



OIFFA

YOUTH SHORT FILM CHALLENGE

ONLINE REGISTRATION: May 13-20, 2023

Welcome to OIFFA!

The **YOUTH CHALLENGE** is open to anyone under 17 years of age.

Challengers will have to produce a short film (no longer than 3 min), for which they will receive 2 mandatory parameters to integrate. They will have 2 weeks to complete their works. The films will have to be ready for screening. The entire **YOUTH CHALLENGE** will take place from **Sunday, May 21, at 5 PM, to Sunday, June 4, at 5 PM**. Complete details follow.

About the Festival

OIFFA is the National Capital's and Eastern Canada's preeminent festival dedicated to Indian cinema and all things Indian with its **OFFICIAL COMPETITION** and **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS** sections open to filmmakers from India and the Indian diaspora as well as films featuring Indian content. In its 6th year now, the Festival is extremely pleased to announce that it will be diversifying its offer for the first time in 2023 with the addition of a new section called **OIFFA WORLD**. Last but not least, we are happy to announce the return of the highly popular **72-HOUR SHORT FILM CHALLENGE**, which will be back with a new addition: a longer **YOUTH SHORT FILM CHALLENGE**, aimed at anyone under 17 years of age! Wishing to cultivate not only an audience for Indian cinema and Indian culture in Ottawa, the Festival also wants its audiences to open up to and welcome the various cinemas of the world.

OIFFA is proud of the winners of 2022's online edition, for its **OFFICIAL COMPETITION**, which saw **FORBIDDEN (NISHIDDHO)**, directed by **Tara Ramanujan**, crowned **BEST FEATURE FILM**, and a Special Mention was awarded by the jury to **Nine Hills One Valley** by **Haobam Paban Kumar**. **Bharat Mirle** took home the **BEST DIRECTOR** award for *The Road to Kuthriyar*. **BEST ACTRESS** went to **Gargi Roy Chowdhury** for *Mahananda* and **BEST ACTOR**, to **Prabhakar Kunder** for *The Chicken Curry (Koli Taal)*. **BEST SCREENPLAY** was awarded to **Deepankar Prakash** for *Naneera*. **BEST SHORT FILM** went to *Together* by **Azad Alam**.

The winner and runner-up of the last edition of **OIFFA's 2nd 72-HOUR SHORT FILM CHALLENGE** before the pandemic, in 2019, were, respectively, **Hung Phat Take-Out** by Vincent Valentine and **What Arjun Forgot** by Stephen Gagné. The winner received a \$2,000 cash prize and the runner-up, \$500.

OIFFA serves as a launching pad for networking and promoting local and international talent. A five-day showcase, the Festival hosts a number of participating filmmakers who can mingle with the public in a festive atmosphere, including film screenings, special events and a red carpet Closing Night Gala & Awards Ceremony. **OIFFA** is happy to be back live and in theatres in 2023!

This edition of **OIFFA** will be held from June 13 to 17, 2023. **OIFFA's** full program will be available on the Festival's website from the first week of June onwards, so stay tuned for all the details of the screenings on the **OIFFA** website at www.oiffa.com.

YOUTH SHORT FILM CHALLENGE

Rules of the Challenge

The Challenge is open to anyone **under 17 years of age**.

Individual filmmakers or teams (known as the “Challenger” below) may register (filmmakers can work with as many or as few people as they like on the production of their film).

The films can be of any type (fiction, documentary, experimental, art film) or genre (comedy, drama, horror, science fiction, fantasy, etc.)

The films should be no longer than 3 min.

Period of the Challenge

The entire Challenge will take place from **Sunday, May 21, at 5 PM, to Sunday, June 4, at 5 PM (EDST)**.

Challengers will have 2 weeks to complete their works, no more, no less.

Parameters & Requirement

On Sunday, May 21, aka Pitch Night, the Challengers will be informed of the mandatory parameters to integrate into their films.

