

EDMONTON INTERNATIONAL  
**FILM FESTIVAL** 

[WWW.EDMONTONFILMFEST.COM](http://WWW.EDMONTONFILMFEST.COM)

Submit your 'cinematic baby' for consideration at this year's kickin' EIFF... an OSCAR® Qualifying Festival and honored to be included in *MovieMaker Magazine's* "50 Film Festivals Worth the Entry Fee".

**CALL For Entries OPENS on January 5<sup>th</sup>.**  
**Final submission deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup>.**  
**Filmmakers will be NOTIFIED by July 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT:**

The Edmonton International Film Festival (EIFF)... international, independent and eye-opening. Our festival's primary objective is to encourage and support the appreciation of cinema as art. To achieve this, our mandate is to present the most outstanding films produced from as many countries as possible. And we sprinkle it all with a generous dose of film maker chats, Q&A's, gala screenings, a local filmmaker spotlight, 'buzzy' films that are travelling the festival circuit, shorts with lunch, and more. Films are selected on the basis of story, quality and originality. Preference is given to EDMONTON premieres.

**ABOUT EIFF:**

EIFF is a charitable, non-profit, cultural organization whose mission is to present an annual multi-day celebration of cinema as a means to transform the way people see the world. Whatever the genre, we're looking for films with strong story lines. Movies that make you question your own values, move you in some mysterious way, or leave you laughing out loud.

Located just a couple of hours from the majestic Rocky Mountains, Edmonton is THE heart of the Canadian Prairies, the largest northern city in North America and home to the Edmonton International Film Festival (EIFF). And each autumn, we hoist the curtains on a cinematic feast that celebrates the power of film. The menu consists of more than 150 films from 50+ countries, ranging from short to feature-length, dramatic to documentary, comedy to gut-wrenching and studio to independent.

We are also fascinated by a creative groundswell which we fondly refer to as "RENEGADES". These are filmmakers who are re-defining HOW we tell our cinematic stories... 3-D, VR, cellphones, carbon-neutral shoots, squirrel cams, etc. RENEGADES are also filmmakers whose VOICES demand our attention – re-defining WHO is creating movies.

The Top 3 EIFF Submission Guidelines:

- 1) Production Dates. Films produced AFTER January 1, 2016.
- 2) Premier Status. Preference is given to EDMONTON premiere status. This means no public screenings to Edmonton audiences prior to festival dates.
- 3) Broadcast & Pay-Per-View. Projects that are available to Canadian audiences on television or on subscription services such as Netflix are NOT eligible to screen at EIFF.

**WHO ATTENDS?** Our audiences love it when they can meet the people behind, and in front of, the camera. Over the years, we've had the pleasure of hosting these established artists: John Waters, Norman Jewison, Academy Award© winner Brenda Fricker, Deepa Mehta, Arthur Hiller, Werner Herzog, Paul Gross, Naomi Klein, Avi Lewis, Don McKellar, Albert Maysles, Jon Cryer, Bruce McDonald, Patrick Warburton, Rita Chiarelli, Shea Whigham, Gabriel Sunday, Jesse James Miller, Kris Holden-Ried, Zoie Palmer, Academy Award© winner, Luke Matheny... the list goes on! And countless emerging filmmakers, actors, writers and producers.

## SYF 101

Submit. Your. Film. We are looking for films of ALL lengths and in all genres — dramatic, documentary, animation, family, comedy, thriller, the list goes on — produced AFTER January 1, 2016.

<b>SUBMISSION FEES</b>		
<b>CALL FOR ENTRIES OPEN:</b> January 15		<b>FILMMAKERS ARE NOTIFIED BY:</b> July 15
<b>FEATURES (USD)</b>	<b>DEADLINES</b>	<b>SHORTS (USD)</b>
\$40	March 15 – Earlybird	\$25
\$50	April 30 – Regular	\$35
\$65	May 15 – Late	\$50
<b>EIFF to RECEIVE Exhibition Copies by:</b> SHORTS – August 1   FEATURES – September 1		
<b>Edmonton International Film Festival</b> September 27 to October 7, 2017 Questions? E-mail: <a href="mailto:submissions@edmontonfilmfest.com">submissions@edmontonfilmfest.com</a>		

## SUBMISSION CATEGORIES

**NARRATIVE FEATURE (41-mins. & longer)**

NARRATIVE FEATURE films are dramatic, live-action and animated stories, 41-mins. or longer, from Canada and around the world. We're looking for films that engage, enlighten and entertain in ALL genres. Films must have been completed after January 1, 2016 and be an EDMONTON Premiere at festival time.

### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE (41-mins. & longer)**

Documentary filmmaking continues to grow in popularity, and our audiences love 'em. We're looking for live-action and animated documentaries that are passionate, provocative, life-affirming - in other words, films that get audiences talking! Films must have been completed after January 1, 2016 and be an EDMONTON Premiere at festival time.

