



For immediate release

Elgin Short Film Festival - Call for Entries

Elgin, IL - The Elgin Short Film Festival (ESFF) will celebrate its 14th year on September 24, 2022, with a hybrid event – in person viewing and a virtual viewing experience option. On April 1, 2022, we will begin accepting entries for this year's festival!

Every year since 2009 the ESFF has drawn film entries from around the world making this a world-wide competition. This year we will welcome an in-house audience as well as viewers from around the world to take part in this impressive event. We are currently inviting filmmakers to submit their short films (20 minutes or less in length including credits) for competition in our festival via filmfreeway.com.

This competition will allow any filmmaker to submit work, even if it has been entered into other festival competitions! We encourage submitting films in every genre and subject matter as long as they are within the scope of the official rules.

Exciting components to our festival:

- The ESFF will feature a *Live Action* category and an *Animation* category.
- The ESFF will be a hybrid (online) and a live-in person event.
- Next In Finalist - Each category will have five potential finalists. The top two, as voted on by the selection committee, will make the finals. The next three films in each category will compete for a spot in the finals in September as part of the *Elgin Fringe Festival*. (Dates and times TBD)
- The ESFF will accept films that are up to the equivalent of an MPAA 'R' rating.
- The Top Finalists' films selected will be treated to a red carpet arrival the night of the festival and will be shown in the 1,200-seat theater of The Hemmens Cultural Center!
- Mike Toomey, comedian, and integral part of the WGN morning show, returns to emcee our event.
- Trophies and cash prizes for the top three films -- up to \$1,000!

We encourage your participation and look forward to receiving your film submission for the 2022 Elgin Short Film Festival. The entry fee for films submitted by July 29, 2022 is \$40. Films submitted after July 29, 2022 will have a \$50 fee. The deadline to submit films is August 19, 2022!

For a complete list of rules and regulations, and to download an application, go to:

hemmens.org/annualfilmfestival

filmfreeway.com/ElginShortFilmFestival

facebook.com/Hemmens

The Hemmens Cultural Center
Phone: 847-697-3616

45 Symphony Way
HEMMENS.ORG

Elgin, Illinois 60120-5558
Fax: 847-931-5940

