

# DRAMA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

## REGULATION 2025

### I. Preamble

The Drama Short Film Festival 2025 is organized by the legal entity governed by public law "Cultural Organization - Drama Short Film Festival" (hereinafter the "Festival") of the Municipality of Drama, Drama, Greece (Government Gazette B '2521/2012). The Festival aims at the promotion and development of cinematographic art, the preservation of audiovisual works - short films, the promotion of cinematographic art in Greece, the cultural decentralization and the dissemination of Greek short films, as well as at the encouragement of networking and friendship between creators, filmmakers and actors worldwide.

This Regulation governs the conduct of the Short Film Festival, according to the specific provisions for each competition section, for the year 2025 and participation implies acceptance without reservation of all the terms outlined in the present regulation. For the participation to be considered valid, the necessary documents, declarations and guarantees provided herein must be submitted by the participants (hereinafter and for the sake of brevity also referred to as "participants"). The Festival reserves the right to cancel any submission or to take any appropriate action in case of violation of the terms and conditions set forth in this Regulation or in case of act or omission that disrupts the proper conduct of the Festival.

### II. Competition Sections

#### International Animation Competition

##### General Principles

- A. The International Animation Competition of the Drama Short Film Festival will take place from September 8th to 14th, 2025.
- B. To be eligible for participation, films shall meet the following conditions:
  - B.a. Greek Premiere is required for the submission of films to the Competition. Therefore, prior public performance, screening, broadcasting or rebroadcasting of the works to the public by radio and television by any means to the public in Greece or on-demand access in any way before or during the days of the Festival are not allowed. The presentation of the film shall be deemed to be public when the film becomes accessible to a circle of persons wider than the narrow circle of the family and the immediate social circle of the author, regardless of whether the persons of this wider circle are at the same or at different locations.

B.b. Films shall be completed within the year **2024 or 2025**.

B.c. The DCP to be screened at the Festival shall be available in one of the formats provided for in this Regulation for the film screening and in one of the formats provided for in this Regulation for online screening.

B.d. Each director may participate in the Festival with only one (1) film, and shall declare the type of film (documentary, fiction, animation),

B.e. Film genres that may participate: animated films.

B.g. Films that have participated and were rejected by the Preliminary Committee may not be submitted.

### 1.1. Deadline for application - Application Fee

The application form and a digital copy of the film shall be submitted through the website [www.filmfreeway.com](http://www.filmfreeway.com) by **May 8, 2025** electronically. Submission through other platforms may also be announced.

For submissions up to the 30th of April, application fee amounts to ten (10) euros per film submitted, and for submissions from the 1st until the 8th of May application fee amounts to twelve (12) euros. Payment is due with submission. Once the digital submission is finalized, fees may not be refunded. In addition, the festival reserves the right to provide discounted or total waver codes to film or educational institutions or directors unable to pay the submission fees. Waivers are provided upon their request before the Independent Department of the Drama Short Film Festival, and relevant Administration's decision.

### 1.2. Application: Entry Procedure and Material

The application and the film in digital shall be submitted through [www.filmfreeway.com](http://www.filmfreeway.com) or other platforms.

In case of selection the following should also be submitted by the **25<sup>th</sup> of June**:

1. Completed submission entry form
2. File for the projection
3. English subtitles
4. Film's synopsis
5. One still from the film
6. The declaration - license and guarantees of the author and / or producer of and / or rightholder over the film, as provided in Annex I hereof, signed.
7. A photograph of the director
8. SRT in English

9. Director's CV and Filmography (international title and release year of each film).

The files submitted with the application form remain in the Festival Archive, as defined in term V hereof. When submitting the application, the producer declares whether he wishes the inclusion of the film in the Film Market, as defined in term VI hereof and in accordance with the specific terms to be notified to the applicants.

### 1.3. Preliminary Committee

a. Films are selected for competition by the Chair of the Program, appointed by the Board of the Cultural Organization upon the Artistic Director's or, (if he is prevented), his Deputy's proposal.

b. Once the films for the competition are selected, applicants shall be informed, by any appropriate means, about the decision of the Committee. Applicants shall not disclose the decision and not make any relevant statement and/or publication on media, including social media until the official public announcement of the Festival.

c. Films that have not been selected for the competition do not participate during the screening days of the Festival, but are included in the Film Market, as further defined in term VI hereof, provided that the applicant has provided a relevant license at his application.

### 1.4. Materials

Materials of the films for the final screening should be submitted from the **4th to the 21st of July 2025 by 14:00.**

The DCP for the cinematic screening and the other material described below must have been submitted or sent for reception to the offices of the Festival in Athens (Emm. Benaki 71, 10681 Athens) by **21st July 2025 and by 14.00.** The following material shall be submitted:

a) Digital Cinema Package (DCP) in one of the following acceptable formats:

-DCP subtitled in English or Greek for films in a language different than Greek.

