Competition.

**DISCLAIMER: IFFF Youth Fest! is a division of the International Family Film Festival. The views and opinions expressed by the film and screenplay entries are not necessarily the views of the IFFF. IFFF Youth Fest! is responsible for the content herein, including the truth and legality of the statements made, and IFFF Youth Fest! represents that it has the legal right and authority to provide the content or graphics provided.**

By participating in the Film & Screenplay Competition, Participating 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! which are final and binding on all matters pertaining to this Film & Screenplay Competition.