Parameter 1 will be announced at Pitch Night; parameter 2, the curve ball, will be announced 2 days later:

1. Parameter 1: Theme (for ex., “Discovery”)
2. Parameter 2: Cultural Reference, aka the curve ball:
An object must be incorporated into the scene (for ex., a “flower”).
OIFFA organizers will let the Challengers know what the Cultural Reference is 2 days into the Challenge.

The final films must be submitted on Sunday, June 4, at 5 PM, in the following format (screening-ready): 1920 × 1080 mp4, 48 Hertz.

Registration & Deadline

Registration is online only at www.oiffa.com

Registration closes on **Saturday, May 20, at 5 PM (EDST)**, the day before Pitch Night.

Advantages, Obligations & Prizes

Each registered Challenger will receive:

1. free access to any OIFFA film screening (depending on seating availability);
2. free tickets to their own film’s screening.

Each registered Challenger must:

1. attend the Festival (attendance is mandatory for the film to remain eligible in the Challenge);
2. make him/herself available for Festival activities with other guests.

GRAND PRIZE: All registered Challengers will have the opportunity to win the \$500 Grand Prize.

RUNNER-UP: The runner-up Challenger will receive a \$250 Prize.

Jury

The winning films will be selected by a jury of 2 to 3 members.

They will judge the films based on which one best incorporated the Challenge's parameters, as well as on script, cinematography, sound, acting (if fiction), etc.

Screenings

All participating films will be screened locally, in an Ottawa theatre during OIFFA. The Festival takes place from June 13 to 17, 2023.

All Challengers will receive an all-access pass to OIFFA screenings, depending on seating availability. All minors under 12 years of age need to be accompanied by a parent, a legal guardian or a responsible adult. Smart dress or business casual for adults.

Sequence of Events

Saturday, May 13	Registration opens online
Saturday, May 20	Registration closes
Sunday, May 21	Pitch night & meet up Doors* open at 3:30 PM. Pitch will take place at 4:30 PM. Competition officially starts at 5 PM. Challengers who are unable to attend in person will be notified of the details via email or text message at 4:30 PM.
Tuesday, May 23	2 days into the Challenge, Challengers will be notified of the Cultural Reference, via email or text message.
Sunday, June 4	Challenge ends at 5 PM and all participating films must be submitted to OIFFA, or else be disqualified.
Tuesday, June 13 to Saturday, June 17	Festival dates Challenge films will be screened at some point during this event.
Saturday, June 17	Closing Night Gala Results of the Challenge will be announced. Challengers under 12 years of age present at the Gala need to be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or responsible adult.

**Location of Pitch Night to be confirmed to the participants via email and on the website closer to May 21.*

The Festival reserves the right to make other offers to the Challengers at opportune moments.

Registration Information

First Name:	
Last Name:	
Year of birth:	
Full name of parent or legal guardian:	
Email Address:	
Phone Number:	
Full address, incl. postal code:	
Mini bio of Challenger (if available):	

Youth Short Film Challenge—Acknowledgement & Signature

Must be signed by parent or legal guardian of minor Challenger.

On behalf of the minor Challenger, I hereby grant OIFFA full rights to post, share or use for promotional reasons the short film the Challenger submits, on any and all media channels affiliated with OIFFA.

I also agree not to post the Challenger's short film publicly until the end of the Festival. Doing so will eliminate the Challenger's eligibility to any potential award and could result in the film being removed from any and all screenings.

The Challenger will retain all rights to the short film the Challenger submits and, on behalf of the Challenger, I can grant authorization and permission from the copyrighted owners for any and all copyrighted or trademarked content. OIFFA will not be held liable for any unauthorized use of copyrighted or trademarked materials.

Venue and screening dates are subject to change.

By signing this document, you are affirming that you will secure all necessary approvals, licences and rights as the creator/producer of this film by screenwriters, film owners, film producers, actors, editors, etc.

Signature of parent or legal guardian representing minor Challenger: _____

I agree to the Rules and General Terms & Conditions.

