

2018 Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong Short Film Competition

Rules and Regulations

Short films have always been a major element of the Sundance Film Festival. They are regarded as a testing ground to discover talented and upcoming directors. To give momentum to last year's success, with our Jury Award Winner Jun Ho and her short film "Eye Bags" received an official selection at 2018 Sundance Film Festival, Sundance Institute and The Metroplex (hereinafter as "Organisers") are thrilled to present the **third edition of Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong Short Film Competition** (hereinafter as "Competition"). Open for application from 10 April – 30 June, 2018.

1. Key Dates

Submission Open: 10 April, 2018 (from HK Time 12noon)

Submission Deadline: 30 June, 2018 (by HK Time 6pm)

Award Presentation Ceremony: 20 September, 2018

2018 Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong : September 20 – October 1, 2018

2. Entry Fee

Free of Charge

3. Eligibility

Applicant **MUST** comply with the following requirements:

(a) Entrant Eligibilities

- Film director(s) of the Entry must be at the age of 18 or above as at the deadline of submitting the application (i.e. 30 June, 2018). If the entry has more than one director (maximum 4 directors), ALL joint-directors must be at the age of 18 or above.
- Film Director(s) of the Entry must be Hong Kong permanent residents (holder of the Hong Kong permanent identity card who have the right of abode or the right to land or to remain in Hong Kong without restriction, i.e. with the letter "A", "R", "U" shown below the date of birth on the HK Smart ID Card.)* If the entry has more than one director (maximum 4 directors), ALL joint-directors must be permanent Hong Kong residents.
** For details about the status of Hong Kong permanent residents, please visit the website of the Immigration Department at <http://www.immd.gov.hk/>*
- To ensure fairness, jurors and staff of Hopewell Holdings Limited are not allowed to take part in the Competition.
- Winners of the Competition should attend Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong's activities upon the request by the Organisers, including but not limited to Opening Night, Award Ceremony, Filmmakers' Lunch, Q&A Session of respective screening(s). Details will be announced in due course.

(b) Entry Requirements

- Entries must be completed on or after 1 January, 2017.
- Running time of each entry has to be between 3 and 15 minutes (including opening and end credits).
- Entries **MUST** have burnt-in Traditional Chinese and / or English Subtitles*.
** Entries with **dialogue other than Cantonese and Mandarin should have burnt-in Traditional Chinese Subtitles, and by the same token, burnt-in English Subtitles are needed for non-English dialogue.** If the Entries are shot in language other than Cantonese, Mandarin and English, burnt-in Traditional Chinese and English subtitles are required.*

- All genres of shorts are accepted, except music video clips and commercial advertising videos.
- There are no premiere or prior screening restrictions. Shorts that have been publicly exhibited, distributed, entered or have won prizes in other contests are eligible to enter the Competition.
- There is no restriction on the number of entries, but each entry should be entered once in the Competition.
- Entries which participated in the previous edition of “Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong Short Film Competition” are NOT accepted.
- If selected, filmmakers are required to provide the Exhibition Copy (with required burnt-in Subtitles) in either ProRes 422 or above version MOV file OR DCP format in Mid-August for theatrical screening(s). All encrypted DCPs must supply DKDM keys that remain open for the duration of 2018 Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong. Failure to provide the above exhibition formats may result in disqualification.

Note: In case of any dispute concerning the definition of the above eligibility, the interpretation of the Organisers shall be final and conclusive.

4. Work Submission

Candidates are required to submit the materials online by 30 June, 2018 (Saturday) 6:00pm (Hong Kong Time). Late submission will NOT be considered.

Candidates could submit the required materials via either by Withoutabox Secure Online Screener System as hosted on IMDB or share with Vimeo link:

- (a) Create a Withoutabox account;
- (b) Upload the following materials on Withoutabox:
 - Biography of each director;
 - Synopsis of the entry short film;
 - At least one still photo (in JPEG file) of the entry short film.
- (c) Submit your online screener :
 - (i) **Option 1 - Upload at IMDB:** Create an IMDB account, upload your entry short film at IMDB and submit your short film to the Competition; Please be aware that the process of completing your upload is around 2.5 times of your film duration. You are advised to upload the short film at least one day before the deadline. Although our online application is handled through Withoutabox, digital uploads are handled through your IMDB account. You must link your IMDB account to your Withoutabox account in order to use the secure online screener system. You will be prompted to log into or create an IMDB account when you initially create your Withoutabox account. If you already have a Withoutabox account and have not yet linked an IMDB account to it, you will be prompted to do so once you select “secure online screener” as your submission format.

On the video upload page, please be sure to select “Yes” under the “Make Video Private” option unless you want your video to be made public on IMDB. “Yes” is selected by default. Uploading your film via the Withoutabox/IMDB secure online screener system does not give us access to do anything other than viewing it. We cannot download, copy or share films that have been uploaded via Withoutabox/IMDB for our consideration, and you are not giving Withoutabox or its parent companies permission to access your video for any purpose other than submitting it for Competition consideration.

- (ii) **Option 2 – Share with Vimeo link:** Create a Vimeo account, upload your entry short film to Vimeo and select its privacy setting. You will be prompted to the uploading page where video conversion takes time. You are advised to upload the short film at least one day before the deadline. When the uploading process is done, you can generate a sharable link by clicking the “Share” button on your video page. You may share this link to us.

