





# **BYU Public Domain Film Festival Launch Event**

January 26, 2024

# Dates and Times

**Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM MT:** Competition begins at the conclusion of the Launch Event

**Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM MT:** Submissions are due

**Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>:** Presentations by special guests Shane Stanley & Melle Hartley

**Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM MT:** Public film festival screening and awards ceremony in the Varsity Theater\* with an after-party reception to follow in the Garden Court

\*Please arrive 15-20 minutes early.



# Rules

- ❑ Each team will need a Team Captain. The Team Captain will be responsible for responding to communications from the contest organizers to ensure the team is fully compliant and qualified before the beginning of the contest.
- ❑ Teams may have as many members as they desire, so long as all crew members are current BYU, BYU-Idaho, or BYU-Hawaii students. Teams may use actors or musicians that are not BYU, BYU-Idaho, or BYU-Hawaii students in their films. All actors will be eligible to receive the prize award for Best Acting Performance, so long as they are nominated at submission.
- ❑ No student may be registered as a producer, director, screenwriter, or composer on more than one team. However, students may participate as actors or musical performers for more than one team, even if they're registered in one of the four primary team roles on a different team.

- ❑ All films must be no more than five minutes long.
- ❑ All films must be limited to original footage recorded during the festival's time window. Films cannot include any third-party video or previously recorded video other than footage from their selected public domain film.
- ❑ All music used in the film must be arranged or composed by the team's composer and recorded during the festival's time window. No other music may be used regardless of copyright status, ownership, or permission.
- ❑ Each team must upload their video entry by 5:00 PM MT on February 5, 2024, either in person at the Copyright Licensing Office in the Harold B. Lee Library or digitally at the available upload link. The door to the Copyright Licensing Office automatically locks at 5:00 PM and the upload link will be set to expire at the same time. Please be aware of rendering, export, and upload times and don't miss your deadline!

# Use of AI

- ❑ Generative AI - Any use of AI to substitute original content creation or production work for the purposes of this festival are prohibited. All scripts, filming, photography, and music must be created by individual festival participants.
- ❑ AI Editing and Refining Tools - Tools that exist within existing editing software that refine participant-made content, or merely speeds up technical processes, are permitted.

# Use of AI continued

This non-exhaustive list may help you further understand permitted uses and unpermitted uses.

Unpermitted Uses	Permitted Uses
Using AI to write any portion of your script	Using AI to spell check scripts or check scripts for cliches and bad language
Using AI to generate CGI characters or graphics that are essential for the story	Using AI for color grading
Using AI to generate images to be used as backgrounds or in compositing for video	Using AI tools to help with audio mixing
Using AI to write music or produce a musical recording	

# **Dangerous Filming Practices**

The BYU Copyright Licensing Office does not condone any film practice that is inherently dangerous and puts crew or performers at risk of spiritual, emotional, mental, or physical injury. We expect film festival participants to adhere to industry best practices in safety standards, and expect that the limited scope of the 10-day production will limit practices that might be possible for productions with more resources.

# **Dangerous Filming Practices**

- ❑ Stunts without qualified coordinators
- ❑ Real firearms or combat-ready weapons
- ❑ Any form of sexual harassment
- ❑ Manipulation or discrimination of protected categories
- ❑ Trespassing
- ❑ Involving strangers without consent
- ❑ Unsafe vehicle practices
- ❑ Preventing access to necessary facilities for prolonged periods

- ❑ All submissions should adhere to the BYU Honor Code; submissions with explicit language or content will be disqualified.
- ❑ All submissions will be covered under a CC BY-NC 4.0 license.
- ❑ Current Copyright Licensing Office employees and immediate family members are not eligible to collaborate with any team or participate in any project.
- ❑ The contest organizers reserve the right to deduct points for failure to comply with the rules of the competition.



# Submissions

- ❑ Teams are free to use as much or as little material from their drafted public domain works as they desire. Each team will be judged on how well they adapt the public domain works selected at the Launch Event.
- ❑ We expect and encourage teams to supplement the public domain material with their own original content (e.g., dialog, music, characters, settings, etc.).
- ❑ Aside from material in your selected public domain works, your film should NOT include recognizable elements from other works (e.g., Batman, Hogwarts, light sabers, etc.).
- ❑ The judges will be informed which works were selected by each team at the Launch Event, and everyone will be judged on how well they adapt their selected works. You should not assume the judges are familiar with the public domain materials you worked with.

- ❑ In addition to the five-minute film, teams will be required to submit videos of their crew answering the following two prompts. Limit your responses to 90 seconds per prompt. This is a required part of each team's entry and will be sent to the judges to help them deliberate during scoring.
  - ❑ Please describe how your public domain works influenced your film.
  - ❑ Please describe how your public domain works influenced your musical score.
- ❑ At submission, teams will also nominate eligible actors from their film for the Best Acting Performance award.

