



Rules & Regulations

1. The International Short Film Festival of Cyprus (ISFFC) is organised **by the Ministry of Education Culture, Sport and Youth of Cyprus** and the Rialto Theatre **from the 9th – 15th October 2021** at the Rialto Theatre in Limassol.
2. The main objective of the ISFFC is the promotion of the art of Cinema through the presentation of a diverse showcase of short films from around the globe. The aim of the festival is also to promote and propagate the production of short films and to develop a spirit of friendship and cooperation among filmmakers. Moreover, it presents the work of talented filmmakers who successfully use creative cinematic language forms and effectively tell a story in a short film. It is an annual event with free entrance.

3. Eligibility

- a. All films in Competition should be Cyprus premieres.
 - b. Fiction, documentary, experimental, student and animation short films are eligible for participating in the festival's competition.
 - c. Films must not exceed 25 minutes in length.
 - d. Formats eligible for screening are the following: DCP, Quick Time: 720p - 1080p / H264, MPEG - 4: 720p - 1080p
 - e. The overall artistry and the quality of work, the dramaturgy level of the film and the originality of direction will be highly valued. Films not complying with the above standards or of pornographic content and/or films promoting war and racism shall be excluded from the festival.
4. Films will be screened in their original language with English and Greek subtitles.
 5. No screening fees are paid to any participating films.
 6. The International Short Film Festival of Cyprus was selected by the European Film Academy to join the network of its partner festivals. Further to the ISFFC's inclusion in the EFA's network, as of 2019, the Festival shall have the right to nominate one short film for the European Film Academy Awards.

7. National Competition Section

- a. Cypriot Films compete both for the **International Awards**, as well as for the **National Awards** of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus.
- b. Cypriot Directors who live and work in Cyprus or abroad may submit their work. It's essential to attach when requested the official proof of Cypriot Citizenship (Identity / Passport).
- c. Films must not exceed 25 minutes in length.
- d. Films must have been completed after the **1st of January 2020.**
- e. Three film categories are accepted for Competition:
 - Short films (fiction, animation, experimental)
 - Short documentaries
 - Student short films (fiction, animation, experimental).
- f. All films should be Cyprus Premieres.
- g. Awards will be granted only in categories with more than one participation.
- h. Films submitted in the National Competition Section should include at least 3 Cypriots in major credits.
- i. Student films are accepted only if the director is Cypriot.

- j. Student films are accepted only if the film is the student's graduation project. In this case, the application for participation should be accompanied by a certificate from the school/university where s/he studies.
- k. Films in the National Competition Section should be in one of the two official languages of the Republic of Cyprus or should contain at least 50% of Greek or Turkish dialogues. In case of films whose narrative justifies the existence of a larger percentage of dialogues in a foreign language, the applicant should provide an explanatory note. The final decision rests with the pre-selection committee. This does not apply for student films which are allowed to have all the dialogues in a foreign language.
- l. The financial awards will be granted to the Director.
- m. Pre-selection committee:
- The pre-selection committee consists of three members from the field of cinema.
 - The selection is made by simple vote.
 - The pre-selection committee is not obliged to provide a rationale for selection or rejection of films.
- n. Only one film per participant may be submitted.
- o. Films containing dialogues in a foreign language should be submitted with English subtitles.
- p. The directors/producers of the films should complete and send the entry form in which they provide the technical details of the film and comply with the rules and regulations of the festival.
- q. Submissions are open until **15th of June 2021.**
- r. The films that compete in the National Competition Section are selected after submission via the shortfilmdepot.com and filmfreeway.com platform.
- s. Only the producers/directors of the selected films shall be notified in due time.
- t. When notified for Official Selection, the producer or director should send a copy of their film in the screening format stated in their application.
- u. Upon submission, the director or producer have no right to withdraw their participation.
- v. Films that are publicly accessible and available on the Internet are excluded from the competition.