### **SHORT FILM : LIVE ACTION (40-mins. or less)**

WE LOVE SHORT FILMS! LOVE 'EM! And we're looking for stories that inspire, engage and entertain. We accept short, live action films in all genres, including: family, comedy, thriller, spoken word/poetry, film noir, western, anything to do with SNOW and FOOD... the list goes on. Films must have been completed after January 1, 2016 and be an EDMONTON Premiere at festival time. The Grand Jury winner in this category has the opportunity to move forward for OSCAR® consideration.

### **SHORT FILM : ANIMATION (40-mins. or less)**

WE LOVE SHORTS! We mean that. Animated Shorts must be 40-minutes or less. We are looking for all kinds of fascinating stories that teach us, motivate us, or take us to a place (in mind, or in body) that we might never have gone. Films must have been completed after January 1, 2016 and be an EDMONTON Premiere at festival time. The Grand Jury winner in this category has the opportunity to move forward for OSCAR® consideration.

### **SHORT FILM : DOCUMENTARY (40-mins. or less)**

We are looking for all kinds of fascinating documentary stories that teach us, motivate us, make us LAUGH! and/or CRY!, or show us a new perspective on the world. Films must have been completed after January 1, 2016 and be an EDMONTON Premiere at festival time.

## **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

**WHAT DOES 'OSCAR® QUALIFYING' MEAN, EXACTLY?** Fewer than 100 film festivals – in the world – are honoured to be chosen as OSCAR® Qualifying. This means that films which win our BEST ANIMATED SHORT and BEST LIVE ACTION SHORT awards are eligible for OSCAR® consideration, without the standard theatrical run, provided the film otherwise complies with the Academy rules. Winning filmmakers receive an 'official award letter' from EIFF. The Academy of Motion Picture and Sciences will post their own Call For Entries (submission is typically early OCTOBER) and it is up to the filmmaker to submit his/her film to AMPAS, along with the letter from EIFF.

**ALBERTA FILMMAKERS:** For nearly 30 years, our festival has WAIVED submission fees for Alberta filmmakers. There was no financial incentive for us to do this. We did so completely as a gesture of love for our own filmmaking community. As of 2015, ALBERTA filmmakers are eligible for a submission fee DISCOUNT. Send an email with the LENGTH of your film and your Alberta ADDRESS to: [alberta@edmontonfilmfest.com](mailto:alberta@edmontonfilmfest.com).

**ALUMNI:** Filmmakers who have a Producer, Director, Actor or Writer credit on a film that screened at EIFF in previous years – we heart you – are considered ALUMNI and eligible for a DISCOUNT. Send an email with the TITLE of your film and the YEAR it screened at EIFF to: [alumni@edmontonfilmfest.com](mailto:alumni@edmontonfilmfest.com).

**LENGTH:** Submissions may be fiction, documentary, or animation and each category is length-specific. Feature films are longer than 40-minutes. Short films are 40-mins. or less.

**CATEGORIES:** If your film is a better 'fit' in a category OTHER than the one you submitted to, or if you submitted to the incorrect category, we will automatically ensure your 'cinematic baby' is moved to the proper category. Don't stress!

**GENRES:** Whatever the genre, we're looking for films from all corners of the globe that have strong STORIES. Movies that make you question your own values; move you in some mysterious way; or make you laugh out loud. We are also uber-interested in RENEGADES - filmmakers who are re-defining how we tell our visual stories... 3-D, VR, cellphones, etc.

**COPYRIGHT:** Filmmaker is responsible for securing all copyright clearances and music rights.

**LANGUAGE:** All films with non-English dialogue must have English subtitles.

**ENTRY FEES:** Entry fees are non-refundable and the fees listed are per entry.

**FEE WAIVERS:** NO FEE WAIVERS will be considered. Don't e-mail us, don't phone us, don't hunt us down on the streets -- we've worked very hard to create an affordable submission system that offsets a (very) small portion of our costs. Trust us... filmmaker submission fees are not a revenue generator for ANY fest.

**PREMIERE/BROADCAST STATUS:** Our priority is to program films (of all lengths) that have exclusive, EDMONTON premiere status. A cast & crew screening does not disqualify a film, but preference will be given to premieres.

**INELIGIBLE PROJECTS are:**

- Broadcast in Canada prior to our festival dates
- Available for purchase in North America

**COMPLETION DATE:** Priority is given to films completed after January 1, 2016 -- and not previously submitted to EIFF. Films previously submitted to EIFF will ONLY be considered if there are substantial, creative changes to the project.

**SUBMISSION CONTACT:** The submitter shall be either a producer, director or authorized agent of the film. All communication will be sent to the person submitting.

