

OFFICIAL REGULATIONS - 28th BUENOS AIRES INTERNATIONAL INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL (BAFICI)

1- GENERAL GUIDELINES

1.1- Organizer and dates

The Ministry of Culture of the Government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires announces the 28th edition of the Buenos Aires International Independent Film Festival (BAFICI), to be held from April 7 to 18, 2027, in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, in accordance with these Regulations.

Regarding the organization, programming, and operation of the Festival, the highest authority shall be the General Direction of Festivals and Cultural Nights (DGFNC), under the Undersecretariat of Cultural Management of the Ministry of Culture of the Government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (hereinafter, "THE ORGANIZATION"). THE ORGANIZATION shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with all provisions of these regulations.

Festival activities shall take place during the aforementioned period, in accordance with the schedule and program to be established by THE ORGANIZATION.

1.2- Eligibility

Applications for the Festival are open for feature films and short films, both national and international. They can include fiction films, documentaries, and experimental films.

The Festival prioritizes national, international, and world premieres of foreign films, as well as world premieres of Argentine films. In both cases, regional premieres (American, Latin American, South American) will also be prioritized.

Argentine films that have had prior premieres or previewed in Argentina will be automatically disqualified. Possible exceptions to this rule are subject to the discretion of the programmers.

The Festival's artistic team will be responsible for the official film selection. The representatives of selected films shall be notified by formal invitation email. In the case of Argentine films that are not selected, a notification of non-selection shall be sent by email to the respective applicants prior to the public announcement of the complete program.

Juries for the different competitions will be appointed for each edition and will be responsible for evaluating the films in competition during the Festival and selecting the winning films in each category.

1.3- Sections

The Festival's programming will include both competitive and non-competitive sections. The selected films will be placed in the section that the selection committee deems appropriate.

1.4- Applications

The application of films for the Festival is free of charge. The application period starts on October 1st, 2026, and concludes on December 18th, 2026, for both foreign and Argentine films.

The programming team will review late applications on a case-by-case basis.

The rights holder of a film must express their intention to participate in the Festival prior to the application deadline by submitting a duly completed application form. The application form shall constitute a sworn statement confirming the applicant's awareness and acceptance of these Regulations, guaranteeing that they hold the necessary authorization for the film's presentation, and releasing the Government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires from any claims that may arise between the participants and third parties.

1.5- Participation

Participation in the Festival implies acceptance of these regulations. Once submitted and selected, the film may not be withdrawn from the Festival's programming nor screened in any other venue in Argentina prior to its official presentation at BAFICI.

Films that have been shown in Argentina prior to their official screening at BAFICI will be disqualified.

Individuals associated with the selected films agree not to disclose their participation until the Festival's programming is announced by THE ORGANIZATION. If this condition is not met, THE ORGANIZATION may consider withdrawing the film from the Festival.

2- COMPETITIONS

2.1- Official Competitions

The artistic team of the Festival programs the various competitive sections. The programming includes three Official Competitive Sections.

- **International Official Competition**, featuring national and foreign short and feature films that have not had any public screenings in Argentina. Up to the director's fourth feature or fourth short film will be considered eligible for this Competition. Shared credits in the direction category will not be counted within the individual careers of the directors, but as part of a single shared career between both.

- **Argentine Official Competition**, featuring Argentine short and feature films that have not had any public screenings in Argentina, prioritizing world or international premieres, as well as films with less exposure in major festivals.

- **Vanguard and Genre Official Competition**, featuring national and international feature films and short films that have not had any public screenings in Argentina, prioritizing world or international premieres, as well as films with less exposure in major festivals.

2.2- Other Competitions

The programming team of the Festival reserves the right to create additional parallel competitive sections.

2.3- Juries

The selection committee of the Festival appoints the Jurors, who will meet the following criteria:

- **International Official Competition:** It will be composed of a minimum of five members.
- **Argentine Official Competition:** It will be composed of a minimum of five members.
- **Vanguard and Genre Official Competition:** It will be composed of a minimum of five members.

No individuals with interests in the production and/or exploitation of the films featured in the competition they are judging may be part of the Juries.

The votes of the Jurors will remain secret, a simple majority shall be required for decisions to be made.

A representative of the Festival will attend the Juries' deliberations, without the right to vote. Jurors are firmly committed not to publicly express their opinions regarding the films under consideration before the official announcement of the awards.

2.4- Awards

The jury of the International Competition, the jury of the Argentine Official Competition, and the jury of the Vanguard and Genre Competition will award the following awards:

- Best Acting
- Special Jury Prize
- Best Direction
- Best Short Film
- Best Feature Film
- Grand Jury Prize

The Juries may propose special mentions, which in no case shall exceed three. No film may receive more than two awards.

