



RULES & TERMS

The following rules govern all film submissions to the Orange & Blue Film Festival (“UF Film Fest” or the “Festival”).

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

- i. Collegiate Competition
 - a. Submissions are open to films produced by students (or “filmmakers”) of public universities or community colleges in the state of Florida. The filmmaker must be either currently enrolled or have been enrolled within the past 6 months.
 - i. All films must have been completed while the filmmaker was enrolled as a student.
 - ii. Students enrolled in master’s degrees programs (including research, specialized, or professional) are also eligible for submission.
 1. Entries should specify that they are a graduate submission.
 2. Graduate submissions are subject to a different fee than undergraduate collegiate submissions and are awarded in different categories.
 - b. All films must be completed within the 18 months prior to submission.
 - c. Film length must NOT exceed the specified time limit for the appropriate category (see categories and time limits below).
- ii. High School Competition
 - a. Submissions are open to films produced by high school students from an accredited high school in the state of Florida (currently enrolled or enrolled in the past 6 months.)
 - b. All films must be completed within the past 18 months prior to submission.
 - c. Film length must NOT exceed the specified time limit for the appropriate category (see categories and time limits below).

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- i. Submissions must be submitted via the participating submission platform (FilmFreeway).
 - a. Films must be uploaded as a Vimeo link that can be downloaded as an mp4 or mov file. No other URL, password-protected streaming, or DVD submissions are accepted.
 - i. Please submit your Vimeo password by emailing filmfest@jou.ufl.edu OR including it in your FilmFreeway submission.

- b. MP4 and MOV files must be under 2G to be successfully uploaded to the platform.
- c. All films submissions must be downloadable or they will not be considered for selection and screening.
- d. When submitting your entry (meaning the film you are submitting), please adhere to the following file naming guidelines:
 - i. FilmTitle_DirectorName_Year
 - 1. i.e. StandUpAndHoller_AlbertGator_2025.mov (or .mp4)
 - ii. Only ONE filmmaker may be listed in the file name.
- ii. Submissions must be accompanied by the applicable submission fee per entry and a completed online entry form (FilmFreeway).
 - a. Only ONE filmmaker may be listed in the submission.
 - i. Multiple filmmakers who collaborated in a project may all attend the festival and be recognized.
 - ii. Any potential prizes (including Grand Prix and others) will only be awarded to the submitting filmmaker's name.
 - 1. The Orange & Blue Film Festival reserves the right to change this rule as needed and necessary on a case-by-case basis at the sole discretion of the festival's General Chair (Executive Director) and the Chair of the UF College of Journalism & Communications Department of Media Production, Management, & Technology.
 - 2. Potential prizes are non-transferable and are not redeemable for cash or subject to substitution. The odds of winning depend on the number of entries and the quality of each specific entry.
- iii. All films must be in English OR have English subtitles at the time of submission.

Any submission that does not meet these guidelines cannot be considered for judging or screening at the University of Florida's Orange & Blue Film Festival.

CONTENT GUIDELINES:

- i. All music, images, titles, footage and other copyrighted material used in your submission **MUST** be properly licensed. You must have permission and/or the proper rights to all content submitted.
 - a. The Orange & Blue Film Festival reserves the right to disqualify entries, cancel screenings, and retroactively remove laurels if a submission is found in violation of this rule.
 - b. By submitting a film, participants affirm that they possess the necessary rights and permissions for all elements included in their work.
 - c. The festival reserves the right to request proof of these permissions in a form acceptable to the festival from any entrant at any time. Failure to provide such

proof may, if requested, render the submission null and void. No refund will be provided for any entry nulled, voided, or disqualified.

- ii. The Orange & Blue Film Festival Student Team reserves the right to switch your submission to a different category as they see fit.
- iii. All selected films are subject to being tagged with a content warning at screenings.
 - a. Submissions are not expected to have MPA ratings; however, content warnings may be posted at screenings or before a film if deemed necessary at the discretion of the Orange & Blue Film Festival Film Procurement Committee.

