

## **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DIGITAL MEDIA FEST COMPETITION 2021**

**Web series and Web native videos**

**from 10th 12th December**

The Cultural Association ANCEF (National Association of Creative People and Filmmakers) announces the call for applications for the Digital Media Fest Competition 2021. The Competition has been designed to link young Italian and foreign filmmakers with the major Italian and foreign TV and cinema production companies. The festival wants to promote a new business model aimed at bridging cinema and TV companies with authors who are active on the web.

### **DIGITAL MEDIA FEST DATES:**

Opening submissions: 03/05/2021

Closing submissions: 02/09/2021

Official selection list: 20/09/2021

Awards Ceremony: 12/12/2021

The date of actual execution of the event awards may vary slightly for logistical needs (covid19) .

You can enter the following audiovisual works: Web Series (in various categories), pilot (web series) Short film, V/R (products of augmented and virtual reality), Vertical Video

Entries may also be unprecedented: at the time of registration must be available for the organization's Digital Media Fest on the web, with a password, on any online distribution platform. The same works will remain accessible in the same way, on such platforms, for the duration of the contest, until the day of the ceremony. Penalty the exclusion from the competition.

It is also possible to register from the filmfreeway platform.

### **1. DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions are applied to this announcement:

- A “**Web Series**” is a series of fiction products (made at least of 2 episodes) designed to be released on the web or displayed on mobile devices. The web series must be made of two or more episodes with the same title and brand (if any). The episodes must have a background story describing the vicissitudes of the same main characters, or they must share a common theme. All episodes have to be web-native. Previews, trailers, size reels, demo reels, advertising spots, film sequences for cinema distribution or home video release, episodes of old TV series distributed through a free TV channel, or pay TV, or cable TV of any sort, pilot

episodes of TV series that have not been sold cannot be considered web series.

- An “**episode**” is a single part of a web series with the maximum length of 45 minutes.
- “**Authors**” are natural persons resident in Italy or abroad that are at least eighteen years old. For minors a disclaimer certified by their legal guardian is necessary.
- An “**audiovisual production company**” is a company resident in Italy or abroad having as core business the production of audiovisual products.
- “**Cultural associations**” means the non-profit associations resident in Italy and abroad.
- **Pilot (web series)**: it means the initial episode from which will emerge the webserial project (you can subscribe to this category only the web series that produced one episode)
- **Short films**: is a video with the maximum permitted duration is 40 minutes. The short films are used to represent the different types of film (comedy, thriller, etc.) with a dry style than the feature film.
- **Virtual reality video**: is a video in which it has been created an immersive reality completely alternative to the one around us in everyday life. This happens through the use of a viewer that isolates us completely from the surrounding environment immersing ourselves in an imaginary world, sometimes at 360 ^.
- **Augmented reality video**: videos that are exploitable through AR viewers, but that they don’t provide total isolation from the environment, with which the user maintains the eye contact, while the viewer takes care to superimpose all the information considered useful.
- **Vertical Video**: A vertical video is a video created either by a camera or computer that is intended for viewing in portrait mode, producing an image that is taller than it is wide.

## 2. SUBJECT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT

2.1 Winners of the most important Digital Media Fest awards will be admitted to the web series festivals twinned with the Digital Media Fest (as specified in the “Award” section on the website [www.digitalmediafest.it](http://www.digitalmediafest.it)).

## 3. APPLICATION AND REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 Registration to the Digital Media Fest 2021 can be completed from May 3rd, 2021 to September 2nd, 2021.
- 3.2 Registration can be completed exclusively after approval by the festival and payment of the registration to ANCEF
- 3.3 The videos can be registered by Italian or foreign authors, cultural associations, and audiovisual production companies. Authors must be at least 18 years old at the moment of registration; if minors, they must be authorized by their legal guardian.
- 3.4 In order to apply, authors and companies shall declare that they are the owners of all exploitation rights to the videos and that they accept the Disclaimer concerning the contents of the videos. They must also declare that the video is original and that it does not violate the rights of any third party. The Digital Media Fest is discharged from any claims coming from third parties.
- 3.5 At the moment of application at least your work or if the category “web series” 2 (two) episodes of the Web series, registered in the Digital Media Fest, must be already uploaded to

YouTube, Vimeo or another verifiable web platform. The videos can also be uploaded to the Digital Media Fest YouTube channel before completing the registration.

