



Bayou City Inspirational Film Festival 2010

Competition Guidelines and Release Form

The Bayou City Inspirational Film Festival (BCIFF) will accept educational, inspirational and positive works in the following categories:

1. *Short Films- narrative or animation, 59 mins or less*
2. *Feature Films - narrative or animation, 60 mins - 120 mins*
3. *TV Pilots- 1 episode, 45 mins or less*
4. *Animated Series – 1 episode, 45 mins or less*
5. *Music Videos- under 10 mins*
6. *Documentaries- short or feature length projects*
7. *Student Films – Short or feature length films. In order to use this category, applicants must currently be a full-time college student with a valid college ID. Applicants must send a copy of their college ID with their submission.*
8. *Young Filmmakers – Short films, 30 minutes or less in length, made by youth aged 18 or younger at time of submission. Applicants must send proof of age with their submission. A valid school ID, driver's license or state ID card with photo is acceptable. (No fee category)*

Films submitted in the categories above that contain subject matters targeting children and youth will also be considered for placement in our special Children & Youth Focus Spotlight.

Submission Period:

Early Submissions: May 5, 2010 – May 19, 2010 (postmark date)

Regular Submissions: May 20, 2010 – June 3, 2010 (postmark date)

Late Submissions: June 4, 2010 – June 18, 2010 (postmark date)

WAB Extended Late Submissions: June 19, 2010 – July 2, 2010 (final postmark date)

We have very strict timelines so deadlines are of the utmost importance. You may contact the festival at info@bciff.com for special consideration or approval to submit entries after the deadline, but please be aware that your request may be denied depending on the number of entries we receive.

Submitted projects must have been completed after January 1, 2008. Please do not send works-in-progress.

All submissions must be in English. Submitted projects in a language other than English must be subtitled in English for pre-screening and festival presentation. Projects that are not in English or do not include English subtitles will not be considered for inclusion in the festival.

Regardless of original format, all films must be submitted for pre-screening on NTSC DVD (region 1). All accepted entries must submit two exhibition copies on NTSC DVD (region 1) on or before September 1, 2010.

Screeners & press kit materials will not be returned. Please do not send originals.

All fees are non-transferable and non-refundable.

Multiple Entries – You may submit more than one project, but each one must be on a separate preview DVD and must be accompanied by its own completed submission form and entry fee.

Selections- BCIFF retains the right to accept or decline any film, for whatever reason, without notice or explanation. Submission to the festival does not guarantee selection. The festival jury will make official selections. Films selected for screening in all categories will be notified no later than August 7, 2010.

Notifications- All submissions & selected projects will be acknowledged via email. Please be sure to send a valid email address for the project's contact (s). The PROGRESS Arts Group Inc. and BCIFF will not be held accountable for notifications that cannot be sent due to invalid email addresses or addresses that are not written clearly on submission applications.

Rights & Clearances- Applicant is responsible for clearing all rights to the content of the film or video project prior to submission. Applicant claims that he/she is authorized to submit the film or video project and all material associated with the film or video project to BCIFF, being the sole rights-holder or authorized representative thereof.

If your project is selected for exhibition, please be advised that the following items are due on or before September 1, 2010:

- 2 exhibition copies of project on NTSC DVD (region 1)
- Press kit with photo stills from project (color and black/white) 2 print copies and no more than 6 digital stills on CD
- Headshot of Director: 1 print copy and 1 or 2 color digital photos on CD
- Biography and Filmography of Director: 1 print copy and 1 copy in a word document on CD
- Logline (no more than 3 sentences): 1 print copy and 1 copy in a word document on CD
- Synopsis (1 page or less): 1 print copy and 1 copy in a word document on CD
- Trailer (and clip reels if available) 1copy on NTSC DVD (region 1) & 1copy on mini dv
- Posters, postcards, and other promotional items to maximize exposure for your film. Digital copies on CD and print copies requested.

Note: Please make sure all digital photos and graphics are high resolution, clear images. Digital copies and word documents of photo stills, headshots, biographies, loglines, Synopsis' and promotional items can be sent via email to info@bciff.com . Please include "Official Selection" and the title of your project in the email subject line. Please label each attachment accordingly and please include your contact information (including name, address, email address and phone number) and WAB tracking number in the body of the email. All requested print copies must be sent to our mailing address. Please follow our submission labeling and shipping guidelines.