- ❑ Teams can only submit .mp4 and .mov files
- ❑ Files must be 1 GB or less

**Film entries must be submitted by 5:00 PM MT on Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**

- ❑ Drop off a flash drive with your film entry to the Copyright Licensing Office at 3760 Harold B. Lee Library (HBLL) OR
- ❑ Upload your film entry at [pdff.byu.edu/submission](https://pdff.byu.edu/submission)
- ❑ Team Captains will need to create an account with Reviewr for submitting their videos
  - ❑ If you would like an additional team member to have access for submitting the team's videos, email [pdff@byu.edu](mailto:pdff@byu.edu) with your team name and the team member's name and email address

# Rubric

Award	Criteria and Weight	Award	Criteria and Weight
Best Picture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flow and Coherency: 13%</li> <li>Creativity: 13%</li> <li>Technical Merit Video: 13%</li> <li>Technical Merit Audio: 13%</li> <li>Overall Impact: 13%</li> <li>Use of Public Domain Material: 35%</li> </ul>	Best Acting Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Character Development: 20%</li> <li>Vocal Quality: 20%</li> <li>Movement Quality: 20%</li> <li>Interpretation/Preparation: 20%</li> <li>Presence on Camera: 20%</li> </ul>
Best Musical Score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Composition: 20%</li> <li>Musicality: 20%</li> <li>Creativity: 20%</li> <li>Use of Public Domain Material: 40%</li> </ul>	<b>Best Sound Design</b> *Musical composition is a separate award, but music may be considered in the Best Sound Design award when considering appropriate audio levels and synching.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On Set Recording: 25%</li> <li>Sound Clarity: 25%</li> <li>Sound Leveling: 25%</li> <li>Use of Sound to Enhance Storytelling: 25%</li> </ul>
Best Screenplay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concept: 13%</li> <li>Structure/Plot: 13%</li> <li>Pacing: 13%</li> <li>Characters: 13%</li> <li>Dialogue: 13%</li> <li>Use of Public Domain Material: 35%</li> </ul>	Best Production Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set Design: 20%</li> <li>Costuming: 20%</li> <li>Lighting: 20%</li> <li>Scope of Design Appropriate for Story: 20%</li> <li>Design Communicates Themes of Story: 20%</li> </ul>
Best Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality of Visual Storytelling: 20%</li> <li>Cinematography: 20%</li> <li>Sound Design: 20%</li> <li>Film Editing: 20%</li> <li>Originality: 20%</li> </ul>		

# Special Guest Presentations



## **Presentations from industry experts Shane Stanley & Melle Hartley on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 AM-10:50 AM  
Location TBA

Pre-Production

Shane & Melle

11:00 AM-12:30 PM  
Location TBA

Open Film Edit Lab

Shane

2:00 PM-3:00 PM  
2742 HBLL

What Actors Need to Know  
About Directors and Vice  
Versa

Shane & Melle

3:30 PM-4:30 PM  
2742 HBLL

Film Fundamentals

Shane & Melle

\*Visit [pdff.byu.edu/screening](http://pdff.byu.edu/screening) for more details.

# Screening

- ❑ A list of ten finalists will be published before the Public Screening on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM MT in the Varsity Theater.
- ❑ Not all films will be shown at the screening.
- ❑ Audience Choice Award will be decided the night of the screening by the live audience after all ten finalist entries have been shown. Invite your family and friends. The Public Screening will be live streamed.
- ❑ After the screening, all attendees are invited to celebrate with live music and light refreshment at our after-party in the Garden Court.
- ❑ We encourage teams and attendees to dress up in their best 1920s attire or Dressy Casual. There will be a 1920s costume contest and photographers standing by.

- ❑ This will be a free ticketed event
- ❑ All teams will receive 7 reserved seating tickets. Next week, each team captain will be emailed a personalized link to reserve these tickets.
- ❑ On February 13<sup>th</sup>, any unused team tickets will be allocated to General Admission
- ❑ Friends and family can reserve General Admission tickets at [pdff.byu.edu](https://pdff.byu.edu)

# Prizes

**Best Picture:** \$1000

Runner Up: \$350

**Audience Choice:** \$500

Runner Up: \$150

**Best Musical Score:** \$300

Runner Up: \$100

**Best Screenplay:** \$300

Runner Up: \$100

**Best Director:** \$250

Runner Up: \$100

**Best Acting Performance:** \$250

Runner Up: \$100

**Best Production Design:** \$250

Runner Up: \$100

**Best Sound Design:** \$250

Runner Up: \$100

Cash prizes for award winners will be distributed to a single team representative. BYU students and local award winners will receive a VISA gift card. Award options for BYU-Idaho and BYU-Hawaii students will be discussed, as necessary. VISA gift cards will be distributed at the After-Party in the Garden Court.

☐ **Best Picture:** Producer

☐ **Audience Choice:** Producer

☐ **Best Musical Score:** Composer

☐ **Best Screenplay:** Screenwriter

☐ **Best Director:** Director

☐ **Best Acting Performance:** Actor

☐ **Best Production Design:** Producer

☐ **Best Sound Design:** Producer

# Further Information



- ❑ If you have any behind-the-scenes footage that you would like to send to our office, we would love to use it for the promotion of our next film festival!
- ❑ A representative from the Copyright Licensing Office may reach out to you to film behind-the-scenes promotional material.

# The Draft

- ❑ Team Captains or a team representative will take turns selecting the public domain works they would like to use in their films
- ❑ Each team will select three public domain works
  - ❑ Each team is required to select one musical work, one literary work, and one film work
  - ❑ Teams are not required to use all three works
  - ❑ Teams can only use the public domain works that they selected
  - ❑ Teams can select the works in the order of their choosing
  - ❑ Teams have 30 seconds to select their work
- ❑ Works will be selected in a random order each round
- ❑ Each work can be chosen twice
- ❑ Keep track of available works at [pdff.byu.edu/draft](https://pdff.byu.edu/draft)



## TEAM CAPTAINS ONLY

Go to [pdff.byu.edu/submission](https://pdff.byu.edu/submission) now to create your Reviewr account for film submission



**The clock starts now!**

# Questions?

BYU Copyright Licensing Office

P: 801-422-9339

[pdff.byu.edu](https://pdff.byu.edu)

[pdff@byu.edu](mailto:pdff@byu.edu)

