

About the festival

Mirror Mountain Film Festival brings the best in independent and alternative cinema to Canada's capital. Mirror Mountain is an inclusive festival that welcomes all types of films and all types of people to share in the collective cinema experience. In addition to film screenings, our festival features live performances, parties, Q&A sessions and more.

For safety reasons, our 2021 festival will be held online, instead of at our usual location at Arts Court. In response to the financial difficulties experienced by many filmmakers as a result of COVID-19, we have also lowered our standard submission fees for our 2021 season.

Fees

Submissions open: **January 18th 2021**

Earlybird deadline: **February 22nd 2021**

Shorts \$10 USD

Medium-length \$20 USD

Features \$30 USD

Regular deadline: **March 29th 2021**

Shorts \$20 USD

Medium-length \$30 USD

Features \$40 USD

Final deadline: **June 7th 2021**

Shorts \$30 USD

Medium-length \$40 USD

Features \$50 USD

Notification date: **June 28th 2021**

If your film is selected, you will be expected to submit a high-quality Quicktime H.264 file as your screening copy by no later than **July 12th 2021**, or your film may not be screened. Filmmakers are responsible for ensuring that their Quicktime file is in good working order.

Event dates: **July 24th – 25th 2021**

Short is defined as any film **less than 20 minutes** in length, including credits.

Medium-length is defined as any film **between 20 and 60 minutes** in length, including credits.

Feature-length is defined as any film **longer than 60 minutes** in length, including credits.

All prices listed in **USD**. Submission fees are non-refundable. Waivers or discounts on

submission fees are not offered.

Why should I submit to Mirror Mountain?

1. Free festival pass for all filmmakers who submit

Everyone who submits a film to Mirror Mountain, regardless of whether or not it is selected, gets a free pass to attend the entire festival.

2. Free to submit for local filmmakers

Films of any length can be submitted for free if they were shot and/or edited within a 125 km radius of Ottawa. This area includes Gatineau, Maniwaki, Mont Tremblant, Montebello, Hawkesbury, Cornwall, Potsdam, Brockville, Smiths Falls, Perth, Renfrew, Arnprior and more.

3. Free submissions for alumni

If you directed a film that was officially selected in a previous edition of Mirror Mountain, you can submit again at no cost.

4. Your money back

If your film is officially selected to screen in the festival, we'll reimburse your original submission fee.

5. We pay artist fees

If your film is officially selected to screen in the festival, you will also receive a small fee to thank you for letting us screen your work.

6. Fewer restrictions

There are no premiere or date-of-completion requirements. Your film is eligible even if it has screened in the Ottawa region before. You are still eligible to submit if your film has distribution, has been broadcast on television, or is available to view online.

7. Stay in the loop

We will email you after you submit your film to confirm we've received your application. Later, you'll receive a notification informing you of the results, regardless of whether or not your film was selected.

8. Awards for winning filmmakers

Awards are given out in several categories after the completion of the festival. Award winners receive a certificate and a selection of prizes donated by our sponsors.

9. Friendly and alternative atmosphere

Our festival usually takes place at Arts Court, downtown Ottawa's hub for film, visual art, music, theatre and dance, and a meeting place for people from diverse artistic and cultural backgrounds.

Rules and Regulations

Please read all of the rules carefully before submitting.

Mirror Mountain accepts any genre of film, including drama, comedy, documentary, animation, thriller, horror, sci-fi, fantasy, musical, dance, poetry/spoken word, experimental, music video, cult and more.

The festival welcomes submissions from diverse filmmakers from all backgrounds, including but not limited to, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirited and non-binary filmmakers, POC and Indigenous filmmakers, persons with disabilities, and diasporic and transcultural filmmakers.

Submissions are reviewed by a volunteer jury of experienced filmmakers and local arts and culture professionals. Visit our website for more information.

- Submission fees are non-refundable.
- Waivers or discounts on submission fees are not offered.
- Films may originate from anywhere in the world.
- You may submit multiple films in a single year, but you must pay the full submission fee for each film.
- Mirror Mountain does not accept submissions sent by email or physical submissions sent by post.
- Mirror Mountain is not responsible for improperly functioning preview copies/ screeners.
- Mirror Mountain is under no obligation to watch updated screeners. The jury will only review submissions once.
- Do not send a press kit or other support materials unless requested.
- All submitted films must be in English or accompanied by English subtitles.
- There are no premiere requirements. Your film may have screened in the Ottawa region before.
- There are no date-of-completion requirements. Your film can be dated from any year.
- Films that have distribution, have been broadcast on television, or are available to view online, are still eligible for submission.
- You must be the copyright holder of the film and its soundtrack, or have obtained permission to use copyrighted materials in any part of your work. You may be asked to supply documentation supporting your claim. Works that consist of parody, satire and critical review are excepted under Canadian copyright law.
- Mirror Mountain reserves the right not to select any material they deem inappropriate for any reason.
- Mirror Mountain reserves the right to remove any film from the festival lineup at any time.