

General Information

Article 1. Women's Voices Now (WVN) offers a platform and resources for all filmmakers as well as content creators focused on works that address the international struggle for women's equal rights. WVN facilitates dialogue and promotes works to an international audience while providing tools with which these voices can be heard. The Online Film Festival aims to stay true to this spirit.

Article 2. **The 2018 Women's Voices Now Online Short Film Festival** aims to portray diverse and underreported stories of women*, regardless of social or political subject matter. Subjects broached in this festival include but are not limited to: women in politics, social and legal change/justice, political rebellion, women's rights struggles, activism, women living with a disability, health and family, environmental issues, women and employment, the resilience of women in the face of oppression, women and the arts, expression and experimentation of women, and socio-cultural relations between women and men.

The Festival is a search for authenticity. An elevated and well-rounded dialogue can only be created by the inclusion of a multiplicity of voices from diverse national, economic, and religious backgrounds. All but offensive or hateful films will be seriously considered.

*women: meant to include diverse LGBTQ identities, among them being the self-identification as a woman (i.e. trans-woman).

NOTE: Organizations, creative agencies, foundations, and content creators are allowed to submit, however, videos created for the purpose of fundraising or brand advertising are NOT ACCEPTED.

Article 3. **The 2018 Women's Voices Now Online Short Film Festival** is a uniquely formatted film festival in which films selected will be available for FREE ONLINE VIEWING for one month on the Women's Voices Now website www.womensvoicesnow.org. By agreeing to the contents of this contract, you are agreeing to allow your film to be uploaded to the WVN Vimeo channel for the duration of the festival. After the festival is over, you may choose to keep your film in our archive, or remove the film.

Categories

Article 4. Films may be submitted to five categories: (i) Documentary Shorts, (ii) Narrative Shorts, (iii) Experimental Shorts, (iv) Music Videos, (v) Animation.

Article 5. Films submitted into all categories must be under 40 minutes in length. Anyone may submit to these categories. (See Article 7 for language requirements.) There is a \$20 (USD) required donation for submitting films to the festival.

Eligibility

Article 6. Applicants must have full rights to the films submitted including all people, images, and music therein. By submitting to the Festival, the filmmaker confirms that (i) they have obtained authorization from persons appearing in the film or otherwise have the right to film them; (ii) all content is their own work, (iii) the filmmaker has the right to use all content.

Article 7. **Submitted films are encouraged to remain on our website in perpetuity. WVN makes no profit from any of the films that are featured in our archive.** By agreeing to remain in our online archive, you agree to WVN using your film for free community and educational screenings and promoting you and your work to an international audience. Exceptions can be made (Vimeo Pay-Per-View, etc).

There is no time limit by which the film must have been completed, but preference will be given to relevant and salient subject matter.

Language

Article 8. The official language of the Festival is English. Non-English language films must have English subtitles.

How to Enter

Article 9. To submit your film for consideration, please deliver the following:

1. A screener copy of your film uploaded to Film Freeway. If your submission requires a password, please be sure to include that in your submission. <https://filmfreeway.com/festival/WomensVoicesNow>
2. Filmmaker bio (one paragraph) and story of your film must be included in your Film Freeway submission. Please include: What inspired you to make this film and why is it important that this film is seen? Also please include any updates on the film and/or subjects of the film since completion.
3. High resolution downloadable still images via Film Freeway.

If your film is selected for the festival, we will require an electronic press kit (EPK) to be sent via email to WVNfilmfestival2018@womensvoicesnow.org. We will require a high resolution digital download of your film in H264/MPEG format.

Article 10. All submitted films must be final cuts and free of any advertisements.

Article 11. **All films must remain available for FREE viewing on our website for the duration of the competition.**

Deadlines and Fees

Article 12. A non-refundable \$20USD donation is required per film submitted via Film Freeway. Please email WVNfilmfestival2018@womensvoicesnow.org for waiver inquiries.

Article 13. The Festival will be open to submission on Monday, October 9, 2017, at 9AM PST. **The submission period will close on Monday February 5, 2018, , 11:59pm PST.**

Judging & Prizes

Article 14. Entries will be judged based on the following criteria: (i) relevance of subject matter; (ii) storytelling - use of structure and image to communicate a compelling story; (iii) technical aspects of filmmaking.

Article 15. All accepted films to the Online Festival will be featured on womensvoicesnow.org. The winning films will be selected by a panel of expert judges comprising creatives and high-level

professionals and activists involved in film, women's rights, and/or issues relating to culture and women's rights. Winning filmmakers will be announced online.

Article 16. Cash prizes totaling \$10,000 will be awarded to select films. The cash prize for Best Documentary Short is \$1,500. The cash prize for Best Narrative Short is \$1,500. The cash prize for Best Experimental Short is \$1,500. The cash prize for Best Documentary Feature is \$2,000. The cash prize for the Leslie J. Sacks Grand Prize Award, i.e. best film award, is \$3,500. Award recipients will receive their prize upon submitting a video recorded acceptance speech that will be uploaded to our website.

Privacy & Confidentiality

Article 17. Application information is collected for prize-winning purposes and film integrity. All entry information is secure and will not be shared with anyone outside WVN without permission from the filmmaker. Only the information indicated for public dissemination will accompany each film on the WVN website. Films may be published under pseudonyms or incomplete names. If no identifying information can be provided, the WVN Board of Directors retains the right to decide whether to make these films available for viewing or not. Prizes will not be awarded to incomplete applications.

Copyrights

Article 18. Submitting films to the Festival grants Women's Voices Now a copyright license for non-exclusive, worldwide rights to the films allowing WVN to screen the films for nonprofit, educational purposes, and use the films and/or film clips for promotional and marketing activities.

Legal

Article 19. WVN reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify, terminate, or suspend this contest should virus, bugs, unauthorized human intervention, or other causes beyond the reasonable control of WVN corrupt or impair the administration, security, or fairness of the contest. WVN retains the right to exclude any submission that violates the spirit, rules or regulations of the Festival.

Article 20. All decisions regarding these Rules will be in WVN's sole discretion and will be final and not reviewable.

Article 21. WVN is not responsible for lost, incomplete, late, damaged, or misdirected entries; failures or malfunctions of phones, phone lines or telephone systems or mail; interrupted or unavailable network, server or other connections including those through and/or by www.womensvoicesnow.org; miscommunications, failed computer hardware or software or other technical failures; garbled, lost, misrouted or scrambled transmissions; printing errors appearing within these Rules or in any contest-related advertisements or other materials; lost, late and/or misdirected mail; or other errors or problems of any kind whether mechanical, human, technical, electronic or otherwise.

Article 22. WVN reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to void the entry of an applicant who WVN believes has attempted to tamper with or impair the administration, security, or fairness of this contest.

Article 23. By participating, applicants (and their parent/guardian) agree to be bound by these Rules & Regulations and agree for the benefit of WVN and their respective affiliated and subsidiary companies ("Released Parties"), that Released Parties and their designees and assigns shall have no liability and

will be held harmless for any liability, loss, injury or damage, including, without limitation, personal injury, death or damage to personal or real property, to entrant or any other person or entity due in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, by reason of participation in this contest (including any travel, or other activity related thereto).

Article 24. By submitting a film to the Festival, a filmmaker agrees to all of these Rules & Regulations.