

## **2025 REGULATIONS (YOUNG FILMMAKER)**

We are looking for imaginative and original films made by young people (Aged: 25 or under) to be screened as part of CINEMAGIC YOUNG FILMMAKER 2025.

The films can be about anything at all! Fact or fiction, comedy or drama, news programme, music video or documentary.

CINEMAGIC YOUNG FILMMAKER 2025 will take place during the CINEMAGIC BELFAST FESTIVAL in October 2025. The event will showcase the best short film entries of the year, and we will also be producing a series of workshops and master classes with renowned members of the film and television industry. A prize voucher, physical award and certificate will be presented to the Young Filmmaker of the Year in each award category - the winning entries will also be screened 'IN COMPETITION' during the CINEMAGIC INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE in 2026.

Running for 36 years Cinemagic Young Filmmaker has many well-known alumni including Michael Lennox (*Derry Girls*), William McGregor (*Gwen, His Dark Materials, The Missing & Poldark*), Ryan Tohill (*The Dig*), Andrew Tohill (*The Dig*), Lee Cronin (*The Hole in the Ground, Evil Dead Rise*).

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- Young Filmmaker is organised by the Cinemagic International Film Festival for Young People based in Belfast, Northern Ireland.
- Young Filmmaker exhibition will take place in October 2025 in Queen's Film Theatre, Belfast.
- The competition exhibits films made by children and young people (25 & under).
- The competition is open to anyone aged 25 and under from or living in the UK and Ireland.
- We welcome submissions from individuals or groups of friends, youth and community groups and schools and colleges.
- If you are submitting a youth/community or school project most of the people involved in the production must be aged 25 years or under. Although we understand these projects are often mentored by adults, the production must be predominantly led by young people and young people must have devised the script/story. Young People must also have been involved in the technical side e.g., using camera/sound equipment and been involved in the edit.

- Film entries will be sorted into categories depending on age and genre. Specific categories are determined each year by the make-up of entries received in that particular year.
- The short films must have been made after last year's competition deadline of July 2024. Any entries made pre-July 2024 will not be accepted.
- Previous submissions will not be accepted.
- Films submitted must be no longer than 10 minutes in duration.
- All entries must be received digitally.
- Entry to the competition is FREE.
- The competition deadline is 1st August 2025.
- Not all films entered to the competition will be shortlisted and screened.
- A panel of film professionals and educators will judge each entry and their decision is final.
- Successful entries will be informed before the 1st September 2025. If you have not received any communication from Cinemagic by this date, then your film has not been selected for participation in the event.
- A programme of short-listed films will be exhibited during the 2025 Cinemagic Festival.
- It is your responsibility to obtain all permissions and releases from all people (or the parent/guardian of any young person) appearing in the film and any associated photo/still images.
- It is your responsibility to ensure you have the right to show the film to a public audience (i.e., secured all music and image rights). If you do not have permission to use the music/images in your film, you cannot submit the film into the competition.
- In submitting your film and by signing the entry form you agree to all the competition regulations and confirm that all the information in the form is true and accurate.
- Please make sure the spelling of all the names of cast/crew are correct on the entry form.
- For any Young Filmmaker under 18 all direct correspondence between Cinemagic and the Young Filmmaker must be made via a parent/guardian.

## **HOW TO ENTER**

**STANDARD:** Please email an online screening link to your film along with a completed entry form to [chris@cinemagic.org.uk](mailto:chris@cinemagic.org.uk)

**FILM FREEWAY:** Entries can also be made via FilmFreeway (link below)  
<https://filmfreeway.com/CinemagicYoungFilmmaker>

The competition deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025.

**PLEASE NOTE: THE COMPETITION IS ONLY OPEN TO YOUNG FILMMAKERS AGED 25 AND UNDER FROM OR LIVING IN THE UK AND IRELAND.**

**FILMS ARE TO BE NO LONGER THAN 10 MINUTES.**

Entry forms are available to download from the Cinemagic website:  
<https://cinemagic.org.uk/young-filmmaker/>

For more information contact Chris Shaw at Cinemagic.  
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