

REGULATION COMPETITIONS 2019

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- all genres
- maximum length 40 minutes (including credits)
- completed July 1st, 2017 or later
- completed productions only (working copies will not be previewed)
- a film can be submitted only once
- premiere not required
- accepted screening formats digital file (Apple ProRes 422 or H.264)
- screening copy must be in or subtitled in English
- by submitting the film, you commit to the screening if the film is selected
- free deadline 1st of March, no submission fee/film
- earlybird deadline 1st of May, submission fee 25 USD/film
- regular deadline 1st of June, submission fee 35 USD/film
- final deadline 20th of June, submission fee 45 USD/film

HOW TO SUBMIT

- deadline 1st of June | extended deadline 20th of June 2019 (late submissions will not be previewed)
- submissions can be made via *festhome.com*, *filmfreeway.com*, *shortfilmdepot.com*, *reelport.com* (and *www.program.shnit.org* – see number [4]). Please choose ONE way to submit your film
- register to the site (if not done earlier)
- fill in the submission form
- upload at least one still photo of the film
- make sure the preview file is working correctly
- preview file must be in or subtitled in English
- make the payment
- final selection is announced on October 1st, 2019 at *www.shnit.org*
- only the submitters of the selected films will be notified personally

JURIES AND PRIZES

AUDIENCE AWARD – INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION & WORLDWIDE COMPETITION

The audience decides by voting in all *INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS* (*INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION & WORLDWIDE COMPETITION*) the following award will be given to the film director(s):

- *shnit AUDIENCE* Award: Festival trophy *THE FLAMING FAUN* for the best film in this competition *

WORLDWIDE COMPETITION

The organizers will nominate an international Jury of three members. Films with *PLAYGROUNDS*** premiere status will be considered primary. The following prizes will be given to the film director(s):

- *shnit JURY* Award: Festival trophy *THE FLAMING FAUN* & 5.000 USD for the best film in this competition ***

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The organizers will designate a president of the *shnit TRIBUTE* to elect the three winners out of the nine nominated films. Nominations are done by the *shnit TRIBUTE* members. The members of the *shnit TRIBUTE* are former participants of *INTERNATIONAL* and *NATIONAL COMPETITIONS* who can give their vote on the *shnit TRIBUTE* platform. The following prizes will be given to the film directors:

- *shnit TRIBUTE* Award | Category up to 10 minutes: Festival trophy *THE FLAMING FAUN* & 3.000 USD for the best film in this category ***
- *shnit TRIBUTE* Award | Category up to 20 minutes: Festival trophy *THE FLAMING FAUN* & 3.000 USD for the best film in this category ***
- *shnit TRIBUTE* Award | Category up to 40 minutes: Festival trophy *THE FLAMING FAUN* & 3.000 USD for the best film in this category ***

NATIONAL COMPETITION(S)

The organizers nominate one national jury per *PLAYGROUND***. The kind of honoring per *NATIONAL COMPETITION* varies and is specified in the letter of confirmation. The following films are eligible for a *NATIONAL COMPETITION*:

- Origin of the film production from one of the *PLAYGROUND*** countries
- Origin of the film director from one of the *PLAYGROUND*** countries

Submissions for a *NATIONAL COMPETITION* automatically qualify as entries for all *INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS*. Double submission is not necessary.

IF THE FILM IS SELECTED

- please note that ONLY the submitters of the selected films will be notified personally
- information is given in the entry form (synopsis, credits, etc.) will be used as such in all printed publications and on the website
- please have your screening copy ready for sending in from 1st of July
- screening copy must have English subtitles and be identical to the preview copy
- the festival is authorized to make excerpts not exceeding 10% or max. 3 minutes of the total running time of the selected films to be used in promoting the festival in various media and the Internet and for promotional (incl. *shnit*-postcards), archival and other non-commercial purposes
- the festival will ensure the screening copy while in the festival's possession (The insurance will follow the regulations of FIAPF)
- the festival offers directors (1 person per film) of the selected films of the *INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS* accommodation for three nights in Bern during the festival
- ensure that nominated filmmakers are ready to travel to the *shnit FINALE* in New York (October 28th, 2019) to be part of the award ceremony

[1] THE ORGANIZATION

- The *shnit Worldwide Shortfilmfestival* is a non-profit organization. The annual festival and its film sections are created and centrally coordinated by the *shnit FOUNDATION* in cooperation with the *PLAYGROUND*** executives. The organization is built on principles of excellence and professionalism, enabling the global expansion of the festival. This requires active cooperation between *PLAYGROUND*** executives which, in return, strengthens the transnational network of «short film makers» and the growing community of «short film lovers». The festival delivers a high quality program of new and established international short films.

