

# **Submission Guidelines for Indian Cinema - 2026**

## **General Rules**

- Please read these Rules & Terms carefully before you submit your project. By submitting your project into competition in the YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival, you expressly acknowledge and agree that you shall be bound by the terms of these rules & regulations.

- Submitting your work to the YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival is not a guarantee of selection. All the official selection, nominees and the winners will be listed on our website permanently. All the winning projects will receive a trophy, award or certificate.

- Please note that we do not offer application fee waivers. We treat every submitter equally.

- We accept all genres in any language, only with English subtitles. Projects in English language with English subtitles are appreciable for a possible screening during the Annual Public Event that will take place in Mumbai, India in 2026.

- After a project has been selected as a nomination, the submitter will be notified via FilmFreeway or via email. It means that you are now eligible for the awards and you can use our Official Laurels on your poster.

- Entry fees are non-refundable. Multiple entries are allowed for each submitter and each entry may be submitted to multiple categories with separate submission fees.

- A Submitter's submission fee will not be reimbursed if they decide to withdraw their submission. All entry fees are non-refundable.

- The festival reserves the right to refuse entries. The Jury can remove the project from the competition at any time without any explanation.

- Festival will host films screenings, award ceremony, talks, panel discussions, open forums, workshops, and interactive experiences.

- The team of the festival has the power to waive any of the mentioned rules.

- Jury's decision will be final and acceptable to all the participants.

## **The Festival**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival will take place between **07<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> October 2026**, at **Usha Pravin Gandhi College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Vile Parle**, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. In case of any pandemic kind restrictions during the time of festival, the entire festival will be conducted online with a stream of YouTube and Facebook.

## **Submission Deadlines**

Submissions Open	<b>10<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b>
Early Bird Deadline	<b>30<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>
Regular Deadline	<b>30<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>
Late Deadline	<b>31<sup>st</sup> August 2026</b>
Extended Deadline	<b>30<sup>th</sup> September 2026</b>
Nomination Date	<b>01<sup>st</sup> October 2026</b>

## **The Prize**

- All the winners will receive an exclusively designed trophy at the award night and those who cannot attend the physical event, will get a digital certificate.
- Not all the nominated films will be screened during the event.
- Winning films' posters will be there on our website post event.
- All winners and their work will be reviewed/ featured in a special issue of yearly YathaKatha Diary, post event.

## **How to Submit**

You can submit your film project via film freeway (Visit the Link) <https://filmfreeway.com/YathaKathaFilmAndLiteratureFestival> Else, you can submit directly by paying the fee online via a digital transfer to the bank account given below and submit the required details via email and courier.

## **Bank Account Details**

ACCOUNT NAME	YATHAKATHA PRIVATE LIMITED
BANK NAME	STATE BANK OF INDIA
ACCOUNT NUMBER	40050301862
ACCOUNT TYPE	CURRENT
IFSC CODE	SBIN0008075
MICR CODE	400002090
BRANCH	MATRU CHAYA BUILDING, EVERSHINE NAGAR, MALAD WEST, MUMBAI - 400064

## **What to Submit**

- Film Link (filmfreeway, youtube link, vimeo link, wetransfer, harddrive, pendrive, dcp)
- Brief Synopsis of film
- Film posters in high resolution (minimum 300 DPI) - 2
- Film trailer
- Director Statement
- Cover Letter
- Press Kit (if any)

## **Submission Eligibility**

All submissions must have been completed after **1 January 2020**. The date of production is determined by the copyright /Censor certificate printed on the film. Work-in-progress films are not accepted. We do accept already released films too.

## **Submission Format**

Films must be submitted via online screener but we do accept films sent over by hard drive, pendrive, DCPs. We do not accept rough cuts of submitted films, only one final version of the film will be reviewed by jury members. All the films submitted in the festival will be in the Original Language with English subtitles. Without subtitles submissions will be disqualified from the selection criteria.

