

2025 REGULATIONS (CINEMAGIC BELFAST)

PLEASE NOTE: THE INFORMATION BELOW IS FOR MAIN FESTIVAL SUBMISSIONS NOT THE 2025 CINEMAGIC YOUNG FILMMAKER COMPETITION.

CINEMAGIC - International Film Festival for Young People

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Cinemagic is an annual, competitive film festival presented by Cinemagic Ltd., a non-profit media arts charity dedicated to programming and exhibiting international film and television for Young People. The festival now in its 36th year, is the largest film festival for young people in the UK and Ireland.

The 2025 Cinemagic Belfast Festival will be organised and managed by Cinemagic Ltd working with an advisory committee of exhibitors, educationalists, and young people from Northern Ireland. In cases of dispute of these regulations the decision of Cinemagic Ltd is final. Entry to the festival implies acceptance of these regulations.

2. 2025 DATES AND EXHIBITION FORMAT

Cinemagic 2025 will take place between 1-31 October. The exhibition programme will take place in venues throughout Belfast and in regional venues across Northern Ireland.

3. THE COMPETITION

Cinemagic is a **competitive** festival with a physical award and certificate presented to winning filmmakers in the following categories:

- CineSeekers Award 'Best Feature Film' for a Children's Audience.
- CineSeekers Award 'Best Short Film' for a Children's Audience.
- CineFocus Award 'Best Feature Film' for a Teenage Audience.
- CineFocus Award 'Best Short Film' for a Teenage Audience.

Please note: We reserve the right to change award headings & create additional awarded strands.

5. ENTRY PROCEDURE AND DEADLINE

Deadline for entries is **25th JULY 2025**. To enter, please send an online screener link along with a **completed** competition entry form to **chris@cinemagic.org.uk**

*All entries should be in English or in their original language with English subtitles.

Entry to the festival is **FREE OF CHARGE**. Please use a separate entry form for each film submitted. The entry form should be accompanied by the following e-materials:

**Full length screener preview version of the entry (online link / digital file).*

**Production Information, including cast/credits.*

**Brief biography of director(s) and filmography.*

**At least five hi-res images from the production (including film poster). These must be sent electronically to chris@cinemagic.org.uk as jpegs.*

**Downloadable links to film trailer (English Version).*

6. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

All films must be available in **English** or with **English subtitles**. Feature films must be at least 60 minutes long and shorts must be less than 60 minutes in duration. Cinemagic accepts all kinds of 'in competition' films as long as they are suitable for a youth audience (ages 25 and under).

All films entered for competition must have been made within the 3-year period 2023 – 2025. Films made before 2022 are not eligible for 'competition' but may be screened at the festival.

It is your responsibility to obtain all permissions and releases from the persons who appear in the film and who appear in any associated photo/still images. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the right to show the film to a public audience in the UK.

7. SCREENERS

Only online screeners in English or with English subtitles or dubbed in English are acceptable.

8. SELECTION

All screeners will be watched and judged by the Cinemagic Festival's Selection Committee. The Cinemagic Selection Committee is made up of film specialists, educators, and a panel of young people ('Young Consultants'), who will decide which films will participate in the festival. The committee's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The festival management may invite films for the competition and programme. Successful submissions will be informed before **15th August 2025**. If you have received no communication from Cinemagic by this date then please assume that your film has not been selected for participation in the festival.

9a. PRINT TRANSPORT INSTRUCTIONS

Films (all formats) accepted for the festival must arrive/be received at the Cinemagic Festival Office address two weeks before the play date. If a film arrives after this deadline (except by prior arrangement) its participation in the festival will not be guaranteed. Notification of despatch of any physical prints should be sent in advance. The costs for transport of any physical films to/from the festival are to be split by the sender and Cinemagic (Cinemagic agrees to cover transportation of prints – one way – either to the festival or on return/onward shipment). **Please note our preference is for all DCP prints to be sent digitally.**

Any physical transportation should be by courier only. **Do not send films by special airfreight expedited/overnight services.** Film prints must be accompanied with a commercial invoice (and all relevant international customs documents) stating **FOR TEMPORARY IMPORTATION ONLY, FOR CULTURAL EXHIBITION AND OF NO COMMERCIAL VALUE**. The value of the print should be declared as less than \$20.

DISCLAIMER: THE PRINT TRANSPORT INFORMATION ABOVE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN RELATION TO THE ONGOING BREXIT NEGOTIATIONS/CHANGES AROUND THE NORTHERN IRELAND PROTOCOL. THE INFORMATION WILL BE UPDATED ACCORDINGLY.

For the period in which physical film prints are in the care of the festival, they are fully insured for their print value. All prints will be returned to the address supplied on the entry form (unless informed otherwise).

Festival office: C/O Chris Shaw, Cinemagic Film Festival, 49 Botanic Avenue, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT71JL.

9b. DELIVERY OF DIGITAL EXHIBITION MATERIALS

Digital exhibition files must be sent to the Cinemagic Festival Programmer by 5th September 2025. If a film file arrives after this deadline (except by prior arrangement) the film's participation in the festival will not be guaranteed.

Notification of despatch of the digital file (via email) should be sent in advance.

10. PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

The Participation Agreement contained on the official Festival Entry Form must be signed. If using the online version you must scan a signed copy of the form. Please note that signing the participation agreement is legally binding.