

# Leiden shorts

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## **International Competition**

The 13th Leiden Shorts festival - formerly known as LISFE (Leiden International Short Film Experience) will take place in May 2021.

### **I. PARTICIPATION**

Films that have been produced or released after the 1st January 2020 are eligible. We accept films of any genre (fiction, animation, documentary, experimental, etc) and of a maximum duration of 30 min. If the Netherlands are one of the countries of production of the film, it has to have contributed to less than 50% of the production cost. Films with a 50% or higher contribution from The Netherlands should be submitted to the National Competition.

Films that have already been submitted in the past cannot be submitted again. Student films are also accepted in the international competition, however they cannot compete in both the student and the international competition. Leiden Shorts does not require premieres, but we will pay attention to the premiere status of the films that are submitted to us. When submitting your film, please specify if it would be an international or national premiere and/or where the film has been screened before and whether it won anything.

Exception: Considering that a lot of films did not manage to reach the big screen in 2020 due to COVID-19, we'll be more flexible with accepting films which were produced between May 2019 and December 2019. This only applies to films that were not screened at all in cinemas because of corona (if the film was shown at online versions of film festivals but not in the cinemas, they are eligible). If you fall in this category, please indicate this when submitting your film - otherwise it will be disqualified.

### **II. REGISTRATION**

You can submit your film on [shortfilmdepot.com](http://shortfilmdepot.com) or [filmfreeway.com](http://filmfreeway.com). Please submit at least one still of the film and one picture of the director(s) which can be used - if selected - on our website and other promotional platforms. Please do not forget to mention the country(ies) of production of the film. If it is more than one, indicate them in order of participation.

### **III. DEADLINES AND FEES**

Submissions open on the 18th of September.

Early bird deadline: 2nd of October 2020 (9,50€ submission fee)

Regular deadline: 18th of December 2020 (12,50€ submission fee)

Last chance deadline: 8th January 2021 (20€ submission fee)

#### IV. SELECTION

All films submitted and selected for competition cannot withdraw their submissions. All the films selected will be informed by the 5th of April.

#### V. FILES OF SELECTED FILMS

Leiden Shorts requires ProRes or MP4 formats with embedded English subtitles or with subtitles in a .srt file. The festival will make the DCP of the films on location. The selected films will become part of the archives of the festival but will not be screened again, except if agreed upon with the rights holder of the film. However, the winners of the International Competition will have their film screened in the main location of Leiden Shorts in a single 'best of' screening in the few weeks following the festival.

#### VI. AUTHORISATION OF PUBLICATION OF DATA

The data and pictures provided during the registration on [shortfilmdepot.com](http://shortfilmdepot.com) or [filmfreeway.com](http://filmfreeway.com) will be used for diverse publications (programme, trailers, website, social media). By submitting your data you agree to their usage by Leiden Shorts for the promotional purposes only.

#### VII. PRIZES

All films selected in the International Competition will compete for a prize of 1000€. They also compete for the Audience Award (500€).

#### IX. RULES

By submitting a film to Leiden Shorts the submitter accepts the terms and conditions. Leiden Shorts has the right to cancel the submission if the film does not conform to the rules. Once the film is submitted, there will be no refund of the submission fee (except in very special cases).

## **National Competition**

The 13th Leiden Shorts festival - formerly known as LISFE Leiden International Short Film Experience - will take place in May 2021.

### I. PARTICIPATION

Films that have been produced or released after the 1st January 2020 are eligible. We accept films of any genre (fiction, animation, documentary, experimental, etc) and of a maximum duration of 30 min. Co-productions are eligible, however the Netherlands have to have contributed to at least 50% of the production costs. Films with a less than 50% contribution from The Netherlands should be submitted to the International Competition.

Films that have already been submitted in the past cannot be submitted again. Student films are also accepted in the international competition, however they cannot compete in both the student and the international competition. Leiden Shorts does not require premieres, but we will pay attention to the premiere status of the films that are submitted to us. When submitting your film, please specify if it would be an international or national premiere and/or where the film has been screened before and whether it won anything.

