

The 28th Seoul International Women's Film Festival

Submission Regulations

1. Organization

The Seoul International Women's Film Festival (SIWFF) is hosted by the Seoul International Women's Film Festival Organizing Committee.

2. Goals

The Seoul International Women's Film Festival aims to serve as a platform for sharing and expanding the value of gender equality and diversity through films. The SIWFF discovers and showcases outstanding works and projects with a focus on women, gender, and related issues, as well as films made by female directors, to support women in filmmaking and expand the prospect for women's cinema.

3. Festival Dates

The 28th Seoul International Women's Film Festival is held from Thursday, August 20 to Wednesday, August 26, 2026, in Seoul, South Korea.

4. Programs

The Programs of the Seoul International Women's Film Festival consist of competition and non-competition sections, as outlined below. These are subject to change under certain circumstances

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1) Competition Section

- **Discovery** is an international competition for debut and second feature films directed by female directors, or with at least one female director in co-productions. This section aims to uncover works that expand the horizons of women's narratives and cinematic aesthetics while discovering emerging creative talent.
- **Asian Shorts** is a competition dedicated to short films made by female directors of an Asian nationality or ethnic identity, serving as a gateway to discovering and supporting promising

new talent.

- **I-Teens** is a competition showcasing short films by Korean teenage female filmmakers, highlighting their potential, nurturing future female directors, and supporting their creativity.

2) Non-competition Section

- **New Currents** showcases the latest films by female directors or those focused on female themes, produced worldwide in recent years.
- **Korean Panorama, Here & Now** focuses on Korean films made in recent years, highlighting the contemporary women's issues and trends in Korean cinema, while shining a spotlight on major discourses and styles
- **Polemics** is a section dedicated to current feminist and women's film issues, selected each year, showcasing relevant films and providing a platform for discussion.
- **Queer Rainbow** presents the latest films in queer cinema, rethinking issues such as social norms, tolerance, and human rights from feminist-queer perspectives, while exploring cinematic approaches to representing queer identities.
- **SIWFF Project** showcases completed works funded through the Seoul International Women's Film Festival's production support programs.
- **Special Programs** focus on various themes related to film history, the film industry, feminism, and film aesthetics.

5. Awards

- 1) The Seoul International Women's Film Festival award details are as follows.

Discovery	Grand Award	Cash prize of KRW 12,000,000
	Excellence Award	Cash prize of KRW 6,000,000
Asian Shorts	Daphnelia Grand Award	Cash prize of KRW 8,000,000
	Excellence Award	Cash prize of KRW 4,000,000
I-Teens	Grand Award	Cash prize of KRW 1,000,000
	Excellence Award	Cash prize of KRW 500,000

- 2) The winners of each category will be determined through the evaluation of the SIWFF's selected juries during the festival. The awards will be announced at the festival's closing ceremony.
- 3) After the announcement of the awards, the winning films in the Asian shorts section will be

screened as the closing film at the festival's closing ceremony.

- 4) If more than one winner is selected in a single category, the prize money will be divided equally among the winning works.
- 5) The winners of each category may be re-screened at screenings hosted or sponsored by the festival after the Seoul International Women's Film Festival, with the consent of the copyright holders.

6. Eligibility

- 1) Films longer than 40 minutes are regarded as feature films, and films less than 40 minutes are regarded as short films.
- 2) All genres are eligible for both competitive and non-competitive sections,
- 3) Eligibility for competition sections are as follows.
 - Films completed after January 1, 2025
 - Films directed by a female director, or, at least one female director for co-production
 - **Competition sections**
 - Discovery: First or second feature-length films by a director of any nationality
 - Asian Shorts: Short films by a director of Asian nationality or ethnic identity
 - I-Teens: Korean short films by a director born after 2007.
- 4) Submissions to non-competitive sections are open to all applicants.

7. Entry

- 1) All entries must be submitted online via the festival's entry website or FilmFreeway before the given deadline.
 - SIWFFF entry website : <http://entry.siwff.or.kr/eng>
 - FilmFreeway : <https://filmfreeway.com/SIWFF>
- 2) Entry forms must be submitted no later than 18:00 pm, April 21th, 2026 (Korea Standard Time).
- 3) Online screeners of all submitted films must be valid until August 31, 2026, and the same version as the film's final screening copy for the festival.
- 4) For non-English dialogue films, all screeners and all final screening copies must have English subtitles.
- 5) Materials submitted to the festival will not be returned.

8. Official Selection

- 1) The SIWFF evaluates all submitted films. Selected films will be individually notified to the entrants by mid-July, and the competition finalists will be announced on the festival website. Reasons will not be provided for films that are not selected.
- 2) The SIWFF does not take responsibility for any actual or potential legal claims or issues related to music, videos, and other elements contained and/or used in films. Submitters must resolve any legal claims and issues prior to screening if their films are officially selected.
- 3) Selected films that agree to participate in online screenings may be screened at the SIWFF's online platform during the festival dates. The online screening will be geo-blocked to domestic regions within Korea
- 4) If the information provided in the application form is found to be incorrect, the selection of the film may be canceled.

9. Materials Submission

- 1) Entrants of films officially selected must submit the requested materials related to the screening to the SIWFF by the deadline. The submitted materials will be used for the festival's publications and promotional purposes and will not be returned.
 - Online screener (link, password, etc.)
 - Original and English dialogue scripts
 - Film information and stills
 - Director information and photos
 - Credit information
 - Posters, trailers, etc.
- 2) The SIWFF is authorized to use the promotional materials of all selected films submitted by the entrants and reserves the right to use excerpts from the films, with a maximum duration of 3 minutes (or up to 10% of the total running time), for promotional purposes.

10. Screening Copy (DCP) Delivery

- 1) The screening copy (DCP) of selected films must arrive at the festival office by the deadline. The copy must be the same version as the screeners submitted, and the screening may be canceled if the copy does not arrive by the deadline.

- Non-English dialogue films require English subtitles embedded in the prints.
- 2) The SIWFF covers a round-way shipping cost when the screening copy providers use the courier service officially designated by the festival.
- 3) The Seoul International Women's Film Festival returns all screening copies within 4 weeks after the festival closing.
- 4) In the case of non-Korean dialogue films, the Seoul International Women's Film Festival makes Korean subtitles for screening. The copyrights of the Korean subtitles belong to the festival, and will not be given to the entrants complimentary. Under the festival's internal regulations, the festival can provide the subtitles at a cost.

11. Force Majeure

In the event of a natural disaster or social crisis, changes may occur, and the festival undertakes to inform the entrants or the representatives of the films relevant to the changes.

12. General Regulation

The above regulations will be effective with no additional consent once the entry forms are submitted to the Seoul International Women's Film Festival.