SHNIT ONLINE FILM LIBRARY AND BEST OF PROGRAM

Films selected to the competitions can automatically be entered into *shnit* film festival's online film library without separate notification. The online film library is available for accredited professionals only and is open for four weeks till November 14th, 2019.

After the festival, a few films from the official selection may be screened as a *BEST OF*-program, in cinemas and cultural centers in various countries. Best efforts will be made to ensure that filmmakers whose films are being screened as *BEST OF* will be informed about the place(s) and date(s) of the screening(s).

NON-SPECIFIED CASES

Any such cases not mentioned in these regulations will be left to the festival's consideration (in accordance with FIAPF International Regulations). By submitting the entry form, the submitter acknowledges that they have read, understood and accepted the regulations without reservation.

- The *shnit FOUNDATION* [CHE-485.790.832] is an international not for profit registered foundation based in Switzerland.
- The final selection of all films presented at the festival and their placement in the program is the responsibility of the board.

[2] ELIGIBILITY

- The festival is open to short films of all production techniques, including animation, documentary, drama, experimental or artist film and hybrid work from low to high budgets.
- Submissions may not be withdrawn from the festival once they have been entered, except at the sole discretion of the festival.

[3] AWARDS & PRIZES

- Audiences, *shnit JURY*, *shnit TRIBUTE* and the *PLAYGROUNDS** NATIONAL COMPETITIONS* Awards will not be awarded to the same film.
- *INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS* winners must attend the award ceremony on October 28th, 2019 in New York City in order to receive the award, the prize money and the statuette *THE FLAMING FAUN*. *NATIONAL COMPETITIONS* winners must attend the relevant national awards ceremony to receive their award.
- All awards will be handed personally to the director(s). In exceptional cases only, a representative can be put in charge (upon agreement with the festival board).
- Winners shall mention their awards in future publicity / filmcopies of the winning short film as well as in their professional resumes, web pages and similar media.
- The prize money will be paid out by bank transfer the latest by July 1st 2020 upon receipt of all necessary bank details (send to admin@shnit.org before December 1st, 2019). Bank charges (if applicable) are to be borne by the recipient of the prize money.

[4] SUBMIT ON WWW.PROGRAM.SHNIT.ORG

- Preview copies are accepted on the following formats: A password secured link, DVD, BluRay, hard drive or USB pen drive (postmarked –make sure that the package arrives by June 15th the latest).
- Account to pay the entry fee to: *shnit FOUNDATION*
IBAN: CH92 0079 0016 9705 0699 8 / BIC: KBBECH22XXX Or via Paypal - paypal@shnit.org.
- Please make sure that you indicate your film title as payment reference.
- Submission parcels must be labeled «NO COMMERCIAL VALUE – FOR CULTURAL PURPOSES ONLY». The value of goods is to be declared with 1 USD.
- Shipping costs for preview copies will neither be refunded nor returned. Preview copies will be digitized and stored in the festival archive.
- Preview copies must be sent to the following address: *shnit Worldwide Shortfilmfestival* | Marktgasse 36 | CH-3011 Bern | Switzerland.
- Several films may be submitted. A separate entry form is required for each film submission.
- Illegible or incomplete entry forms will not be accepted.
- Additional material such as press packs and production information are not required at this stage and should not be included.

[5] NOTIFICATION & SELECTION

- Arrival of submissions and preview copies cannot be confirmed.
- An independent selection committee is appointed by the festival to view all submissions for programming consideration. All entries are first considered for the *INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS* and the *NATIONAL COMPETITIONS* but will also be considered for other programs where appropriate. Decisions made by the selection committee are final.
- The final selection will be released online at www.shnit.org on September 13th, 2019.
- We do not pay screening fees for officially selected films of the program 2019.
- The festival will make previews of selected films 2019 available to the media, industry representatives and official jury members.