**IF MAILING A DVD, YOUR SUBMISSION PACKAGE TO INCLUDE:** Please include one (1) DVD (NTSC or PAL). Mark your submission DVD with: Title | Run Time | Submission # | E-mail. Include payment only if you have not paid online. But why would you do this? Online submissions are so, so easy and help reduce everyone's carbon footprint.

**MAILING ADDRESS:** Edmonton International Film Festival  
Suite #201, 10816A – 82 Avenue  
EDMONTON, Alberta  
T6E 2B3 | Canada  
Ph: +1.780.423.0844

**CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT:** Submissions will be acknowledged by e-mail through your online submission platform, upon receipt.

**RETURN of SUBMISSION DVD:** If you'd like your preview copy returned, include a self-addressed, stamped mailing package. Screeners will otherwise not be returned.

**SELECTION PROCESS:** All submissions are screened and evaluated by EIFF Preview and Selection Committees. Their reports and decisions are final and confidential.

**PRIZES & AWARDS:** Should the jury determine that no film was outstanding in an award category, NO award will be presented. EIFF reserves the right to modify the Cash and Goods/Services prizes as listed in the Categories -- as per sponsorship agreements.

**NOTIFICATION OF OFFICIAL SELECTION:** All accepted and non-accepted entrants will be notified of their selection status on or before JULY 15, via e-mail notification through your online submission tool.

**TRAVEL/ACCOMMODATIONS for FILMMAKERS:** ALL filmmakers are invited and we totally wish we could cover everyone's flight and hotel rooms, but we just don't have the resources. So. At the very minimum, we can offer complimentary festival passes and/or tickets to your screening/s.

**PASSES/TICKETS for FILMMAKERS:** Complimentary Festival Passes and single tickets are available to attending filmmakers. Quantities are dependent on film length, category and based on availability. EIFF representatives will communicate this information to filmmakers upon acceptance of film/s.

**EXHIBITION FORMAT:** Once a film is accepted, every attempt will be made by EIFF organizers to exhibit your film on the preferred exhibition format. However, due to budget and our movie venues, we can only EXHIBIT the following formats:

- **FEATURE Films:** DCP and BluRay (with NTSC DVD back-up)
- **SHORT Films** are 'packaged' as feature-length short film programs and exhibited on a BluRay. We require your short film delivered to us electronically by AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup>.  
**Electronic file format: H.264 or .mp4. 1920 x 1080. 23.98fps.**

**RECEIPT OF EXHIBITION PRINT:** To allow for time to test and inspect exhibition copies, EIFF must receive your EXHIBITION copy by:

- SHORT FILMS: August 1
- FEATURE FILMS: September 1

**NUMBER OF SCREENINGS & PUBLICITY:**

- A maximum of three (3) public screenings of the film
- Use of film stills in Festival's promotional materials (ie. catalogue, promotional flyers, website and/or multimedia presentations).

**REPRODUCTION AGREEMENT:** Entrant agrees to grant EIFF permission for accepted films and related marketing materials to be reproduced and distributed (in whole or in part) SOLELY for the purposes of jurying and promotion of the Festival.

**ACCEPTANCE:** Submitting a film to the EIFF and accepting an offer for participation will be considered an approval of the film's copyright holder in accordance with the terms of these Regulations.

**PLEASE NOTE:** While we make every effort to follow screening times as posted in the festival program guide, EIFF cannot be held accountable for changes to the schedule after festival line-up is announced.

**ONCE A FILM HAS BEEN SELECTED (you will be notified on, or before, JULY 15), AND AN INVITATION TO SCREEN AT THE EDMONTON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL IS ACCEPTED, YOU CANNOT WITHDRAW YOUR FILM FROM OUR PROGRAM.**

**\*\*EIFF RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW AN "ACCEPTED" ENTRY SHOULD THE FILM AND/OR FILMMAKER FAIL TO MEET ALL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.**

At the end of the day, once the curtains close for the final time each year -- EIFF is about the **POWER OF FILM!** And how it brings us all together in a way that only ART can. Ours is a festival produced, and programmed by filmMAKERS!

**WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? [Submit NOW](#) and become a part of Alberta's longest running, ORIGINAL, international film festival.**

<b>FILMMAKERS : Important Dates</b>	
January 5	CALL FOR ENTRIES Opens!
March 15	EARLYBIRD Submission Deadline
April 30	REGULAR Submission Deadline
May 15	LATE (and FINAL) Submission Deadline
July 15	NOTIFY BY DATE
<b>FILM IS ACCEPTED? Congratulations! Next Steps...</b>	
July 30	ALL FILMMAKERS: PRESS MATERIALS delivered to EIFF
August 1	SHORT FILMS: Exhibition copy (digital file) received by EIFF
September 1	FEATURE FILMS: Exhibition copy received by EIFF
Sept. 28-Oct. 7	31 <sup>st</sup> Edmonton International Film Festival!