8. International Competition Section

- a. The members of the Artistic Committee, appointed by the organisers of the festival, are film directors Mrs Alexia Roider and Mr Ioakim Mylonas.
- b. International films competing in the International Competition Section will be selected and invited following their submission via filmfreeway.com. However, the artistic committee reserves the right to invite any other short films to directly participate, by granting them a special invitation.
- c. Films must have been completed after **the 1st of January 2020.**
- d. Short films accepted for competition can be fiction, experimental, animation, student or documentary shorts with a running time up to 25'.
- e. When notified for Official Selection, the producer or director should send a signed application form stating all technical requirements to the following e-mail address: info@isffc.com.cy. The official screener should be sent online via a secure downloadable link or at the following address:

International Competition Section ISFFC
 Rialto Theatre
 19, Andrea Droussioti Str., Heroes' Square,
 3040 Limassol Cyprus
 Tel: +35725343907
 Fax: +35725749663
info@isffc.com.cy

- f. Only the director/producer of the selected films shall be notified in due time.
- g. The financial awards shall be granted to the Director.
- h. Only one film per participant may be submitted.
- i. Films containing dialogues in a foreign language should be submitted with English subtitles.
- j. All films should be Cyprus premieres.
- k. Upon submission of the entry form, the director or producer has no right to withdraw their application.
- m. The deadline for submissions via shortfilmdepot.com and filmfreeway.com is the **15th of June 2021.**

9. "Amaze me" Competition Section

This competition programme includes top-notch music videos from around the world, invited by the Artistic Committee. A student jury from the Department of Multimedia and Graphic Arts of the Cyprus University of Technology shall decide about the relevant award.

10) “Parallel Programs”

A programme out of competition showcasing films that are invited and selected by the Artistic Committee.

11) Hospitality: The Festival covers the accommodation expenses for one participant from each film, up to five nights, and provides a sponsorship up to 100 euros for the air ticket.

12) The Organisers reserve the right to settle any issue not included in these rules and regulations.

13) Film excerpts of no more than 10% of the total duration shall be used for advertising and publicity purposes (online, TV etc.).

14) The Festival reserves the right to screen the selected films in its travelling programme in Cyprus, only for cultural purposes.

15) The Jury consists of five members and the meetings take place when at least three members are present.

a. The Jury has the responsibility for granting the awards for both sections of the Festival.

b. No member of the Jury should be directly or indirectly involved in a film in competition.

c. During the Jury meetings a representative of the organizers shall be present yet having no right to vote.

d. The Jury Members are not allowed to release to the daily press or to any interested parties anything that concerns its procedures before the official announcement. Furthermore, they are not allowed to express their views about the participating films outside official meetings and before the official announcement of the final decision.

e. Decisions are made by the majority of the members' votes.

f. In case of equality of votes, the president has the winning vote.

g. Rationales shall be drawn up and announced only for the winning films.

h. The Jury reserves the right not to present any or all of the awards stated in the rules.

16) Awards

International Competition

- 1st Prize for Best Short Film: 4000 euro
- Best Director Award: 2500 euro
- 2nd Prize for Best Short Film: 1500 euro
- Best Documentary Award: 3000 euro
- The Jury may give up to 3 Special Mentions in the International Competition Section.
- One ISFFC nomination for the European Film Academy Awards according to the regulations set by the European Film Academy.

National Competition

- 1st Prize for Best National Film: 4000 euro
- 2nd Prize for Best National Film: 2500 euro
- Best Director Award "Ntinos Katsourides": Includes the amount of 2.500€, an offer from the Cultural Services, of the Cyprus Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth and the Provision of technical equipment for the director's next short film (in services).
- Best Cinematography Award: post-production services, colour correction & DCP in HD – by Stefilm.
- Best Actor / Actress Award (National Competition Section): 500 euro - Limassol Municipality.
- For the National Competition Section, the following Special Mentions may be given: Screenplay, Sound, Editing, Art Direction and Music.

Student Jury Award for Best Music Video in the Amaze Me competition section: 500 euro. Student jury from the Department of Multimedia and Graphic Arts – Cyprus University of Technology.

17) The Festival Organisers reserve the right to organise the Festival's programme and proceed to any changes if thought fit.

18) For Cypriot films the following are required:

- a. Summary in Greek and English for Greek Cypriot films, summary in English for Turkish Cypriot Films.
- b. Main Cast and Credits (in digital form), as well as the dialogue list of the film in English.
- c. The online link must have embedded English subtitles.
- d. Filmography and biography of the director in English and Greek for the Greek Cypriot films and only in English for the Turkish Cypriot films.

19) Copyright clearance is the responsibility of the producer for each submitted film, pursuant to the provisions of the intellectual rights law.

20) The decision of the Organisers, as to the interpretation of the rules and regulations, is final.

21) Submission of the entry form to the ISFFC implies the unconditional acceptance of these rules and regulations.

22) Any legal disputes shall only be settled by the Cypriot Court.