CATEGORIES:

- i. Collegiate Competition
 - a. Documentary
 - i. Non-fiction documentary submissions must adhere to a total running time (TRT) not exceeding 17:00 minutes.
 - b. Narrative
 - i. Total running time (TRT) for films in this category must not exceed 20:00 minutes.
 - ii. All narrative film genres are eligible for submission (except if listed below).
 - 1. The following are NOT eligible for submission:
 - a. Television Broadcast
 - b. Student Journalism Feature
 - c. Avant Garde Film (Non-Narrative)
 - d. PSA
 - e. Multimedia Podcast
 - f. Music Video
 - g. Vlog
 - c. Animation
 - i. Total running time (TRT) for films in this category must not exceed 7:00 minutes.
- ii. High School Competition
 - a. Documentary
 - i. Non-fiction documentary submissions must adhere to a total running time (TRT) not exceeding 7:00 minutes.
 - b. Narrative
 - i. Total running time (TRT) for films in this category must not exceed 12:00 minutes.

A possible “grace period” of 59 seconds may be applied to submissions in a particular category considering the available screening time for films during any given year. Meaning TRT may be 59 seconds longer than the listed time and still be considered for screening. The

Orange & Blue Film Festival reserves the right to apply the grace period to any category as necessary.

SUBMISSION FEES

Submissions to the Orange & Blue Film Festival are subject to fees which help recuperate operational costs. **Please check this year's call for submissions for the current fees.** The following is the fees tier structure.

- i. Collegiate
 - a. UF Students
 - i. Must be an enrolled degree-seeking student at the University of Florida at the time of the film's completion.
 1. With exception for non-degree-seeking Innovation Academy students during their first fall semester.
 - b. Standard
 - c. Graduate Student
 - i. Filmmakers enrolled in master's (including research, specialized, or professional) degrees programs are subject to this fee tier.
- ii. High School
 - a. Standard
 - b. Reduced
 - i. Offered on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Festival's General Chair (Executive Director). Reduced fees are meant to foster more equitable access to the festival circuit for filmmakers of underrepresented or under-resourced student communities.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- i. All films must be submitted in 1080p resolution or higher.
- ii. All sound and music must be clear and properly balanced.
 - a. Meaning audio is not limited to one channel (ie: right or left).

IN-PERSON PARTICIPATION IN FESTIVAL EVENTS

- i. Filmmakers whose submissions are selected for screening are **strongly encouraged** to (but not required to) participate in the on-campus programming during the Festival at the University of Florida – Main Campus (Gainesville, FL 32611).
 - a. Orange & Blue Film Festival screenings are open to the public
 - i. “Attending Filmmakers” (students traveling to Gainesville for the festival) and their parties will benefit from priority seating at screenings, followed by the UF campus community.
 1. Each selected submission may have up to TWO “Attending Filmmakers” and bring up to three guests.

- b. Filmmaker-specific programming may only be attended in-person.
 - i. A spot will be automatically reserved for the filmmaker listed in the official submission. Additional filmmaker passes (a producer, or co-director planning to attend) are limited and will be given on a first come, first served basis. Additional “Attending Filmmakers” are subject to a small supplemental fee (to cover the added operating expense).
 - ii. Filmmaker-specific programming may include but is not limited to: industry panels, hands-on workshops, Q&A sessions, networking mixers, meet & greets, and roundtable discussions.
- c. Filmmakers are responsible for their own transportation, lodging, and any additional expenses related to attending the festival events.
 - i. Discounts for on-campus meals and partnered lodging may be available.

TERMS & DISCLAIMERS

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: Entries for the Orange & Blue Film Festival (or “Festival”) can be submitted during the posted date range on this year’s call for submission. Please check the posting for an accurate date range for this year’s festival.

ELIGIBILITY: Students must submit entries as outlined by the Rules & Terms to be eligible. Submissions received after the deadline set forth in this year’s posting are ineligible, null, and void.

HOW TO ENTER: Create a video with the length limit specified for the categories outlined in the Rules & Terms. (a “Film”). Visit jou.ufl.edu/filmfest and follow the instructions to complete the entry (or “Film” or “Submission”) form to submit your film.