Navigate to your project page in Withoutabox, select “Submission Video” as Video Type. Enter the link to Vimeo video, its password (if applicable) and title, then click “Save and continue”. On the submission page of “2018 Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong Short Film Competition”, select “Secure Online Screener” as Submission Format and select your Vimeo link from the “Choose Secure Online Screener” secondary drop down,

complete all the submission details. Your video will be successfully submitted for our viewing.

For any questions regarding on video uploading, please contact sffhk_shorts@metroplex.com.hk. Once the application is submitted, no entrant is allowed to withdraw and no entry is allowed to alter or re-submit.

Note: It is of entrant's sole responsibility to ensure that their online application is properly submitted. **Within 3 working days after the completion and submission of the online entry form, an email confirmation will be received and film director(s) is required to send the photocopy of their HK smart ID Card for verification.** If more than 3 working days have passed and no email confirmation is received, you may email sffhk_shorts@metroplex.com.hk to follow up. All entry materials MUST be received by the Organisers no later than the applicable deadlines referenced above. The Organisers reserve the right to disqualify any submission, if it is not completed in accordance with these Entry Rules and Regulations.

Note: The submission to the Competition implies acceptance of the Rules and Regulations for Competition Entrants. The English text of the Rules and Regulations is the authentic and binding version. The Organisers have the sole and final decision in relation to issues which have not been covered in the Rules and Regulations and Entry Checklist. The Organisers reserve the right to revise such regulations and forms at any time.

Note: The Personal Data and other information are collected for the sole purpose of entering into this Competition and its adjudication, and are governed by Cap. 486 Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance. In submitting an application, all Applicants are deemed to agree to allow the Organisers to use such information.

5. Awards & Prizes

The Jury Panel includes:

- John Cooper, Director of Sundance Film Festival
- John Nein, Senior Programmer, Sundance Film Festival
- Kim Yutani, Senior Programmer, Sundance Film Festival
- Mike Plante, Senior Short Film Programmer, Sundance Film Festival
- Wong Chun, Hong Kong filmmaker; Director of *Mad World*
- Ernest Chan, Hong Kong Film Critic;
- Jan Lam, Program Manager, The Metroplex

Entries will be assessed and selected by the Jury Panel in accordance with the following criteria:

- Filming Skills / Techniques
- Scripts / Narrative
- Film Editing
- Creativity

Entries that are selected and nominated for Jury Award (hereinafter as "Nominees") will be notified in Mid-August. Representatives of these nominees will be invited to the competition award ceremony on 20 September, 2018 which one nominee will be awarded Jury Award and a number of nominees will be awarded Honorary Mentions.

Jury Award, Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong Short Film Competition

- HKD 30,000 Cash Prize;
- One Sundance Film Festival visit in Utah in January 2019 (including roundtrip economy class flight ticket and 5-day-4-night accommodation);
- Awarded work will be screened at 2018 Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong;
- Awarded work will be automatically submitted for consideration for entry to Sundance Film Festival 2019 in Utah;
- One Trophy.

Honorary Mentions, Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong Short Film Competition

- Awarded works will be screened at 2018 Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong;
- One Certification.

Note: The Jury Panel reserves the right to withhold an award if they find none of the entry merits a particular award and prize. The decision of the Organisers and Jury Panel shall be final and conclusive.

Note: The Organisers will provide one roundtrip economy class flight ticket (airport tax and fuel surcharges inclusive) and one standard room for 5-day-4-night stay in Utah to the winner of Jury Award. Prizes cannot be redeemed for cash and is non-transferable. Where there is more than one director to the awarded entry, one representative will be entitled to the Utah trip.

6. Copyright & Sponsorship

(a) Copyright

- The submission to the Competition implies the agreement of granting the theatrical screening rights to the Organisers, as well as allowing the Organisers to transfer the submitted data and video to the Jury Panel for the purposes of assessment and evaluation.
- All entrants must be the sole and exclusive owner of the copyright in the entry(ies). Where there is more than one entrant to an entry, all of the entrants must be exclusive owners of the copyright in the entry. Entries should not infringe any rights of any third party.
- All entrants should only use third party's music excerpts or film/video segments in the entry with the prior written consent of the relevant third party. Entrants must acknowledge any authorized use of music excerpts or film/video segments in the entry in accordance with the relevant copyright laws. The Organisers shall not be responsible whether directly or indirectly for any liability arising whatsoever or howsoever from any violation of any copyright laws. Entrants agree and undertake to accept and be responsible for all such liability arising therefrom.
- For details about the Copyright Ordinance (Chapter 528), please visit www.legislation.gov.hk/eng/home.htm

(b) Sponsorship/Funding

- If the entry is sponsored/ funded by any Organisation(s) / college(s), nature and details of the sponsorship/funding must be stated in the materials submitted to the Organisers.
- Entrants must ensure that the sponsor(s) will not interfere with their creativity and production.

7. Entry Presentation & Archive

- For Entries which are to be awarded or selected for presentation in Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong 2018, the Organisers have the right to use the still photo(s) provided by the entrant(s), synopsis and no more than 2 minutes footage, for promotion purposes in any and all media.
- Any use of the Entries for any commercial purposes will be subject to the conclusion of a separate agreement between the Organisers and the copyright owner of the particular entry.
- The Organisers have the final decision on presentation arrangement.
- Unless the entrant objects in writing, the Organisers have the perpetual right to keep one copy of each entry for educational, archival and research purposes.

8. Enquiry

The Metroplex

Email: sffhk_shorts@metroplex.com.hk