Youth Short Film Challenge—General Terms & Conditions

To all Challengers (i.e. participants hereafter):

1. OIFFA will not accept any late submissions.
2. Minor Challengers must be represented by a parent or legal guardian to take part in the Challenge and agree to these General Terms & Conditions (all mentions of the participant/participants hereafter imply representation and agreement by the parent or legal guardian). To attend the Festival (any screening or event) and the screening of their films, minor Challengers under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or responsible adult.
3. All decisions are at the sole and absolute discretion of OIFFA, and are final and unreviewable. OIFFA or its Challenge jury is not required to provide any feedback, comments or reasons, or any other information, regarding the decisions it makes regarding the Youth Short Film Challenge. OIFFA is not responsible or liable for its decisions; for the contents of any internal comments or feedback regarding the film that are or may be obtained from the participant or anyone else; for any communications by any representative of OIFFA relating to the film; for the manner in which the film shall be, is or was considered and judged by the jury; or for any failure on the part of the Festival to provide the participant or anyone else with information concerning OIFFA's consideration and/or review of the film.
4. Once completed, all films must be made available to the Festival via the Internet (email, FTP server, etc.) or a private online link. OIFFA will not accept physical shipments of any kind.
5. OIFFA will appoint a jury of two to three (2-3) professionals who, in their sole discretion, have the appropriate qualifications to judge the works. Films will be considered in accordance with the official selection criteria, as follows:
 - Best integration of the parameters
 - Creativity and originality
6. The jury will award two prizes: a Grand Prize of CAN\$500 and a Runner-Up Prize of CAN\$250. They may also decide to add criteria in their appreciation. Other prizes (such as a Public's Prize) may be awarded in the discretion of OIFFA.
7. If OIFFA is made aware of any concerns that a film does not constitute the original work of the participant, then OIFFA has the right to contact the participant and ask for evidence to the contrary. After careful consideration of said evidence, OIFFA's decision to allow the film to remain to compete in the Challenge or not is in its sole discretion and is final.
8. OIFFA reserves the right to rule, in its sole discretion, on cases and situations not foreseen by these Terms.
9. By submitting a film, the participant represents that they have obtained consent from any and all owners, creators, writers, producers and/or other authorized representatives of the film whose consent is required to submit the film to OIFFA and screen the film at the Festival, and has read, understood and agreed to the Terms.
10. All participants acknowledge that the Festival may be sponsored by one or more commercial partners ("sponsors"), as designated by OIFFA. By entering the Festival, the participants agree for OIFFA and any sponsor to have rights to use their film, in particular in the event that it is a winning film, for commercial and/or promotional purposes relating to OIFFA 2023 or a future OIFFA event.
11. All participants agree that they shall not feature any sponsor branding whatsoever without prior written consent of the sponsor.

12. All participants release OIFFA, sponsors and their affiliates, partners and employees from any and all liability, claims, demands, and causes of action for third-party claims (including intellectual property claims), personal injury and/or damage, theft, or loss suffered in connection with this Festival or the use or acceptance of the prize or any portion thereof.
13. OIFFA reserve the right to suspend, cancel or amend the promotion and/or review and revise these Terms at any time without giving prior notice and by continuing to take part in the official selection subsequent to any revision of these Terms, participants shall be deemed to have agreed to any such new or amended terms. Additionally, Festival management reserves the right to decide all questions not specifically provided for in the regulations.
14. Screenings may be limited to top 50 films depending on registration numbers.
15. If any provision of these rules is held invalid by any court of law or similar, such invalidity shall not affect the enforceability of any other provisions not held to be invalid.
16. The Rules and General Terms & Conditions are subject to Canadian law and any dispute that is not resolved by consultation between the parties shall be referred to the courts of Ontario, Canada.
17. PARTICIPATION IN THE 2023 OIFFA IMPLIES UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTANCE OF THESE RULES AND GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS.

For any enquiries, please contact OIFFA at films@oiffa.com.