PERSONAL INFORMATION: To submit your Film you will be required to provide your first and last name; school/university/college name; and email address. The information you provide will be used only for the festival’s administrative purposes, to contact selected entries (or “Selections”) and contact past participants (or “Filmmi”). Your information will not be used for any other purpose or shared with any party not affiliated with the Festival.

SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION OF SELECTIONS: Selections will be contacted 2.5-3 weeks before the scheduled festival. Winners will be announced at the festival’s awards show. Winners will be chosen by the Festival on the merits of each entry in the Festival’s sole and absolute discretion. All selections will be notified by the email address provided in the entry form. Selections are strongly encouraged to travel to experience the festival at their own expense.

RULES FOR ENTRY: Entries may not, as determined by the Festival, in its sole discretion, violate the rules established in the Rules & Terms or include content that infringes upon the copyrights, trademarks, rights of privacy, publicity or other intellectual property or other rights of any person or entity.

PRIZES: Though some selections are awarded a “Silver” or “Gold” or “Grand Prix” (meaning “prize”) this does not represent a physical or monetary prize, rather a title. In the event a physical or monetary prize is offered, it is non-transferable and not redeemable for cash or subject to substitution. The odds of receiving an award depend on the number of entries and the quality of each specific Submission/Selection. The Festival may require selected or awarded Submissions to be present for/participate in press and promotional activities. In addition, the Festival may request actors and other participants in the Film to be present for/participate in press and promotional activities and the Entrant (student who submitted the film) shall not direct any such individuals to refuse to so participate.

GENERAL CONDITIONS: By submitting an Entry, each Entrant agrees: (a) to abide by these Terms, and the decisions of the Festival, which shall be final and binding in all respects relating to awards; (b) to release, discharge and hold harmless the Festival, the Festival’s sponsor (The *Department of Media Production, Management, & Technology* at the UF College of Journalism & Communications) and assigns, and their respective parents (The University of Florida), affiliates, subsidiaries, and advertising and promotion agencies, and the respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents and representatives of the forgoing (collectively, “Released Parties”) from any and all injuries, liability, losses and damages of any kind to persons, including death, or property resulting, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, from the Entrant’s participation in the Festival or any Festival-related activity and from any and all claims, debts, demands, actions or causes of actions, suits, sums of money, damages, and liabilities of whatsoever kind or nature, which have arisen or may arise as a result of the Released Parties exercise of the rights granted to them as set forth herein; (c) to the use of his/her/their name, voice, performance, photograph/Film, image and/or likeness for programming, advertising, publicity and promotional purposes in any and all media, now or hereafter known, world wide, including without limitation, on the Internet, and in perpetuity by the Festival and its designees, without compensation (unless prohibited by law) or additional consents from the Entrant or any third party and without prior notice, approval or inspection, and to execute specific consent to such use if asked to do so; and (d) to hold the Released Parties harmless and to indemnify the Released Parties from and against all costs, expenses and liabilities incurred by the Released Parties in connection with the defense of any claim or claims on account thereof, including reasonable attorney’s fees. By participating, the Entrant also agrees not to release any publicity or other materials on his/her own or through someone else regarding his/her participation in the Festival without the prior consent of the Festival, which it may withhold in its sole discretion.

OWNERSHIP/USE OF SUBMISSIONS: By submitting an Entry, you hereby grant to the Festival a royalty-free, fully paid up, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive and fully sub-licensable right and license to use, reproduce, modify, adapt, publish, translate, combine with other works, create derivative works from, distribute, perform, edit and display such Entry (in whole or part) including, without limitation, the names and likenesses of any persons or locations embodied therein, and/or to incorporate it in other works in any form, media, or technology now known or later developed. These rights include, without limitation, the right to exhibit the Entry at the Orange & Blue Film Festival and to use the Entry in any and all media including but not limited to the Festival’s, the College of Journalism & Communications’, and Festival partner’s social media properties and/or offline media, in perpetuity without compensation, permission or notification to the Entrant or any third party. By submitting an Entry, The Entrant (student submitting the film) acknowledges that the Festival has no obligation to use or post any Entry submitted. Subject to these Terms, the Entrant retains full copyright ownership of the Entry.