- 3.6** The Digital Media Fest will be discharged from any responsibility if the video is posted on a platform (different from YouTube or Vimeo) which will result incompatible with the uploading system used by the contest.
- 3.7** The works must not have been published on the web before 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. Nel if the category “web series” at least one episode must be loaded from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019.
- 3.8** For the web series category the registration to the Digital Media Fest cannot be completed before the online publication of the second episode of the series.
- 3.9** Each author or company can register more than one (1) web series.
- 3.10** A video can be registered only into one category. The Technical Committee of the Digital Media Fest, having checked the contents, has the undisputable right to change the category selected at the moment of registration.

3.10/a Ex aequo awards are also envisaged.

3.11 In web series section the categories in the competition are as follows:

- Action
- Cartoon
- Comedy/sketch
- Comedy/story
- Drama
- Mokumentary
- Documentary
- Web show/tutorial
- Branded web series
- Science/fantasy
- Horror
- Other

The Management of Digital Media Fest, reserves the sole right to cancel and / or modify certain categories of awards, if any competing work proves suitable to represent one.

3.11 /a SPECIAL MENTIONS. The special mentions were awarded prizes by the Management of Digital Media Fest at its sole discretion.

3.12 A Special Award is reserved for the best foreign work. The web series shot in other language than English or Italian must be subtitled in English or Italian.

3.13 A video will be considered accepted when published on the [www.digitalmediafest.it](http://www.digitalmediafest.it) website, once the Technical Committee of the Digital Media Fest has verified its regular registration.

3.14 Competition registration implies accepting subscription to the Digital Media Fest newsletter and joining its organizing associations: ANCEF (National Association of Creative People and Filmmakers)

The annual membership fee is 29,00 Euros.

Each author can run only one work.

The Best Web Character Digital Media Fest awards are awarded to web personalities considered the best representatives of the class of YouTuber, Filmmaker, Gamer or Character. These categories of awards do not require registration or payment of fees. The Management of Digital Media Fest makes, at its sole discretion, the selection of the best representatives for nomination.

#### **4. CONTEST REGISTRATION**

4.1 The registration fee is 29,00 €, which is the cost of an annual membership to ANCEF and it has to be paid through Paypal or with bank transfer. Is possible to make the registration on [filmfreeway.com](http://filmfreeway.com) too.

4.1 /a Each author can submit only one work

4.2 Scientific Committee will choose a lot of registered videos, even the ones that will not pass the selections and, thus, will not run for the awards, will be showed during one day of the festival.

#### **5. PANELS OF JUDGES**

5.1 The selection of finalists will be made by the Scientific Committee before September 20th, 2021 (first phase) and an evaluation by a qualified (second phase Jury) which will start on 21th september and will end on December 12th, 2021. Winners will be announced during the awards ceremony.

5.2 The final decision appertains to the Artistic Director of Digital Media Fest.

5.3 The Jury of Experts will be composed of leading figures/illustrious exponents of the authorial world and professionals of the audiovisual industry.

5.4 The Jury members will be elected from the Scientific Committee within 30<sup>th</sup> september, 2021.

## **6. GENERAL ADMISSION AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

- 6.1 Italian and foreign videos will be evaluated according to the same criteria based on the following requirements: high artistic value, technical quality of the audiovisual product (intended as value of technical and technological elements of the project), potential attraction to an international audience, technical and professional skills of the authors, language innovation and web- awareness.
- 6.2 The videos can deal with any issue as long as it is not contrary to law nor results harmful or offensive to human rights and the dignity of the person or otherwise contrary to the ethical and moral principles.

## **7. PROJECTS SELECTION AND FINAL COMPETITION**

**7.1** The selection process will be subdivided into two steps:

**a)** Admission of the projects: the Italian Scientific verify if the projects fulfil the requisites listed/described in the announcement. Authors and production companies fill in the application form through the affiliation to ANCEF. The link of the completed payment of **29,00 €** must be included in the form. The payment can be done by bank transfer to:

**Associazione Nazionale Creativi e Filmmaker (ANCEF)**

**IT71L0200805120000103988809** or through **Paypal**.

Registration cannot be completed without the payment confirmation. In case of disqualification due to violations of regulations, the registration fee will not be refunded.

All documents :

- a) payment confirmation (with reference email address)
- b) ID (identification document)
- c) registration form to Association ANCEF (downloaded from the website)
- d) competition agreement (downloaded from the website)

**must be sent to liberatorie@digitalmediafest.it.**

**b)** Selection phase: The finalist works will be selected by the Scientific Committee by 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.

**7.2** The videos that have reached the final will be announced within 21<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 on the following website: [www.digitalmediafest.it](http://www.digitalmediafest.it)

**7.3** The videos that have reached the final will enter the final stage of the competition. It will take place on December 10<sup>th</sup> December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 during the Digital Media Fest 2021. These dates could change due to location accessibility. Any such variations will be communicated within October 30th, 2021.

