

PUBLIC DOMAIN FILM FESTIVAL

2024

INFORMATION PACKET

Dates & Times

Friday, January 26th at 4:00 PM: Competition begins at the conclusion of the Launch Event

Monday, February 5th at 5:00 PM: Submissions are due

Thursday, February 15th: Presentations by special guests Shane Stanley & Melle Hartley.
Scan the QR code below for a full list of presentations.

Friday, February 16th at 7:00 PM: Public film festival screening of the ten finalist films and awards ceremony in the Varsity Theater*.
An after-party reception will follow in the Garden Court.

Tickets:

✦ 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 13th, any unused team tickets will be allocated to General Admission

✦ Friends and family can reserve General Admission tickets at pdff.byu.edu



Teams are encouraged to dress in 1920's attire or Dressy Casual
VISA Gift Card prizes will be distributed to the winners in the Garden Court during the after-party.

**Please arrive 15-20 minutes early.*

Rules:

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

4 All films must be no more than five minutes long.

5 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 footage other than footage from their selected public domain film.

6 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.

7 In addition to the five-minute film, teams will be required to submit videos of their crew answering the two prompts attached below.

Please limit responses to 90 seconds, this is a required part of each team's entry and will be sent to the judges to help them deliberate during scoring.

8 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!

(See "Submission Details")

9 All submissions should adhere to BYU's Honor Code; submissions with explicit language or content will be disqualified.

10 All submissions will be covered under a CC BY-NC 4.0 license.

11 Current Copyright Licensing Office employees and immediate family members are not eligible to collaborate with any team or participate in any project.

12 One of the award categories requires audience voting and participation LIVE at the screening event, and potentially during an online session.

More details about voting for this award will be made available.

Any attempt to violate the rules and procedures for these voting sessions will result in a disqualification of the team's film for ALL AWARD CATEGORIES.

Examples of the type of behavior that violate this rule includes: calling individuals not present at the screening to cast votes for the public screening, providing information to individuals to have their votes unfairly multiplied, counted, or included, knowingly soliciting votes from individuals that have not viewed the films they're voting on, etc.

13 Use of AI:

a. 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.

b. 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.

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

i. Unpermitted Uses

1. Using AI to write any portion of your script
2. Using AI to generate CGI characters or graphics that are essential for the story
3. Using AI to generate images to be used as backgrounds or in compositing for video
4. Using AI to write music or produce a musical recording

ii. Permitted Uses

1. Using AI to spell check scripts or check scripts for clichés and bad language
2. Using AI for color grading
3. Using AI tools to help with audio mixing

14 The contest organizers reserve the right to deduct points for failure to comply with the rules of the competition.

15 **Cash prizes for award winners will be distributed to a single team representative as a VISA Gift Card.**

It is up to each individual team to decide how to split any prize money awarded.

- a.* Best Picture: Producer
- b.* Audience Favorite: Producer
- c.* Best Musical Score: Composer
- d.* Best Screenplay: Screenwriter
- e.* Best Acting Performance: Actor
- f.* Best Director: Director
- g.* Best Production Design: Producer
- h.* Best Sound Design: Producer

Submission Details

Film entries must be submitted by 5:00 PM on Monday, February 5th.

Film submissions must also include a video of their crew answering the two attached explanatory prompts.

Acceptable forms of submission:

✦ Drop off a flash drive with your film entry to the Copyright Licensing Office at 3760 Harold B. Lee Library.

✦ Upload your film entry at ***pdff.byu.edu/submission***

- a.* Team Captains will need to create an account with Reviewr for submitting their videos.
- b.* If you would like an additional team member to have access for submitting the team's videos, email ***pdff@byu.edu*** with your team name and the team member's name and email address.
- c.* At submission, teams will also nominate eligible actors from their film for the Best Acting Performance award.

Public Domain Incorporation Prompt

As part of your entry, please submit video of your team answering the following prompts.

Your responses should be limited to 90 seconds. Your responses will be sent to the judges. You should not assume the judges are familiar with the public domain materials you worked with.

✦ Please describe how your public domain works influenced your film.

✦ Please describe how your public domain works influenced your musical score.