-Apple ProRes, subtitled in English or Greek for films in a language different than Greek.

-H264 subtitled in English or Greek for films in a language different than Greek.

-MPEG4, subtitled in English or Greek for films in a language different than Greek.

b) For the online screening on the platform of the Festival are additionally required:

-One (1) mp4 file of the final version of the film, subtitled in English or Greek for films in a language different than Greek, for the Film Market, as further defined in term VI hereof.

- A poster of the film in A4 format

c) Signed statements of final technical check by the technical manager of the film and the director.

### 1.5. Awards Committee – Jury

a) Members of the Awards Committee are appointed by the Board of the Cultural Organization upon the Artistic Director's or, (if he is prevented), his Deputy's proposal. The Awards Committee consists of at least 3 members and appoints the Chairman. The nominated members of the Awards Committee shall be experts of cinema & the arts, filmmakers of various specialties, theorists, historians, or film critics or come from the field of film education.

b) The Award Committee shall not include a person who has contributed to the creation, production, or commercial exploitation of the films competing in the Festival or who has a relationship up to the second degree with a person who has contributed to the creation, production, or commercial exploitation of a film competing in the programme.

c) The members of the Committees are not allowed to announce their discussions and decisions, before the official announcement of the results, nor to comment on the films that compete in the Festival.

d) The Award Committee shall meet, necessarily in the presence of a representative of the Festival (secretary) at the invitation of its chairman. Present members shall be more than absent.

e) Decisions shall be taken in an open vote and by an absolute majority of its members.

f) The final meeting of the Awards Committee must be adjourned no later than at 8 am on the award day. The Awards Committee shall sign and submit to the Festival a report containing the results and votes (which are not made public by the Festival) for the awards and honors, and the names of the members who participated. The original minutes remain in the Secretariat of the Festival.

g) Any change in award or distinction after the dissolution of the meeting is not possible.

### 1.6. Awards

The following award shall be attributed and will be accompanied by a monetary award, provided that sponsorships are secured:

BEST ANIMATION FILM

SPECIAL JURY AWARD

The award is awarded to the director. It is expressly provided that awards may not be shared.

#### **I. "Drama Festival Travels"**

The Festival organizes the screening of films in various regions of Greece, seeking to promote the filmmakers and their work.

In particular, in collaboration with cultural institutions, public organizations and legal entities under public and private law, the Festival promotes the screening in appropriate venues in Athens (a) of all films that will be submitted for participation in the Official Greek Competition Program and (b) the films that will be submitted for participation in the International Competition Program and will be awarded.

Furthermore, and for a period of fourteen months, i.e., from October 2025 to December 2026, the films that will be awarded in each category may be selected for screening by a network collaborating with the Festival (such as Cinema Clubs, Municipal Cinemas, Festivals, Cultural Organizations, Municipalities, Cultural Centers, Associations and Extraordinary Events).

The Cultural Organization will obtain a relevant written permission from the producer or his heirs for the participation of the films in this action.

#### **II. Copyright**

The author and / or producer and / or rightsholder (hereinafter referred to as "Producer") declare that they hold all the copyrights required for the film to be submitted and to participate in the competition programs and the events of the Festival. The Producer shall submit, when applying, the relevant statement - provision of guarantees in printed or digital form, as provided in Annex I hereof, providing the necessary licenses.

It is possible that films submitted for participation in Competitive Programs according to the present Regulation will be selected for non-competitive events of the Festival, such as events for special occasions and / or events of other organizations - organizers. In case of selection of a film for participation in a non-competitive action, the Cultural Organization will obtain a relevant written permission from the Producer or his heirs.

The Festival is permitted to broadcast snapshots and / or extracts of any work submitted for a duration not exceeding 2'59" by the Media and / or the internet for the promotion of the film and the Festival. The license for the aforementioned retransmission is valid for one (1) year from the final choice of the film.

### **III. Archive**

Since its establishment, the Cultural Organization - Drama Short Film Festival has always conducted a mission of preservation, collection and classification of any document, work of art, audiovisual material and any other material or audio material of cultural creation. Furthermore, the Cultural Organization proceeds to the recording, indexing, classification and microphotography or digitization of the aforementioned files or media, in order to make them available to the public but also the operation of the departments and programs of the Legal Entity and the Municipality. Furthermore, the Cultural Organization creates, organizes and preserves archives that have a special historical value for the public, so that they can be used for study and research.

To this effect, each participant gives a free permission to the Cultural Organization for the perpetual storage, preservation, archiving and classification of the audiovisual work in the archive of the Cultural Organization. Participants also give a free permission to the Cultural Organization to make a copy of the work in any form, technologically known or not today, in order to ensure its preservation. The participant may revoke the relevant permission.

