

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

Moviemaker magazine, in its spring 2008 issue, listed the Route 66 Film Festival as one of the 25 festivals worth the entry fee. Ours was also a featured festival at the 2009 International Film Festival Summit in Las Vegas.

The Route 66 Film Festival began in 2002 as a part of the Mother Road Festival, celebrating the vehicles and history of the famous highway. It is currently a separate event from the car show. We have screened films from many countries, including Belgium, France, South Africa, Japan, Brazil, Spain, Great Britain, Uruguay, Mexico, Canada, and the United States.

We celebrate diversity and welcome films of all lengths and genres. We like good stories that inform and touch us, and ask audiences to vote for their favorites from films in various genres. Judges select films for official awards. This is a festival that has something for everyone.

Several films screened at our festival have subsequently received distribution on Netflix and gone on to be honored at other festivals. We are proud that three of the short films screened at our festival have also been nominated for Oscars.

All entries selected for the festival will receive 2 free passes to the festival. Film makers are invited and encouraged to attend to interact with other film makers and the audience.

Awards & Prizes

Trophies will be awarded for judges' choices in various categories including Best of Fest, as well as Audience Favorite. The committee reserves the right to not present awards in all categories and to add categories for films that merit special recognition.

Rules & Terms

GENERAL RULES

Rules for Films

1. Films can be any length, any genre with the following exceptions: Only films under 30 minutes will be accepted in the genres of Animation, Experimental, and Student Showcase; and features longer than 100 minutes will not be accepted. Features of 90 minutes are strongly encouraged.
2. We encourage filmmakers to select no more than 2 genres; one primary and one secondary.
3. Films should feature some kind of journey--physical, emotional, intellectual, or spiritual.
4. Submissions may be submitted online or on NTSC DVD in Region 0 or Region 1 format. If a film is selected for the festival, the film maker must provide an NTSC DVD by October 15th.
5. Please indicate FilmFreeway or WithoutABox tracking number, and running time, on the DVD.

6. Submit a separate entry form for each film submission.
7. Foreign language films must have English subtitles. White letters with black outlines are strongly recommended for maximum readability.
8. Student fees apply to students in elementary and secondary schools, as well as students in colleges, universities and film schools.
9. DVDs will not be returned.
10. Submissions must be postmarked by August 15, 2016. Make checks payable to Route 66 Film Festival.
11. If submitting by DVD, send DVD, application form, fee, and a short bio of the filmmaker in padded, secure packaging to:

Route 66 Film Festival
Siobhan Johnson
P.O. Box 5010
Springfield, IL 62701
12. Filmmaker should suggest an MPAA rating for their film. Ratings do not disqualify films from consideration. We like to schedule films for appropriate audiences.
13. Biographical and synopsis information is required if submitting via FilmFreeway, via WithouABox or by mailed application.

Terms and Conditions:

Filmmakers hereby grant the Route 66 Film Festival the right to utilize, for promotional purposes, any film submitted and/or accepted to the Festival, either in its entirety or an excerpt thereof.

The individual or corporation submitting the film hereby warrants that it is authorized to commit the film for screening, and understands and accepts these requirements and regulations.

The individual or corporation submitting the film hereby agrees that, unless said film is withdrawn prior to the close date for submissions, (August 15, 2016) if selected for the festival, the filmmaker will provide to the festival a copy of the film in DVD format on or before October 15, 2016.

The undersigned shall indemnify and hold harmless Route 66 Film Festival 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 involving copyright, trademark, credits, publicity, screening, and loss of or damage to the screening videos entered.

Fees will not be waived except at the discretion of the Board.

Films will not be returned.