

MIAF REGULATIONS / submission guidelines (important information - please read)

INTRODUCTION

The Melbourne International Animation Festival (MIAF) is one of the largest animation festivals in the world. It usually screens around 350-400 films each year in competitive, student, curated & retrospective programs. MIAF generates a smaller touring festival called the Australian International Animation Festival, is the submissions base for the UTS Sydney International Animation Festival and the London International Animation Festival, and also provides specific programming advice to the New Zealand Film Festival and the Brisbane International Film Festival. When you submit your film to MIAF, your film is automatically considered for each of these other festivals although these other events will send you separate and specific invitations if they wish to screen your film.

QUALIFICATION PERIOD

To be considered eligible for selection in MIAF12, your film should have been completed AFTER January 1st, 2010. The Festival Director reserves the right to grant exceptions to this criteria in exceptional circumstances.

OTHER SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be accepted for selection, your school's showreel must arrive in a format that can be viewed by pre-selectors and the jury members. In the case of countries where NTSC is the normal format, please submit your school's work ONLY on DVD (PAL/all regions). We are unable to accept betacam, miniDV or any film prints for pre-selection because of the difficulty of playing these formats without open access to equipment.

DVDs are unreliable devices, so please test your copy thoroughly before submitting it. We suggest you provide two copies of your showreel, burnt from different computers in case one copy fails.

We require at least one digital still for every film that screens in the festival. We ask that entrants please provide these stills at time of entry (preferred), or email them to animationnow@hotmail.com.

PRE-SELECTION & INVITATION

Pre-selection decisions regarding all entries are made by the Festival Director, relevant advisors and a pre-selection committee. The full jury process can be a relatively lengthy one but an attempt will be made to finalise all invitations for selected films by the end of March 2012. When the jury has completed their work, all successful films will receive a formal invitation from the Festival Director.

The screening order of each program will be the sole decision of the Festival Director and his advisors.

All submission DVDs will be retained by MIAF for use in our archive, for Australian federal censorship purposes and for reference in programming partner festivals.

SCREENING FORMATS & FREIGHT

MIAF is not able to freight individual titles that have been selected for MIAF12's 'Best of the Next' student festival screenings. Generally, every title that is selected by the jury for the 'Best of the Next' program, will be compiled from the submission DVD.

If the school or filmmaker wishes to have their invited title/s screened from another digital format other than the submission dvd (see accompanying specifications on Pg 3) the school or filmmaker will send that screening version to MIAF at the school or filmmakers expense. MIAF will return those screening formats at MIAF's expense.

All non-film format screening material MUST be in Melbourne by March 31st, 2012.



CHECKLIST I HAVE ENCLOSED (please tick):

- Completed entry form (2 pages)
- At least 1 high quality digital still of each film (300dpi) saved as .tif for PC, or maximum quality .jpeg (at least 15x10cm)
- DVD (that can be played in a dvd player & viewed on a tv screen) - clearly labeled with name of school
- English text of dialogue / commentaries - if your film(s) don't have English translation
- Trailer(s) saved to DVD (Trailers will be used to promote MIAF and associated festivals, including pre-festival screenings, on-line and for media/publicity purposes. **Providing a trailer is optional as we realise many filmmakers do not produce one.**



POST YOUR SUBMISSION TO:

MIAF
PO Box 584
FLEMINGTON, VIC 3031
AUSTRALIA

or for COURIER/FREIGHT DELIVERIES ONLY:

Melbourne International Animation Festival
c/- Open Channel, Victoria Harbour
Shed 4, North Wharf Rd
DOCKLANDS, VIC 3008
AUSTRALIA



The completion and endorsement of this form constitutes acceptance of Melbourne International Animation Festival regulations.

I, the undersigned, accept the MIAF12 regulations. I declare that I own the rights of the film (including music/soundtrack rights) outlined on this form and that I have the authority to enter it into the Melbourne International Animation Festival.

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

MIAF SCREENING MATERIAL

> **digital media and video technical specifications** (important information - please read)

VIDEO SPECIFICATIONS

The following are preferred digital video specifications for the delivery of content to be compiled for screening at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image. MIAF cinema tapes will be compiled to the Standard Definition DV-PAL format.

SD-PAL Frame Sizes and Pixel Aspect Ratios

- SD-PAL video frame size is 720x576
- 4:3 SD-PAL Pixel Aspect Ratio is 1.0940
- 16:9 SD-PAL Pixel Aspect Ratio is 1.4587

SD-NTSC Frame Sizes and Pixel Aspect Ratios

- SD-NTSC video frame size is 720x480.
- 4:3 SD-NTSC Pixel Aspect Ratio is 0.9091.
- 16:9 SD-NTSC Pixel Aspect Ratio is 1.2121.
- NTSC videos will be converted to PAL.
- NTSC videos will not be resized when converted to PAL to avoid degradation.

Content delivery Notes

- 16:9 videos are preferred in the Full Height Anamorphic (FHA) format.
- The "16:9 Anamorphic" format (also known as 4:3 Letterboxed) should be avoided if possible.
- Videos with Square Pixels will be converted to PAL pixel aspect ratios.
- Content whose sub-titles that are outside of titles-safe margins will be resized.

Frame Rates

- The PAL video frame rate is 25fps.
- The NTSC frame rate of 29.97fps will be converted to PAL's 25fps.
- Do NOT deliver 24fps videos - they may fail to play smoothly from a 25fps timeline.

Bit Rates

- Higher bit-rates means less video compression and better image quality.
- Avoid bit-rates below 6 Mbps for Standard Definition videos.

Audio Specifications

- 48 kHz Sampling Rate.
- Stereo.
- 128 kbps or above.
- Surround audio is not supported.

PREFERRED VIDEO CODEC'S

- DV PAL/NTSC (4x3)
- DV PAL/NTSC Anamorphic (16x9)
- Uncompressed 8-bit 4:2:2
- Uncompressed 10-bit 4:2:2
- MPEG 2
- Apple ProRes 4:2:2
- HDV 1080i25 (50i)
- HDV 1080p25
- H.264
- Use high bit-rates for H.264 videos - especially with High Definition videos.
- The H.264 codec allows for low bit-rate & highly compressed videos which can be problematic in a compilation timeline.

DIGITAL TAPES

- BETACAM
- DVCAM
- HDV (NOT the same as HD-CAM)

DVD's

- Standard PAL/NTSC video DVD's.
- Use the PAL DVD format if possible to minimise a lost in image quality arising from NTSC to PAL conversions.
- BluRay Discs are not supported.
- DV files, in the formats listed above, can be submitted on data-DVD's.