

FFIFF 2018

“Shoot Your Short” SCREENPLAY COMPETITION RULES

General Eligibility

All writers of submitted material, including co-authors, must be 18 years or older. Screenplays written by teams of two or more writers are eligible for the “Shoot Your Short” Screenplay Competition. All writers must be acknowledged in the submission.

All screenplays submitted must be in English.

Screenplays must not have been optioned, sold or produced. Applicants must notify FAM Fest International Film Festival (“FFIFF” or the “Festival”) of any changes in status following submission.

NOTE: 2018 is the first year of the “Shoot Your Short” category being included in FFIFF. Beginning in 2019, scripts that have reached the Semifinalist level or above in previous years within the “Shoot Your Short” will not be eligible for resubmission.

Applicants may submit more than one screenplay in this category. Each entry requires an application, payment, and script.

All submissions must be accompanied by the appropriate submission fee PER ENTRY and, if submitting by mail, a completed entry form including all authors’ original signatures. Please do not send a photocopy of your signature. Make money orders payable to “Red Samurai Entertainment.” Only US money orders will be accepted.

FFIFF reserves the right in its sole discretion to reject or disqualify any ineligible entries, without a refund.

Originality and Permissions; Indemnity

Scripts must be the original work of the applicant(s). If based upon another person’s life or upon a book or other underlying work, applicant(s) must secure any necessary rights to make such adaptations. If the screenplay is selected as a finalist in the “Shoot Your Short” category, a request will be sent via email for a copy of the adaptation or rights agreements to the Festival. Screenwriters who fail to acquire the necessary rights and agreements and submit copies of said in a timely manner will be disqualified from continuing in the “Shoot Your Short” category of FFIFF. Neither the Festival nor its jurists investigates or attests to the authenticity of an applicant’s statement of authorship or rights secured. By entering the competition, you are acknowledging that you have secured all necessary rights.

By submitting the material (screenplay), the applicant hereby agrees to indemnify, hold harmless, and defend FAM Fest International Film Festival (FFIFF), it’s employees, directors, producers, representatives, affiliates and volunteers from any liability, claims,

and damages in connection with the submission and possible production of the submission (if it is the winning entry) and from any fees and expenses, including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees, that any of them may incur in connection therewith.

Additional Information

If the winning submission involves two or more writers as applicants, the writers will be given equal billing in the credits of the final production. All email addresses associated with the winning screenplay will be notified when necessary information regarding the entry are available.

Once an entry payment has been received we cannot provide a refund. If a payment is disputed by an entrant for any reason, the entrant may be subject to any transaction fees or similar amounts incurred by FFIFF in connection with the dispute.

No revisions or missing pages (or phone calls from your agent, writing partner or mother) will be accepted on behalf of the entry once an entry has been received. An entry will only be considered in the condition which we receive it in so make sure you double-check the entry before you hit "send" or drop it in the mail.

Awards are based solely on the overall merit of entries received in the same judging season. This years entries will be judged against all other "Shoot Your Short" entries for this calendar year (2018). Judges reserve the right not to grant an award if there is no qualified entry.

We strongly suggest that applicants copyright their materials with the U.S. Copyright Office (www.copyright.gov) and/or register their screenplay with the Writers Guild of America, East (www.wgaeast.org/script_registration) or Writers Guild of America, West (www.wga.org/registration/index.html). Please consult an attorney regarding any questions about these. We are not attorneys and will not answer legal questions regarding copyright.

"Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Award Rules

- All General Rules of FFIFF and all General Rules listed above apply.
- The submission may be from any genre.
- The "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition is only open to writers who do not earn a living writing for film or television.
- Short scripts that have already been produced are ineligible.
- Short scripts are open to any narrative short script in all genres.
- The "Shoot Your Short" Competition is open to ALL writers at all levels.
- No show bibles, treatments, or reality show formats will be accepted for the screenplay competition.
- General Format Rules
- Screenplays should be formatted according to current industry standards.

- To follow standard guidelines for format, read our pdf on screenplay format following included at the end of this rules document.
- Font size must be 12 point and in Courier type.
- Screenplays must be approximately 5-20 pages in length.
- Pages must be numbered in the top right-hand corner.
- No revisions or missing pages will be accepted once the entry has been received.

