Comic-Con International Independent Film Festival 2026
Official Rules and Entry Form • July 23-26, 2026

In 2026, the Comic-Con International Independent Film Festival ("CCI-IFF") will celebrate its nineteenth year as a juried event. The jury will consist of members working in industries related to filmmaking and the popular arts.

Please read the following carefully. Some rules have changed from previous years.

General rules for entry

1. Films submitted should be in one of the following categories:
   - Action/Adventure
   - Animation
   - Comics-oriented
   - Documentary
     (limited to genre and pop-culture topics)
   - Horror/Suspense
   - Humor
   - Science Fiction/Fantasy

2. All films must be appropriate for an all-ages audience. No nudity, excessive violence, or swearing.

3. All films must be no longer than 95 minutes in length.

4. One submission per filmmaker. Films previously submitted to the CCI-IFF, whether accepted or denied, cannot be entered again. Films submitted must have a completion date no earlier than 2024. The submission must be accompanied by the official, signed, entry form. Submit a downloadable link of your film to iffsubmissions@comic-con.org.

5. To be accepted, submitted films must be completely edited and in their final completed form. Rough cuts or unfinished material will not be considered. Please do not submit trailers, test footage, or scenes from upcoming films. Web series and fan films will not be accepted.

6. It is the responsibility of the filmmaker to obtain, in writing, all necessary consents, licenses, and clearances from any trademark, copyright, or other proprietary interest holder (such as, but not limited to, brands, music, characters, etc.) for content used in the submitted film. By submitting a film, the filmmaker licenses San Diego Comic Convention (parent company of the film festival) to screen and otherwise use the film as part of the CCI-IFF. You may be asked to provide a copy of consents, licenses, and/or clearances.

7. Films submitted cannot have distribution deals or distribution deals pending.

What to send:

• You must submit a downloadable link to iffsubmissions@comic-con.org.

• Please include a brief synopsis of your film, along with a short bio sheet on the filmmakers (director or writer) and one (1) production still for use in any potential publicity.

• All films must be sent by the deadline, **FEBRUARY 1, 2026,** and be accompanied by a signed submission form along with any paperwork as referred to in section 6. NO EXCEPTIONS. Films sent after the deadline will be rejected. Filmmakers with accepted entries will be notified by early June of selection. The complete schedule of films will appear on the Comic-Con International website, **www.comic-con.org,** and in our Events Quick Guide.

Email a link and supporting paperwork/material to:
iffsubmissions@comic-con.org

Additional information:
All films will be shown via video projection in a Convention Center-style meeting room, not in a theater. The room seats approximately 200 people. We cannot accept 35mm films.

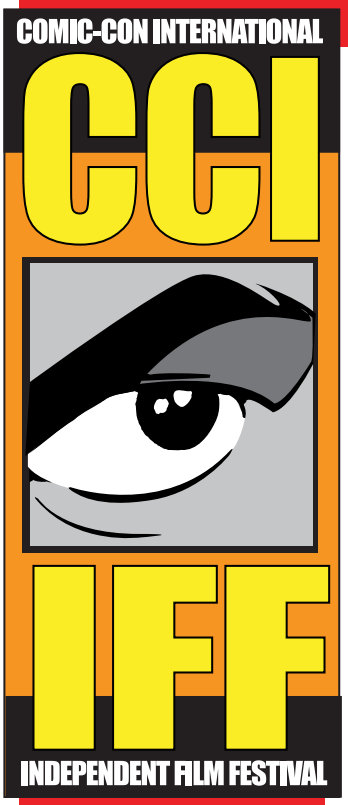
If your film is accepted, free 4-day professional memberships will be granted to those appearing to discuss the film (limit three), plus one adult guest membership for each speaker. Children under 12 are admitted free with an adult membership.

All scheduling of accepted films is at the discretion of the Festival programmers. Please do not specify days or time slots that you may prefer. Films will be shown during regular daytime hours of Comic-Con International and nighttime programming hours.

Please e-mail any questions to **iffsubmissions@comic-con.org**

Filmmaker Representation:
The undersigned hereby certifies that:
(1) he/she/they is the creator and legal owner of the film;
(2) the film being submitted is in its completed and final form and will not be changed between now and the time it is shown at the Comic-Con International Independent Film Festival (CCI-IFF);
(3) all film content is either original or duly licensed by its respective owner for use in the submitted film;
(4) all necessary consents, licenses, and clearances from any trademark, copyright, or other proprietary interest holder for content used in the submitted film have been obtained and provided to San Diego Comic Convention;
(5) the undersigned has read, understood, and will comply with the rules relating to the CCI-IFF. The undersigned hereby indemnifies and agrees to defend San Diego Comic Convention for and against any third-party claims relating to the submitted film.

The SAN DIEGO COMIC CONVENTION (Comic-Con International) is a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation organized for charitable purposes and dedicated to creating the general public's awareness of and appreciation for comics and related popular art forms, including participation in and support of public presentations, conventions, exhibits, museums and other public outreach activities which celebrate the historic and ongoing contribution of comics to art and culture.



Comic-Con International Independent Film Festival

Comic-Con International: San Diego
July 23-26, 2026
San Diego Convention Center

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM
DEADLINE: FEB 1, 2026

Personal information *Please type or print legibly.*

Name_____

Address_____

City_____**State**_____**Zip**_____

E-mail_____**Phone**_____

Member ID **(REQUIRED, sign up for a Member ID here)**:_____

Film information

Title_____

Running time_____**Year of completion**_____

Film's writer _____

Film's producer_____

Film's director_____

Category (please check ONE ONLY)

Comic-Con reserves the right to reassign films to a more appropriate or obvious category. Filmmakers will be notified of any category change.

- ☐ **Action Adventure**
- ☐ **Animation**
- ☐ **Comics-oriented**
- ☐ **Documentary**
- ☐ **Horror/Suspense**
- ☐ **Humor**
- ☐ **Science Fiction/Fantasy**

Please check.

☐ **I have submitted a downloadable link to iffsubmissions@comic-con.org**

Filmmaker Representation:
The undersigned hereby certifies that: (1) he/she/they is the creator and legal owner of the film; (2) the film being submitted is in its completed and final form and will not be changed between now and the time it is shown at the Comic-Con International Independent Film Festival (CCI-IFF); (3) all film content is either original or duly licensed by its respective owner for use in the submitted film; (4) all necessary consents, licenses, and clearances from any trademark, copyright or other proprietary interest holders for content used in the submitted film have been obtained and provided to San Diego Comic Convention; (5) the undersigned has read, understood and will comply with the rules relating to the CCI-IFF. The undersigned hereby indemnifies and agrees to defend San Diego Comic-Convention for and against any third-party claims relating to the submitted film.

Signature_____**Date**_____
(Of person submitting film)

Please read carefully the official rules on the previous page before submitting this form.

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Questions?
e-mail:
iffsubmissions@comic-con.org

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www.comic-con.org