## **Address For Submission**

*All submission materials must be sent fully prepaid by the sender by Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due or courier to:*

## **YATHAKATHA FILM & LITERATURE FESTIVAL**

Unit No. 322-323, Bldg. No. 2, New Sonal Link Industrial Estate

Link Road, Kanchpada, Opp. Hotel Sai Palace Grand

Malad (West), Mumbai 400064, Maharashtra, India

Mob. No. 9082050680 / 7738415329

Email - [yathakathafestival@gmail.com](mailto:yathakathafestival@gmail.com)

Website - [www.yathakatha.com](http://www.yathakatha.com)

## **Film Award Categories / Submission Fee / Runtime**

*Films can be submitted under two (2) showcase –*

*World Cinema*

*Indian Cinema (including regional cinema)*

## **Indian Cinema**

*All Indian films will be evaluated and awarded under this section. Fee for the various categories can be find out under the categories. Multiple entries are accepted with separate submission details and fee.*

## **Feature Film Fiction India - (45-120 Minutes)**

### **Categories**

Best Film | Best Story | Best Screenplay | Best Actor | Best Actress | Best Editor  
Best Cinematography | Best Director | Best Music | Best Lyricist | Best Singer  
Male | Best Singer Female | Best Art Direction | Best Production Design | Special  
Jury Mention | Best Director Debutant Male | Best Director Debutant Female

<b><u>FEE</u></b>	<b><u>INR</u></b>	<b><u>DOLLOR (\$)</u></b>
Early Bird Submission	3500	42
Regular Submission	5000	60
Late Submission	7000	84
Extended Submission	9500	114

### **Short Film Fiction India - (1 to 45 Minutes)**

**Categories** - Best Short Film | Best Short Film Special Jury Mention

<b><u>FEE</u></b>	<b><u>INR</u></b>	<b><u>DOLLOR (\$)</u></b>
Early Bird Submission	2500	30
Regular Submission	4000	48
Late Submission	5000	60
Extended Submission	7500	90

### **Feature Documentary India - (45 to 120 Minutes)**

**Categories** - Best Feature Documentary Film | Best Feature Documentary Special Jury Mention

<b><u>FEE</u></b>	<b><u>INR</u></b>	<b><u>DOLLOR (\$)</u></b>
Early Bird Submission	3500	42
Regular Submission	5000	60
Late Submission	7000	84
Extended Submission	9500	114

### **Short Documentary Film India - (1 to 45 Minutes)**

**Categories** - Best Short Documentary | Best Short Documentary Special Jury Mention

<b><u>FEE</u></b>	<b><u>INR</u></b>	<b><u>DOLLOR (\$)</u></b>
Early Bird Submission	2500	30
Regular Submission	4000	48
Late Submission	5000	60
Extended Submission	7500	90

### **Best Student Film India - (1 to 30 Minutes)**

**Categories** - Best Student Film | Best Student Film Special Jury Mention

<b><u>FEE</u></b>	<b><u>INR</u></b>	<b><u>DOLLOR (\$)</u></b>
Early Bird Submission	2000	24
Regular Submission	3000	36
Late Submission	4000	48
Extended Submission	5000	60

### **Best Mobile Film India - (1 to 15 Minutes)**

**Categories** - Best Mobile Film | Best Mobile Film Special Jury Mention

<b><u>FEE</u></b>	<b><u>INR</u></b>	<b><u>DOLLOR (\$)</u></b>
Early Bird Submission	1500	18
Regular Submission	2500	30
Late Submission	3500	42
Extended Submission	4500	54

## **Best Web Series India – (Any length)**

*Nominated web series will not be showcased due to their length, only trailers of nominated webseries will be screened during the event.*

**Categories** - Best Web Series World | Best Web Series Special Jury Mention

<b><u>FEE</u></b>	<b><u>INR</u></b>	<b><u>DOLLOR (\$)</u></b>
Early Bird Submission	6000	72
Regular Submission	8000	96
Late Submission	10000	120
Extended Submission	12500	150