Mailed-in Submissions Format

- Pages should be two or three hole punched, bound between cardstock covers and fastened by two or three metal brads.
- Pages may be double-sided.
- Only the TITLE of the screenplay should appear on the front stock cover (legible and either written or typed).
- A second title page with all contact information (title, author, author's address, phone number, email address, and synopsis) should be included with the script. The author's name must not appear elsewhere in the script in order to preserve anonymity while the judging is in progress.
- An FFIFF "Shoot Your Short" entry form should be included with the entry.
- Payment method: money order only, no checks.

Online Submissions Format

- Scripts must be in PDF format.
- Only the title of the screenplay should appear on the front cover page.
- The author's name, contact information, or any other personal information that may reveal the identity of the writer(s) must not appear anywhere in the script in order to preserve anonymity in the judging process.
- Payment method: online via entry platform or money order through the mail, no checks.

Information for the Selected Winners for the "Shoot Your Short" category of FFIFF 2018

FFIFF has no obligation, unless stated in the rules or on our website, to disclose the identities of readers or judges, notes, feedback, or information relating to the submitted material, and/or details regarding the submission review or selection process.

Except as explicitly stated, no representations or guarantees are made regarding the feedback or comments provided, or the quality thereof. The opinions of the readers are their own and do not reflect the opinions of FFIFF. FFIFF explicitly disclaims any liability or responsibility for any comments, notes, or opinions expressed about a submission, whether by FFIFF or by its readers, judges, and sponsors.

Winners will be announced at FFIFF in August 2018. The judges' decision is final. In the very unlikely event that more than one screenplay, by a tally of judges points, should be

tied for first place the decision will be made by FFIFF's production company Red Samurai Entertainment.

No cash prize is being offered for the "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition. The winning screenplay will be produced by FFIFF's production company, Red Samurai entertainment. The value of this award is not to exceed total production cost.

The "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition Award Includes:

The winning entry in the "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition (FFIFF) will be produced by Red Samurai Entertainment. There will be one winner selected in the "Shoot Your Short" category of FFIFF 2018 unless there are no qualified entries.

The finished, produced winner of the "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition will be announced across the industry, the site, and all social media. FFIFF and Red Samurai Entertainment will give due diligence to promoting the completed work in whatever way is most promising for the future of the winning completed short and all interested parties.

The stated goal of the "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition is to produce a festival-ready, saleable short film.

Finalists will be notified via email prior to FFIFF 2018.

The "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition offers cash prize, production value only.

Red Samurai Entertainment, as the producers of the winner of the "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay category in FFIFF 2018 reserve first look exclusive option for six months after the film is completed. During the first look option period Red Samurai Entertainment may sell, distribute, market or enter the completed work into other film festivals without additional permission of the screenwriter. After the first look option period expires the screenwriter and Red Samurai Entertainment will share non-exclusive rights to the finished product. A document with terms and full details for the Non-exclusive Rights Agreement will be sent to the winner of this category upon notification of the award. Failure to agree to these terms will render the screenplay ineligible in the category.

Other Finalists or Non-Winning Entrants

After the announcement of the "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition winner at FFIFF 2018, if your entry is not the winner you may request to have your screenplay read by a member of Red Samurai Entertainment for production consideration in the 2019 calendar year. By submitting your screenplay for further consideration you are accepting responsibility all reasonable production and marketing costs involved in producing, marketing and distributing your finished film. Accepted screenplay project will be negotiated individually at the sole discretion of Red Samurai Entertainment.

The cost for consultation/consideration to be added to Red Samurai Entertainment's production schedule for 2019 is an additional \$25.

Priority in production schedule will be given first to the "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition award winner, then any other qualified screenplays of interest to our production company, Red Samurai Entertainment.

Returns and Acknowledgements

Scripts that are mailed in will not be returned under any circumstances.

Please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard for each submission if you wish acknowledgement of the receipt of your screenplay/teleplay (mailed-in entries only).

All submissions will be notified based on the FFIFF 2018 schedule.

Notifications will be sent via entry platform online.

After the competition's award winner has been decided and formally announced, reader comments and a brief summary of a script's notes may be requested by any entrant. This service will be considered professional feedback and is available upon request for \$25 per submission.

For the most up-to-date information about the "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition, please visit www.RedSamuraiEntertainment.com.
The "Shoot Your Short" Screenplay Competition is void where prohibited.