**Exception:** Considering that a lot of films did not manage to reach the big screen in 2020 due to COVID-19, we'll be more flexible with accepting films which were produced between May 2019 and December 2019. This only applies to films that were not screened at all in cinemas because of corona (if the film was shown at online versions of film festivals but not in the cinemas, they are eligible). If you fall in this category, please indicate this when submitting your film - otherwise it will be disqualified.

### II. REGISTRATION

You can submit your film on [shortfilmdepot.com](http://shortfilmdepot.com) or [filmfreeway.com](http://filmfreeway.com). Please submit at least one still of the film and one picture of the director(s) which can be used - if selected - on our website and other promotional platforms. Please do not forget to mention the country(ies) of production of the film. If it is more than one, indicate the percentage of production of each.

### III. DEADLINES AND FEES

Submissions open on the 18th of September.

Early bird deadline: 2nd of October 2020 (9,50€ submission fee)

Regular deadline: 18th of December 2020 (12,50€ submission fee)

Last chance deadline: 8th January 2021 (20€ submission fee)

#### IV. SELECTION

All films submitted and selected for competition cannot withdraw their submissions. The list of selected films will be on the website of the festival ([leidenshorts.nl](http://leidenshorts.nl)) by the mid April latest. All the films selected will be informed by mid March.

#### V. FILES OF SELECTED FILMS

Leiden Shorts requires ProRes or MP4 formats with embedded English subtitles or with subtitles in a .srt file. The festival will make the DCP of the films on location. The selected films will become part of the archives of the festival but will not be screened again, except if agreed upon with the rights holder of the film. However, the winners of the National Competition may have their film screened in the main location of Leiden Shorts in a single 'best of' screening in the few weeks following the festival.

#### VI. AUTHORISATION OF PUBLICATION OF DATA

The data and pictures provided during the registration on [shortfilmdepot.com](http://shortfilmdepot.com) or [filmfreeway.com](http://filmfreeway.com) will be used for diverse publications (programme, trailers, website, social media). By submitting your data you agree to their usage by Leiden Shorts for the promotional purposes only.

#### VII. PRIZES

All films submitted in the National Competition will compete for a prize of 500€. They also compete for the Audience Award (500€).

#### VIII. RULES

By submitting a film to Leiden Shorts the submitter accepts the terms and conditions. Leiden Shorts has the right to cancel the submission if the film does not conform to the rules. Once the film is submitted, there will be no refund of the submission fee (except in very special cases).

## **Student Competition**

The 13th Leiden Shorts festival - formerly known as LISFE (Leiden International Short Film Experience) will take place in May 2021.

### I. PARTICIPATION

Films that have been produced or released after the 1st January 2020 are eligible. We accept films of any genre (fiction, animation, documentary, experimental, etc) and of a maximum duration of 30 min. The country of production does not matter to enter this competition, however it still should be specified.

Films that have already been submitted in the past cannot be submitted again. In order to compete in the Student Competition the submitter should provide a proof of enrolment in a school at the time of the production of the film. Student films can also be submitted in the national and international competition, however they cannot compete in both the student and the national or international competition. Leiden Shorts does not require premieres, but we will pay attention to the premiere status of the films that are submitted to us. When submitting your film, please specify if it would be an international or national premiere and/or where the film has been screened before and whether it won anything.

Exception: Considering that a lot of films did not manage to reach the big screen in 2020 due to COVID-19, we'll be more flexible with accepting films which were produced between May 2019 and December 2019. This only applies to films that were not screened at all in cinemas because of corona (if the film was shown at online versions of film festivals but not in the cinemas, they are eligible). If you fall in this category, please indicate this when submitting your film - otherwise it will be disqualified.