**7.4** The videos that have reached the final will be showed during the first two days of the festival, in a Special Section dedicated to the Competing Works. They will undergo the judgement of the Jury of Experts. Will be screened all the works admitted to the competition and non-finalists to give visibility to those who have access to the competition.

**7.5** The Jury of Experts will choose and announce the winning videos of the Digital Media Fest 2021 during the third day of the festival. In that occasion, the award ceremony will take place.

**7.6** Decisions made by the Jury of Experts are irrevocable.

## **8. PARTICIPANTS' OBLIGATIONS**

**8.1** The competition participants authorize Digital Media Fest to promote and publish the registered web series on the competition website with trailer or photos. Moreover, they authorize the web series projection during the last days of the festival, as well as in other twinned competitions and events related to the Digital Media Fest.

**8.2** The competition participants guarantee the correct use of the registered materials and discharge Digital Media Fest from any responsibility regarding an unsuccessful or incomplete registration. Digital Media Fest is also discharged from any technical problems regarding content visualization of the videos registered or sent.

**8.3** In order to register any videos the participants must sign the Disclaimer. Otherwise, the videos will be excluded from the competition.

**8.4** The contest winners must explicitly mention that the web series has won the Digital Media Fest 2021 in their promotional and advertising materials or materials published on the internet after the competition.

## **9. EXCLUSIONS**

**9.1** Applications will be rejected in the following cases:

- If they are sent after the deadline (2nd september, 2021 6 p.m.) -the reference date being the day in which the application form has been filled in.
- If they are unsigned.

- If they do not respond to the requisites listed in this announcement.
- If the contents of the works prove contrary to law and public order, or are harmful and offensive to human rights and the dignity of the person or otherwise contrary to the ethical and moral principles.

## **10. PARTICIPANTS' DECLARATION**

**10.1** I accept that:

- The Festival uses my work for all purposes related to the competition.
- My work (or parts of it) is included in the promotional materials of the Digital Media Fest;

## **11. DISAGREEMENTS**

**11.1** The Court of Rome shall have exclusive jurisdiction on any dispute or disagreement arising out of or relating to the matters described hereof.

## **12. PRIVACY TREATMENT OF PERSONAL DATA**

**12.1** Participants, with the presentation of their works and the registration in the competition, consent to the treatment of their personal data for purposes pertaining to the competition, pursuant to Legislative Decree n. 196/2003. The participant authorizes the Cultural Association, "Associazione Nazionale Creativi e Filmmaker" (ANCEF), organizer of Digital Media Fest, to publish images, photographs, , trailer during the festival, on its website, in catalogues, and/or in other appropriate media, public and private outreach events, without compromising the personal dignity and decorum.

The participant also acknowledges that this authorization of rights does not in any way conflict with contractual agreements and/or rights of representative agencies, and therefore relieves UCL of any eventual third party claims in relation to this concession of rights.

The participant also authorizes the use of images and music, free of compensation or other monetary consideration. The participant, pursuant to Legislative Decree n. 196/2003, declares to be fully informed of the purposes and methods of the treatment of personal data and authorizes the storing of the material presented in the archives of Digital Media Fest. The participant declares to possess full ownership of exploitation rights, as per legislation 633/1941 as regards the audiovisual work, submitted in the Festival.

By filling in the registration form participants attest to the veracity of their statements.

Failure of any part of the regulation will cause the exclusion of the competition without the socio / excluded competitor has no right to a refund of previously paid registration fee. The selection of eligible works will be made by and at the discretion of the Director of Digital Media Fest

The act of recognition implies the understanding and acceptance of this Regulation.

## **The structure of festival briefly**

### **PHASE A**

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021 – September 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2021

**To register for the competition, you have to register on the website**

**[www.digitalmediafest.it](http://www.digitalmediafest.it) and to fill out the form of registration**

**and make the payment. Then you have to send**

**a copy of a document, the disclaimer (to**

**download from the site during the compilation of the form)**

**and the payment receipt of the submission fee to**

**[liberatorie@digitalmediafest.it](mailto:liberatorie@digitalmediafest.it)**

Videos will be judged by a Scientific Committee. They will decide who will enter the Phase B (finalists web series).

### **PHASE B** September 20th, 2021 – December 12th, 2021

On September 21th will be announced the list of the finalists who will compete to win the Digital Media Fest prizes. A qualified Jury will vote to assign the prizes. The winners will be announced on December second, during the awards ceremony.

The actual date of the awards event may undergo slight variations due to logistical needs, but will be communicated in time for the organization of all participants.