2.5- Mention of Participation

The producers and distributors of films participating in the Competitions commit to including the phrases "*Official International Selection*" and "*Official Argentine Selection*" in all their advertising and press materials, using the Festival's logo. This commitment applies to both commercial cinema releases and commercial launches on Blu-ray, DVD, and VOD.

The producers and distributors of films that receive awards commit to highlighting these awards in all their advertising and press materials, using the Festival's logo. This commitment also applies to both commercial cinema releases and commercial launches on Blu-ray, DVD, and VOD.

The logo will be available on the Festival's website.

3- APPLICATIONS AND REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR SELECTION

3.1- Required Materials

The rights holder must submit the following materials digitally to the Festival:

- A completed and signed application form, which is available on the Festival's website.
- A copy of the film or a link to it, either in English or Spanish, or subtitled in any of those languages.

If uploading the film for online viewing, we recommend using www.vimeo.com, with a password. In the comments or additional details, the following information should be included: the film title, the director's name, duration, subtitles (if any), and a contact address.

If providing a download link, it should not have an expiration date (for example, a WeTransfer link that is only valid for a limited number of days cannot be accepted), and the maximum file size must be 3 gigabytes.

Please indicate in all cases whether it is the final cut, a rough cut, or a work in progress.

3.2- Submission Deadlines

To be eligible, films must be registered online before December 18th, 2026, inclusive.

4- SELECTED FILMS

4.1- Catalog

In order to correctly edit the catalog, the Festival must receive a complete registration form and the following materials for each selected film:

- A synopsis of the film.
- A biography and filmography of the director.
- An image of the film, a photo of the director.
- A complete list of technical and artistic credits.

The required materials must be sent as soon as possible once the film's invitation to the Festival has been accepted, adhering to the deadline that will be communicated in due course.

Decisions regarding the editorial content of the catalog are at the discretion of the Festival.

4.2- Press Materials

If available, posters, postcards, and press materials will be required for use by the Festival's press office.

4.3- Promotional Excerpts

The Festival may use excerpts from both national and international films—up to a maximum of 3 minutes—for promotional purposes (for short films, the duration of the excerpts may not exceed 10% of the final running time).

If excerpts are not available from the film's responsible party, the Festival may copy one or more excerpts for promotional use during the Festival.

To promote the programming and each of the selected films, the Festival may use images and digital clips (under 3 minutes) from the films on the official social media channels of the Ministry of Culture and the Government of Buenos Aires City.

4.4- Screening Dates

The scheduling of the programming and the screening dates and times for each film are at the discretion of the Festival Organization.

4.5- Screening Formats

Representatives of the selected films commit to sending a copy in DCP format via the online platform provided by the Festival.

Presentation in other formats or video systems requires authorization from the Festival. Once the screening format has been communicated to the Festival Organization, it cannot be changed.

4.6- Languages and Subtitles

Selected films will be screened in their original version.

For foreign films:

If a screening copy with Spanish subtitles is available, it will be preferred by the Festival. If no copy with Spanish subtitles exists, a copy with embedded English subtitles will be required (unless the film is in English). Additionally, a dialogue list in the original language and in English (with time codes) and a digital file of the final cut of the film as it will be projected will be required to prepare the electronic subtitles.

For Argentine films:

If a screening copy with English subtitles is available, it will be preferred by the Festival. If the English subtitled copy is not available, the Festival may require a list of subtitles in English (with time codes) and a digital file to prepare the electronic subtitles.

For Argentine films in competition, all copies must be subtitled, except in cases where the original language is more than one, and always with explicit authorization from the Festival Organization.

5- SHIPPING AND RETURN OF SCREENING COPIES**5.1- Instructions for Shipping**

Details regarding the shipment of copies for screening will be provided by the Copy Transit department once the film is invited to the Festival. The responsible party must not send the copy until receiving these instructions.

5.2- Availability of the Copy

Unless authorized by the Festival, the copy must be available throughout the duration of the Festival. The copy of the selected film must arrive in Buenos Aires on the date specified by the Festival when the invitation is issued.

6- ABOUT THESE REGULATIONS

Participation in the Festival implies acceptance of these regulations. Any conflict (related to organization or operation) not provided for in these regulations will be resolved by the Festival organization.

In case of disputes regarding the interpretation or implementation of these regulations, participants and THE ORGANIZATION submit to the jurisdiction of the Administrative and Tax Courts of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, expressly waiving any other venue or jurisdiction that may apply for any reason. For this purpose, the parties designate the addresses provided in the registration forms as their legal addresses, where all notifications shall be deemed valid. Judicial notifications to the Government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires must be served at Uruguay 458 (Office of the Attorney General, Department of Judicial Writs and Summonses), in accordance with Article 20 of Law No. 1,218 of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (consolidated text, Law No. 6,764) and Resolution No. 77/06 of the Office of the Attorney General of the City of Buenos Aires.