

VANCOUVER
SHORT
FILM FESTIVAL

Q&A SHEET FOR POTENTIAL ENTRANTS

Why did you change to the Vancouver Short Film Festival?

We know that there is a big market in BC for short films. Supporting professional artists allows us to apply for non-profit arts funding to sustain and expand our festival. Supporting students and graduates is still an important part of our mandate.

When will the VSFF take place?

Sometime in late October 2009 – hopefully **Oct 23-24**. We intentionally planned for a fall date so that filmmakers can submit and screen at other festivals such as VIFF and TIFF, and still have a chance to screen and gain awards at our festival.

Where does the VSFF take place?

At the VIFC Vancity Theatre: 1181 Seymour St, Vancouver (Downtown)

When is the submission deadline?

Saturday, August 8, 2009, 6PM

How much is the submission fee?

Student/graduate fee: \$20

Professional fee: \$30

Who are eligible to participate?

Students/Graduates: You must be a current student at a post-secondary institution in British Columbia or have graduated within the last 3 years.

Professional artists: You must have graduated from a post-secondary institution for at least 3 years at the festival date and/or be currently working in BC with a significant body of work in short film, video, or new media.

All professional artists will receive an honorarium after the festival.

Can I submit stuff I made in 2007 or before?

Films must have been completed in 2008 or 2009.

How long should each short film be?

No more than 15 minutes.



Who are the judges?

None are confirmed yet, but last year's judges included: *Gwen Haworth, Janine Steele, Camyar Chai, Velcrow Ripper, Uwe Boll, Erik Paulsson, and Dylan Akio Smith.*

What are the key criteria judges would consider when evaluating a film?

Judges look for everything in a film including overall production value, direction, camerawork, acting, narrative, use of location, genre, and in the case of animation, use of FX.

What were the 2008 awards?

- VSFF Best Film: \$500 cash, Whistler Film Festival Industry pass
- Production Services Vancouver Best Cinematography Award: \$1000 in rentals
- Knowledge Network B.C. Perspectives Award: \$1000 cash prize
- George McNeill Columbia Academy Audience Choice Award: \$500 cash prize
- VSFF Best Post-Production: \$500 Macstation Prize Pack
- VSFF Best Director: \$500 in prizes from Maxell, CFTPA gift bag
- City of Burnaby Best Use of Location Award: 2 days of filming in the City of Burnaby
- VSFF Best Actor/Actress: Passes to the 2009 Women in Film Festival & CFTPA gift bags

We hope to have these awards in BOTH student and professional categories again in 2009.

What are the prizes this year?

None are confirmed this year yet; we hope to have the same or more categories as last year.

How do I submit my film?

Please visit our website at www.vsff.com to fill out a form and follow the instructions for entry and fee requirements.

If I submit my film after August 8, would you still accept my application?

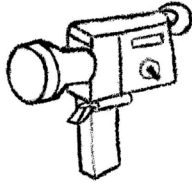
Any films received after 6 PM on August 8th won't be eligible for screening.

In what format should I submit my film?

Film previews must be submitted in DVD format.
We will contact you for a screening copy if your film is selected.

Would VSFF consider my application if I am submitting to or screening at other film festivals or online?

Yes, but be aware that other festivals often require **premiere** screenings. In the event you are accepted into such a festival that screens after VSFF, you may contact us to have your film withdrawn from our screening.



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How many films can I submit?

No limit – as many as you want.

How many films will be screened this year?

It depends on the length of each film and our screening time, but we estimate between 7-15 films per student and professional category.

When will results be decided?

Selected filmmakers will be notified by email in mid-September.

What rights does VSFF have when I submit my film?

Submitting your film to VSFF implies that you are offering us a single-screening license for your film. We may use clips or images from your film in trailers, online, or on TV to promote both the festival and your film. If you are one of our top 5 festival films (as deemed by the festival jury), the VSFF may forward copies of your film to other festivals or broadcast media as part of an award or festival partnership. We will always contact you for permission, and you may inform us if you would not like your film to be forwarded on your behalf after screening at our festival.

Where can I learn more about VSFF?

www.vdff.com

If I have further questions regarding your festival, who should I contact?

Please go to www.vdff.com, and go to the Contact section to email the VSFF staff.

For any inquires about the submission process, please email submissions@vdf.com.