## **Other Guidelines**

- Submissions are reviewed and selected on the basis of quality of narrative, production value, nature of production, presentation and innovation.
- Multiple entries from the same participant are accepted, but each film must be accompanied by a separate details and entry fee.
- By submitting your project, at YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival take note that: You authorise us to use the parts of your project (including film/trailer/teaser/film poster/stills) for promotional purpose.
- Please select the right category while submitting to avoid disqualification.
- We may promote some/all of the projects by uploading their trailers/ teasers/ posters/production stills on our website and on our social media.
- After a project has been an Official Selection/Nomination, the submitter will be notified, and eventually the project will be listed on the festival website under Official Selections/nominations.
- The Official Selection status doesn't mean that your project will be screened at the festival. It means that your project has been appreciated by our judges of panel and you can use the festival logo on your poster.
- We do not accept - Amateur videos / Extremist or propaganda content from religious or political organizations / Projects involving politics / Films promoting political agenda / Pornography / Films with a poor production standard (bad sound, lack of subtitles for non-English films, poor resolution) etc.
- The YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival is hereby granted the rights to utilize an excerpt from any project submitted for promotional purposes of the Film Festival. The individual or corporation submitting the project hereby warrants that it is authorized to commit the project for possible screening (private and/or public), and understands and accepts these requirements, rules and regulations.

- The festival reserves the right to refuse entries. The Jury can remove the project from the competition at any time without any explanation.
- You agree to indemnify and hold harmless the YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival, from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, damages, and expenses (including but not limited to attorney's fees, and costs of the court) which may be incurred by reason of any claim involving copyright, trademark, credits, publicity, screening, and loss of or damage to the screening videos entered.
- All submitter understands and accept that if their project is accepted for presentation and screening at the film festival, they grant full and unrestricted permission for YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival to screen the film/video at times of the festival.
- YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival reserves the complete right to make changes in the program dates and times and to possibly not screen the video, despite its being selected for screening.
- The decisions of the jury will be taken by a simple majority of the members present and voting. The jury can evolve its own rules for assessment of the entries.
- No person in any way connected with the production or commercial exploitation of a competitive entry will be a member of the jury. All Members of the jury will refrain from releasing any articles or reviews to the press concerning the films submitted for their judgment, until after the jury's decisions have been formally announced at the closing function.
- Only nominated films will be screened at the festival.
- For films produced outside India, a certification by relevant Film Board of the country or attestation by the relevant Embassy in India would suffice. For International films, YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival will obtain Censorship Exemption from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, New Delhi.
- Preview material and promotional material will not be returned.
- The entry form must clearly mark the section entered for. Cover Letter should have all the details about your submission category, time, etc in clearly. YathaKatha Film & Literature Festival will not refund any fees if you fail to submit in the right category.
- In the case of co-productions, at least one of the producers/production companies must have the right to sanction the participation of the film in the competition section of the festival and the authority to receive an award, if any, is won.

- Only selected films will be intimated by email. No letters of non-acceptance will be sent. All lists of nominated films will be available on the website.
- Entry will be cancelled if film has violated copyright issues. Festival will not be responsible for any such films.
- Organizers will not pay air-freight or any other travel charges to any participant. Also, the organizers cannot reimburse any freight or other charges in foreign currency & INR too. Expenses will be taken care by participants only, which is related to their film.
- If selected for the festival the entrant must undertake to provide publicity clippings, posters, banners and other promotional material for the use of the festival.
- Submission of an entry gives the festival permission to have accepted work exhibited, photographed, locally telecast, and reproduced either in part or whole, for educational or festival purposes. Filmmakers can request in writing that their material not be used for such purposes after the festival.
- Submission materials should be sent by ordinary mail, Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due or courier. All postage costs and duties are to be borne by the sender. Festival organiser is not responsible for loss or damage of the submission's materials.
- The members of the Jury shall select the best film in each category. In case, the panel does not find any film to have the required levels of artistic merit; it may decide not to grant awards in one or more categories. In all instances, the panel's decisions are final and no appeal in this regard shall be entertained.
- Before submission, please do check back on the Submission Guidelines. Participation in the Festival implies acceptance of these Regulations.
- No film may be withdrawn from the festival programme after its selection.
- Submitted films may have screened at other festivals or theatres or online etc. Though we do premiere as well. If you are submitting an unreleased film, we may premiere it if it gets selected. All the nominated films will be screened at the festival during the event. We do not screen webseries keeping in mind their length. So only trailers of the webseries will be screened.
- For Online submission of entries please visit the filmfreeway link given below <https://filmfreeway.com/YathaKathaFilmandLiteratureFestival>
- For any further information kindly visit our website [www.yathakatha.com](http://www.yathakatha.com)