The Cultural Organization shall request for a permission from the participant/rightsholder, in order to include an audiovisual work in a special archive for study, research and / or other use, promotion or exploitation.

### **IV. Film Market**

As part of its objectives and in alignment with international practices in the field of audiovisual events, the Cultural Organization operates an online platform known as the Film Market. The primary goal of this platform is to facilitate communication between directors and producers, connecting them with distribution companies and television channels. The overarching purpose is to facilitate the purchase, distribution, and promotion of films not only within the festival but also at other international events. This initiative aims to foster interaction among professionals in the short film industry, thereby promoting their economic activities.

The Film Market encompasses all films submitted for participation in the competition sections of the Festival. Greek films, in particular, are allocated to a distinct category. It is important to note that the Festival reserves the right to

categorize films at its discretion, and contributors may not receive prior notification of such categorization.

The file submitted by the applicant shall be uploaded to the Film Market. In case of modification of the file, any interested party can send a request via email to [info@dramafilmfestival.gr](mailto:info@dramafilmfestival.gr)

In case of objection to the described upload to Film Market, the applicant shall send a request via email to [info@dramafilmfestival.gr](mailto:info@dramafilmfestival.gr)

#### **V. Receive and Return of materials**

Hard drives and other hardware shall be sent in the Secretariat of the Festival, either in Drama or in Athens. Shipping costs for the participation and return of hardware shall be paid by the participants.

#### **VI. Personal Data**

For the participation in the Festival, all personal data required in the application form shall be collected, namely:

- (a) the names of the director, the actors and all the contributors;
- (b) the e-mail address of the applicant;
- (c) a brief curriculum vitae of the director;
- (d) a photograph of the director.
- (e) contact details (email address and telephone number) of the producer and director

The Cultural Organization may publish in the Media, on social media, in newspapers (print and digital) and all kinds of websites concerning cinema, in addition to information and data relating to the film, the names of the director, the actors and all the contributors, the c.v. of the director and the photograph of the director.

The Cultural Organization is the controller of personal data and determines the purposes and means of the processing of personal data as defined by the personal data protection policy.

#### **VII. Miscellaneous**

The screening program of films in each Competition Program shall be determined by the Artistic Director of the Festival.

It is underlined that non-compliance with the set deadlines leads to exclusion from the procedure.

It is explicitly noted that all the dates and deadlines provided in this Regulation, including those mentioned for each competition program are indicative for the Festival, which reserves the right to modify them. In case of any change, the Festival shall notify the public and all interested parties.

The Awards for each Program may be modified and / or changed upon the recommendation of the Artistic Director.

It is explicitly noted that in case of force majeure, the Festival may be canceled or conducted only in digital form. General strike, natural disasters and emergency measures for the pandemic constitute cases of force.

The President of the Festival is responsible for resolving any dispute that may arise as a result and during the implementation of this Regulation and makes every effort in order amicably settle any dispute in accordance with the principles of good faith.

In case of non-settlement, the dispute shall be subject to the mediation process, conducted by a mediator registered in the Register of Certified Mediators maintained by the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights. The seat of mediation will be Drama, in Greece, and the process will be conducted in Greek.

If the dispute is not settled through mediation within twenty (20) days from the beginning of the procedure, the Courts of Drama are solely responsible for the final settlement of the dispute arising from the application of this Regulation and the applicable law is Greek law.



- *To be completed and sent upon selection*

## APPENDIX I

### DECLARATION – LICENSE- WARRANTY

I ..... (father's name) ..... resident of..... .. on the street ..... no. .... VAT no..... Passport no....., by virtue of my capacity as "Producer" as defined in article IV of the present Regulation of the Festival posted on the page of the Festival [www.dramafilmfestival.gr](http://www.dramafilmfestival.gr) of the audiovisual work entitled ..... (hereinafter the "Film"), grant a license for the public performance, screening, and / or presentation to the public of the Film in the cinematic and online screenings of Competition Programs of the Drama Short Film Festival, as well as for the uploading and screening on the online platform under the name Film Market according to the Regulations of the Festival and the specific screening program that will be defined, without further compensation.

Furthermore, I unreservedly consent to the digitization and / or recording of the Film for the purposes of the Festival archive and the preservation of the copy in accordance with Article V of the Festival Regulations.

I also grant a license for the download and retransmission of snapshots and / or excerpts of the Film of a duration not exceeding 2'59" from Media and online for the promotion the Film, as well as the recording of the Film strictly for the Archive of the Festival.

I hereby, the undersigned, declare that the Film does not infringe the copyright or related rights of third parties and that I have obtained all necessary licenses from the authors and artistic or other contributors related to the submission, participation, and uses of the Film according to the Festival Regulations. In any case of such claims by third parties, I, the signatory, am obliged to compensate the Festival and to intervene in any lawsuits as a procedural guarantor.