### II. REGISTRATION

You can submit your film on [shortfilmdepot.com](http://shortfilmdepot.com) or [filmfreeway.com](http://filmfreeway.com). Please submit at least one still of the film and one picture of the director(s) which can be used - if selected - on our website and other promotional platforms. Please do not forget to mention the country(ies) of production of the film. If it is more than one, indicate the percentage of production of each.

### III. DEADLINES AND FEES

Submissions open on the 18th of September.

Early bird deadline: 2nd of October 2020 (6€ submission fee)

Regular deadline: 18th of December 2020 (9€ submission fee)

Last chance deadline: 8th January 2021 (18€ submission fee)

#### IV. SELECTION

All films submitted and selected for competition cannot withdraw their submissions. The list of selected films will be on the website of the festival ([leidenshorts.nl](http://leidenshorts.nl)) by the mid April latest. All the films selected will be informed by mid March.

#### V. FILES OF SELECTED FILMS

Leiden Shorts requires ProRes or MP4 formats with embedded English subtitles or with subtitles in a .srt file. The festival will make the DCP of the films on location. The selected films will become part of the archives of the festival but will not be screened again, except if agreed upon with the rights holder of the film. However, the winners of the National Competition may have their film screened in the main location of Leiden Shorts in a single 'best of' screening in the few weeks following the festival.

#### VI. AUTHORISATION OF PUBLICATION OF DATA

The data and pictures provided during the registration on [shortfilmdepot.com](http://shortfilmdepot.com) or [filmfreeway.com](http://filmfreeway.com) will be used for diverse publications (programme, trailers, website, social media). By submitting your data you agree to their usage by Leiden Shorts for the promotional purposes only.

#### VII. PRIZES

All films submitted in the Student Competition will compete for a prize of 500€. They also compete for the Audience Award (500€).

#### VIII. RULES

By submitting a film to Leiden Shorts the submitter accepts the terms and conditions. Leiden Shorts has the right to cancel the submission if the film does not conform to the rules. Once the film is submitted, there will be no refund of the submission fee (except in very special cases).

## **Audience Award**

All films selected automatically run for the audience award (500€) in addition to any other competition they might be in.

## **Pledge of Solidarity**

Leiden Shorts is a short film festival that strives to shine light on inequalities within the world and most particularly in representation. We hope to be able to resist and fight those inequalities within our team, selection of films, programming and thematic side events curation.

Our aim is to be a platform for filmmakers and communities to express their voices in various forms of short films. Therefore, today more than ever, we feel like it is our role as allies to show our support not just with words but with actions.

It is our responsibility to put in the effort and work to assure inclusivity and diversity in our international organization.

Within our power, we will try to counterbalance the oppression faced by Black, Indigenous and People of Color filmmakers and stand with them in their fight.

For the past few years we have been providing waivers to directors from all over the world who cannot afford our submission fee. This has been done in order to support short filmmakers around the world as well as trying to have a diverse and inclusive programme. We will also consider granting waivers or discounts to filmmakers from underrepresented countries who cannot afford our submission fee. For this, send an email directly at [submissions@leidenshorts.nl](mailto:submissions@leidenshorts.nl)

We wish to announce that we will be doing an effort both of the receiving end, and on the giving one:

1. We will be offering a discount of 50% for our submission fees for BIPOC filmmakers.
2. We will be pledging to have representation of BIPOC staff members in positions of decision making, as well as in reviewing the films that are submitted to us.
3. We also pledge to bring in external curators and researchers specialized in topics around BIPOC, to make sure to give them the voice to speak for their own communities.

This is just a beginning, we are learning how to be better allies. We promise to keep listening and purposefully looking for underrepresented narratives and communities. We are open for suggestions and comments from our community, our audiences, and our filmmakers.

For matters regarding submission you can reach us at [submissions@leidenshorts.nl](mailto:submissions@leidenshorts.nl)

For other matters, please reach us at [info@leidenshorts.nl](mailto:info@leidenshorts.nl)