

July 30, 2021

Committee for Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia

Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2022

Calling out for submissions from around the world

The Animation Best Short Award winner is officially recognized as eligible for nomination at the Academy Award®.

we are Asia's first Short Film Festival which has five competitions eligible to be shortlisted for next year's Oscars®!

Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (SSFF & ASIA), one of the biggest international short film festivals in Asia, will begin accepting submissions for the 24th international short film festival on Sunday, August 1, 2021.

<https://www.shortshorts.org/en/creators/>



In 2004, SSFF & ASIA, which has been an Academy Award accredited film festival and has submitted the festival's Grand Prix films as eligible for nomination at the Oscars the following year. In 2019, this was expanded to include the Best Short Award winners from the official competitions in the International, Asia International, and Japan categories, as well as the best short from the Non-Fiction category. In July, 2021, the Academy Association announced that the SSFF & ASIA would be able to submit for nomination from the Animation category for a total of five Best Short Award-winning short films that will be given a chance to possibly win an Oscar next year!

We are the only international short film festival in Japan that is accredited by the Academy Awards. Along with other Oscar-qualifying film festivals that can submit 5 films like the Sundance Film Festival, the Palm Springs International Film Festival, and the Aspen Shortsfest, we have taken another step forward as top tier international film festival.

Along with short films and features, animation has been a strong genre for Japanese filmmakers. As a platform for the dreams of Japanese filmmakers as well as filmmakers from around the world to make their way into the film industry, SSFF & ASIA looks forward to encountering many more, excellent short films in 2022.

Continuing from last year, Sony supports creators around the world

On Sunday, August 1, we will open for submissions to the Official Competition supported by Sony. The International, Asia International, and Japan competitions, eligible for nomination in the Academy Awards the

following year. Sony continues to support, as a starting point, creators who will lead new visual cultures and trends into the future.

In addition to the Official Competition, the Non-Fiction, Animation, and the Cinematic Tokyo Competition, films with Tokyo as the central theme, Sony continues to expand the range of visual expression and opportunities for challenges for creators with the Smartphone Film Competition supported by Sony's Xperia™, with the aim to encourage new visual creativity unique to smartphones. SSFF & ASIA also starts calling for entries for the U-25 Project, which calls for short films of 5 minutes or less by Japanese directors under the age of 25, and BRANDED SHORTS, which feature branded movies by companies and organizations.

From among the selected short films, the film that most depicts "Make Impossible Possible," will be awarded the Biogen Japan Award.

In addition, the Deloitte Digital Award will be awarded to the film that fuses "digital" with "humanity" to lead the way to the future of digital in business and society. The "Visual Tourism Award" for excellent domestic tourism films by local governments, companies, and organizations.

*Special site introducing a joint project with Sony - <https://www.shortshorts.org/sony/en/>

(As of April 1, 2021, Sony Mobile Communications Co., Ltd. has changed its trade name to Sony Corporation)

A message of support to filmmakers from director Mamoru Hosoda!

We've received a statement of support aimed towards filmmakers from director Mamoru Hosoda, a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, whose film "Belle" had its world premiere as the official selection of the 74th Cannes Film Festival.



Photography/ Takeshi Shinto,
Styling/ Daisuke Iga,
Hair & Makeup/ Minako Suzuki

"When I made my first animation film while as a third year of junior high school student, I had to rent an 8mm camera, develop the film myself, and I need to rent a projector to screen it. It cost time and money. As a student, I kept asking myself how I could make the films that I wanted to make. Now, with the widespread use of the internet and available production tools, the environment to make and screen has become easier to accomplish. Since becoming a member of the Academy, I have come across many films, short and feature, live-action and animation, but there are still too few films from Japan. I think it's important to make films and submit them to film festivals. Most of all, it may lead to more opportunities and to know what other people are making will expand the scope of your own filmmaking. I think films reflect the kind of person that the filmmaker is. I hope that the film festival will be a place of discovery of yet unknown creators and becomes the place where the find opportunities to make the kind of film they want to."

MAMORU HOSODA (Director)

Born in 1967 in Toyama Prefecture. In 1991, joined Toei Animation and worked as an animator before turning to directing. In 1999, he made his directing debut with "Digimon: The Movie." After leaving the company he directed "The Girl Who Leapt Through Time" (2006) and "Summer Wars" (2009), attracting attention in both domestic and

international markets. In 2011, he founded his own animation production company, Studio Chizu, writing and directing his original screenplays beginning with "Wolf Children," (2012) and "The Boy and the Beast," (2015). His film "Mirai," (2018) which he directed and wrote the original screenplay, premiered at the Director's Fortnight held during the 71st Cannes Film Festival and was nominated for Best Animated Feature at the 91st Academy Awards and the 76th Golden Globe Award, and won the Best Animated feature - Independent at the 46th Annie Awards. At the 74th Cannes Film Festival. His latest film, "Belle" (2021), currently in theaters in Japan, had its world premiered in the newly established "Cannes Première" section.

<SSFF & ASIA 2022 Submission Guidelines>

- Submission Competitions: Official Competition supported by Sony, Non-Fiction Competition, Animation Competition, Cinematic Tokyo Competition, Smartphone Film Competition, supported by Sony's Xperia™, U-25 Project, Branded Shorts
- Submission period: from Sunday, August 1, 2021, 00:00 (JST).
- *Submission deadlines vary by category
- For details on how to submit: See SSFF & ASIA 2022 Submission Page
<https://www.shortshorts.org/en/creators/>
- Selection Announcements: For the Official Competition supported by Sony, Non-Fiction Competition and Animation Competition, shortlists will be announced on SSFF & ASIA website every month beginning in October. The final selections will be chosen from among the shortlisted films. The final selections from all competitions, including the Official Competitions (films to be screened at the film festival), will be announced on the website by the end of April 2022.
- For inquiries about submissions: submission@shortshorts.org

【SHORT SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL & ASIA】

Actor Tetsuya Bessho, who is also a member of the American Actors Association (SAG), founded the American Short Shorts Film Festival in 1999 with the desire to introduce "short films," which he encountered in the United States, to Japan as a new genre of film. In 2001, the festival was renamed the Short Shorts Film Festival (SSFF) and in 2004 it was recognized as a recognized film festival by the Academy Awards®. In the same year, the Short Shorts Film Festival Asia (SSFF ASIA, co-hosted by Tokyo) was established with the aim of expanding new visual culture originating in Asia and fostering young filmmakers, and currently operates as SSFF & ASIA.

In 2018, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the film festival, the Grand Prix was named after Director George Lucas. In January 2019, the Short Shorts Film Festival in Hollywood was held to commemorate the 20th anniversary. Since 2019, the four Best Short Award-winning short films from the official competitions (International, Asia International, Japan) and the Non-Fiction Competition, and from 2022, five short films, adding the Best Short Award-winning short film in the Animation competition, will be eligible to be nominated for the Academy Awards for Best Short Film the following year. The SSFF & ASIA will continue to support young creators.

【Official website】 <https://www.shortshorts.org/en>

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