[6] BEFORE THE FESTIVAL

- A selection of films from the 2019 festival may be screened as a *shnit PREVIEW* (preview screening) before the festival. Best efforts will be made to ensure that filmmakers whose films are being screened in *shnit PREVIEW* will be informed about the place(s) and date(s) of the screening(s).

[7] VISITING THE FESTIVAL

- All cities involved in the festival will be announced in September 2019 at the latest.
- The festival hosts industry professionals and guests, and offers guest and meeting services.
- The directors of selected films are invited to be guests of the festival and the festival may cover the expenses of their stay (private accommodations, professional accreditation). All hospitality arrangements are assigned by the respective managers of each *PLAYGROUND*** and remain limited within one's reach.
- More information about guest services will be provided personally to successful applicants.

[8] AFTER THE FESTIVAL

- After October 28th the five winning films will be made available, for a duration of three days until November 1st 2019 in a password-protected secure online environment and/or *shnit APP* for a fee or by invitation only.
- A selection of the winners of the *NATIONAL COMPETITIONS 2019* will be screened in all *PLAYGROUND***-cities in the next festival edition.

- *shnit* presents its programs with subtitles in several languages. To translate subtitles and to learn about languages *shnit* collaborates with language schools and can make officially selected films of the program 2019 available for students.
- The festival hosts an online showreel platform for professionals. The aim of *shnit SHOWREEL* is to promote quality short films within a professional realm to enhance future success of films selected by the festival.
- Extracts of films, film stills and contact information for all films selected for screening at the 2019 festival could be published on the website of *shnit SHOWREEL*.
- All shortfilms selected for the festival will be coded and included in the digital showreel, available to delegates who attend the festival and registered professionals only.
- After the festival the films will remain available to registered delegates.
- The involvement in *shnit SHOWREEL* is not compulsory. Should you wish not to be included please email to showreel@shnit.org before September 1st 2019.
- *shnit SHOWREEL* is a working title and is subject to change without prior notice.

[9] LIABILITY

- The sender of the submitted film is responsible for all copyrights. He is legally authorized to enter his short film in the festival and, if selected for the festival, authorized to give screening permission.
- The applicant has secured all necessary rights for both picture and sound, and exhibition will not violate or infringe upon any rights, including but not limited to music, images, and content.
- The film, including all copyrights, remains the property of the author.
- The films will be handled with the outmost care. However, the festival management will assume no liability for damages or loss.
- Failure to comply with the terms and conditions may result disqualification.
- In the event of disagreement concerning the interpretation of the terms and conditions, the interpretation of the festival will take precedence.
- The non-profit nature of the foundation's activities guarantees that the works submitted will be used only to advance the cultural objectives of *shnit*.
- These regulations are subject to change without prior notice.

If you have questions related to regulations, timetables, etc., please contact the program coordination entry@program.shnit.org.

* The prize money for the audience Award in the *INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS* will be at least USD 1.000*** but definitely determined by the audience donations (-minus administrative costs for donating). The exact paid-off prize money amount for the audience award will be determined and announced at the *shnit FINALE | shnit AWARDS NIGHT* at October 28, 2019.

** *shnit Worldwide Shortfilmfestival* takes place simultaneously in the following cities, *shnit PLAYGROUNDS*, on five continents: Bern [Switzerland], Buenos Aires [Argentina], Cairo [Egypt], Cape Town [South Africa], Hong Kong [China], Moscow [Russia], San José [Costa Rica].

*** For reasons of planning security the *shnit Worldwide Shortfilmfestival* has to link the amount of 15.000 USD (1 x 5.000 | 3 x 3.000 | 1 x 1.000) to the international exchange rate of the Swiss Franc (CHF). Record date is January 1st 2019. The exact paid-off prize money amount will be determined at the time of transfer. Note The amount either corresponds to the equivalent of 5.000 USD / 3.000 USD / 1.000 USD or (in case of currency weakness of the Swiss Franc) will be converted to the corresponding amount in USD in relation to the exchange rate of Swiss Francs (CHF) according to the record date. No legal claim on the part of applicants can be asserted in terms of cash prizes.