LIGHTS...CAMERA...ACTION!!!

**The Colonial Center Independent Short Film Festival 2024**

The Colonial Center Independent Short Film Festival will be held on May 4, 2024, starting at 10:00 a.m. This film festival is open to animated, documentaries, action, adventure, horror, and drama films by independent filmmakers. Micro Short films (5 minutes and under) and Short Films (up to 35 minutes)films will be accepted. There are two age categories for filmmakers 18 years old and up and 17 years old and under. Eight(8) awards presented for filmmakes18 years old and up for short films and micro short films. The categories awarded are: Best Film, Best Director, Best Cinematography, Best Editing, Best Special Effects, Jury Honorable Mention, Best Documentary and Audience Choice Award. Seven(7) awards presented for filmmakers 17 years old and under there are award categories are: Best Film, Best Director, Best Costumes, Best Make-up, Best Documentary, Jury Honorable Mention and Audience Choice Award. Each submitter will receive (2) passes to the festival. Registration will open September 1, 2023. Entry deadline is March 1, 2024. For guidelines, rules, and fee information visit www.colonialcenterva.org. The Colonial Theater is located at 220 South Mecklenburg Ave. South Hill, VA. Festival tickets are $10.00 general admission and will be available for purchased March 1, 2024, through the Colonial Center for Performing Arts website or by calling the box office at (434)262-4170 Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. For more information visit the website or call the box office.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

By submitting a project ("Film"), the submitter (“Filmmaker”) hereby irrevocably offers to The Colonial Center Short Film Festival (“Festival”) the right to screen the Film. The filmmaker understands and agrees that once the festival accepts the Film , the Filmmaker shall have no right to remove the Film from the Festival, but the Filmmaker shall not be barred from submitting or screening the Film at any other Film Festival or event. If the festival selects the Film for the Festival, the Festival shall have the irrevocable right, but not the obligation, to screen the Film at the 2024 The Colonial Theater Film Festival, in Festival’s sole discretion. Filmmaker irrevocably grants the festival the right to use, for promotional purposes, a trailer from the Film if the Film is selected for screening at the festival.

If the Film is revised or re-edited between the date of submission and the date of screening, a copy of the revised film must be provided by the deadline of March 1, 2024, or the original version will be screened and judged.

The Filmmaker shall indemnify and hold The Colonial Theater Film Festival harmless from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, damages, and expenses (including but not limited to attorney's fees and costs of the court) which may be incurred by reason of any claim in connection with the Film involving copyright, trademark, credits, publicity, screening, and/or loss of or damage to the screening videos submitted. In particular, Filmmaker expressly warrants it has obtained all necessary copyright clearances for original works of authorship used in the Film.

The Colonial Center Film Festival will not pay the Filmmaker compensation, for example travel expense reimbursement, nor be liable to the Filmmaker under any circumstances.

**GENERAL RULES**

Each filmmaker is responsible for providing three(3) working copies(DVD’s only) of the film by the deadline of March 1, 2024. Failure to do so means the festival cannot include the film in its lineup. Films are considered “Accepted” only after copies of the film are received and successfully tested. Discs damaged during shipping, discs that are lost in the mail all are examples of films that can miss the deadline. For these and other reasons, the festival advises filmmakers to burn and test their own discs, securely package them inside boxes and/or inside secure disc cases, then ship them well before the deadline via courier with a tracking number.

The festival does not offer pre-selected invitations and/or any other form of preferential treatment, including fee waivers, that Festival organizers consider out of step with our mission of giving all filmmakers equal treatment during the judging process.

If due to a pandemic or any other reason the festival cannot proceed as initially planned in a physical venue, the festival will be postponed, or rescheduled depending upon the situation. Filmmakers will be updated on the Colonial Center website. Filmmakers submitting films are accepting these terms in keeping with the realities and uncertainties that currently affect live events. The festival nevertheless reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to postpone, cancel or take online any event due to severe weather, power outage or any other circumstance beyond the festival’s control. In such rare circumstances, tickets will be refunded. Submission fees are non-refundable for accepted films unless the entire festival is cancelled and no Program Guide and other online forms of film announcements are published, a highly unlikely set of circumstances.

By submitting a film, the Filmmaker agrees to and abides by the Festival's Rules & Terms as communicated to the submitter by the festival.

If the Film is accepted in the festival and is not removed from the festival for cause, the Filmmaker shall have the right to promote the Film as an Official entrant of the Colonial Center Short Film Festival. Any award granted to Filmmaker may be promoted unless revoked by the festival for cause. Festival will not pay the Filmmaker any additional compensation, for example travel expense reimbursement, nor be liable to Filmmaker under any circumstances.

The Festival shall not be responsible for cancellation, postponement, change of format (e.g., an online-only event), or any other failure in performance resulting from causes beyond its reasonable control, including, but not limited to: acts of God, strikes or other labor disturbances, equipment failures, power outages, delays in transportation, inability to obtain resources needed to produce an event, war, acts of terrorism or other violence, riots, epidemics, floods, fires, unusually severe weather conditions, accidents, life-threatening illnesses, or other contingencies the non-occurrence of which was a basic assumption on which the Filmmaker submitted a film.

Festival reserves the right to revoke selection of the Film for screening if Festival determines, in its sole discretion, it has good cause to do so; examples of good cause as used herein would include unprofessional or derogatory behavior by Filmmaker or Filmmaker’s representative(s). Even if Festival revokes selection of the Film for cause, the terms of this Agreement shall remain binding and in force.

**FEES**

Fees are to be paid through the Colonial Theater website.

$50.00 for short films 35 minutes or less

$25.00 for micro short films 5 minutes or less

\*Fees are to be paid in full at the time of registration in order for the film to be marked accepted into the festival. Submitters will receive a confirmation email. After you register and pay fees online please send your three(3)DVD’s as soon as possible.

Please make sure email addresses, telephone numbers and address are correct. Please make sure your submissions are cased and clearly labeled with your contact information and age category. Please include the submission form with your three (3)DVD’s. If you would like your DVD’s to be return send a self-addressed envelope with your submission.

If you have any questions please call the Colonial Center for Performing Arts (434) 262-4170 Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.