Submission Labeling & Shipping (US & International Submission Requirements):
All submissions must be shipped prepaid by sender, insured and packed in proper containers. The PROGRESS Arts Group Inc. and BCIFF will not assume any liability for damage to submission materials incurred during shipping due to improper or inadequate packaging. We suggest that you put your DVDs in standard DVD cases and ship them in a bubble-pack envelope or a box with bubble padding. All submitted material must be labeled with the film title, running time and contact information (including name, address, email address and phone number) and WAB tracking number. Please include 2 copies of the BCIFF Competition Guidelines & Release Form and the BCIFF Submission Form for each submission, a copy of the WAB registration form and / or WAB receipt if you registered and paid your submission fee via WAB and a short synopsis (50 words or less). The PROGRESS Arts Group Inc. and BCIFF are not responsible for and will not return submissions that are not properly labeled.

Additional International Submission Requirements: International shipments must be accompanied by a commercial invoice (containing the film title, run time, format (color or b&w), value of shipment and sender's name and address). Screeners and shipping documents should be marked: "No commercial value, for cultural purposes only". All entries from outside the US should be sent Air Mail Registered or by a parcel or express service. We cannot accept entries shipped via airfreight if customs and delivery fees have not been paid. The PROGRESS Arts Group Inc. and BCIFF will not pay customs duties or fees.

Payments- If you are not paying your entry fee via credit card online at Withoutabox.com, please send the entry fee as listed on the BCIFF website "Submissions" page for each entry, with your submission, in \$US dollars, in the form of a personal check, company check, money order, American Express Travelers Cheque or international postal money order. Please make checks or money orders payable to: PROGRESS Arts Group Inc. Please write your name, the title of your submission and your WAB tracking number (if you register the film online) on the check or money order. The PROGRESS Arts Group Inc. and BCIFF are not responsible for and will not return payments that are sent to us without the requested information and your required submission documents included. A \$35.00 usd penalty charge will be assessed to all returned checks. The PROGRESS Arts Group Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization so your contribution is tax deductible. We will email you a receipt for tax purposes.

Mail all submissions & check or money order payments to:

PROGRESS Arts Group Inc.
Attn: BCIFF Submissions
5315 B FM 1960 W. # 149
Houston, TX. 77069 USA

Please include "EXACT" mailing address information listed above on "ALL" packages to ensure proper delivery. The PROGRESS Arts Group Inc. and BCIFF are not responsible for packages that are not delivered due to improper or incomplete mailing information.

Marketing Release- If my film is accepted to the Festival, I grant The PROGRESS Arts Group Inc. and BCIFF the right to use clips from my film or video projects including audio, video, names, titles and images to promote the festival and / or my project. If my film is accepted to the Festival, I grant BCIFF permission to transfer my film or video project or

clips from it to a festival compilation DVD for screening and promotional non-commercial use. I agree that clips of my film or video projects and all other material related to the project may be used and/or published in the event program, BCIFF web site and for any promotional purposes which BCIFF deems appropriate.

Material Liability Release- The Bayou City Inspirational Film Festival (BCIFF) is not responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen items, including, but not limited to, films, promotional items, awards or personal possessions while in-route to or in our possession, on or off of festival grounds. The PROGRESS Arts Group Inc., The Bayou City Film Festival ("Festival") its officers, directors, volunteers and sponsors are held harmless by participants for all claims financial or otherwise and from any damage to submitted materials in route or otherwise during the course of the Festival's possession of the materials; Materials submitted may not be subject to any litigation nor threatened by any litigation.

Awards: Contest winners will be announced at the Bayou City Inspirational Film Festival awards brunch, where awards will be given out. The finalists and winners will also be posted on the BCIFF website. BCIFF reserves the right to decline selecting a semi-finalist, finalist or winner in any category and at any stage of the judging, if there are no acceptable entries or finalists in that category. If your film is selected for screening, please make every effort to attend the film festival.

Please visit us online at www.bciiff.com for information regarding festival registration.

I hereby acknowledge that I / we have read, understand and agree to comply with all terms and conditions detailed in the category and competition guidelines as described on the Bayou City Inspirational Film Festival website, Competition Guidelines and Release Form and Submission Form. In the event that I /we fail to comply with all terms and conditions detailed in the category and competition guidelines as described on the Bayou City Inspirational Film Festival website, Competition Guidelines and Release Form and Submission Form, I/ we understand that the submission listed below will be disqualified from the festival and no longer considered as a possible official selection and / or award recipient. I hereby acknowledge that all information included on my submission form and all information submitted to the festival is honest and accurate. I understand that the submission of false and inaccurate information is grounds for immediate disqualification from the festival.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Print Name: _____

Title of Submission: _____