



THE CHICAGO LESBIAN & GAY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL • NOVEMBER 5-14, 2009

5243 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640 • Phone: (773) 293-1447 • Fax: (773) 293-0575 • reeling@chicagofilmmakers.org • www.reelingfilmfestival.org

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES & REGULATIONS

Reeling 2009: The 28th Chicago Lesbian & Gay International Film Festival

The Chicago Lesbian & Gay International Film Festival is the second oldest film festival of its kind in the U.S. and prides itself on showcasing the best lesbian and gay films and videos from around the world. From international feature films to social issue documentaries to experimental shorts, Reeling has always presented a range of genres that demonstrates the rich diversity of work being produced. The festival is not only one of the most important cultural events for Chicago audiences, it also attracts many people from throughout the Midwest who consider the festival to be the highlight of their cinematic year.

Reeling 2009 will screen approximately 100 independent films and videos over 10 days, from November 5 - 14, 2009. We invite you to enter this year's festival and ask you to please take a moment to read through our Festival Regulations and Entry Procedures before you enter your work. Should you be unable to comply with any of the festival regulations, please contact us before entering your work to discuss the problem. We will do our best to work with you to ensure that you have an opportunity to have your work screened.

HOW TO ENTER REELING 2009

Enter Online

Save \$5 per entry for online entries made through www.withoutabox.com. Online entry allows you the option of paying your entry fee by credit card. When you enter online through www.withoutabox.com it helps to reduce our data entry drudgery, so please consider this option!

Enter by Mail

If you prefer to enter by mail, please fill out the entry form completely (*don't forget the synopsis*) and sign it. A separate entry form is required for each title that you enter. Feel free to photocopy this entry form for additional entries. You may also download and print out a PDF of the form from our website at www.reelingfilmfestival.org. Please enclose a non-refundable entry fee for each entry (**check or money order in US DOLLARS ONLY!**) made payable to "**Chicago Filmmakers.**"

ENTRY DEADLINES AND FEES

Entry Fees Waived for Foreign Entries!

Early Bird Special Deadline: May 15, 2009
NO ENTRY FEE!

Whether you enter online or by mail, your film or video entry must be postmarked by May 15, 2009 to qualify for free entry.

Regular Deadline: June 12, 2009

Entry Fee: \$15 (\$10 online) for the first entry, \$10 (\$5 online) for each additional entry.

Whether you enter online or by mail, your film or video entry must be postmarked by June 12, 2009 to qualify for this rate.

Late Deadline: July 15, 2009

Entry Fee: \$25 (\$20 online) for the first entry, \$15 (\$10 online) for each additional entry.

PREVIEW MATERIALS

Eligible Formats for Preview

You must submit 2 preview copies on DVD (Region 1/North America or Region 0) and/or one copy on ½" VHS (NTSC or PAL). Label the preview copies clearly with title, running time, director's name, and contact information. Please test DVDs on as many different players as possible before submitting, since consumer-burned DVDs are often not reliable. Please do not use fiber filled shipping envelopes; fibers can damage videotapes and equipment.

Press Kits

In addition to your entry you must enclose a brief description or synopsis of your film. Also include any press kits, reviews or publicity materials you have.

Images/Photos

We require photo images from your work with your submission. We strongly encourage you to send digital images (at least one 300 dpi image in TIFF or JPEG format; in addition, a 72 dpi color JPEG or TIFF for web use would be helpful). Digital images can be sent on a CD or emailed to: photos@chicagofilmmakers.org. Be sure to name your files with the title of your work. Still photos are also accepted if digital images are not available.

Return of Preview Materials

Preview materials will not be returned.

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS

Rough cuts and works-in-progress are eligible for submission only if a completed final copy is available for preview by September 11, 2009. A brief explanation describing changes to be made for the final version and expected date of completion must be included with your entry.

PREMIERE STATUS

We generally do not program works that have already screened in Chicago, are broadcast on television, or are available on DVD or video prior to the festival. Exceptions are rare and determined on a case-by-case basis. It is your responsibility to disclose this information on your entry form and to notify us immediately of any changes after your submission is made.

CONFIRMATION

Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope or postcard if you wish to receive confirmation that your entry was received.

NOTIFICATION

If your entry is accepted for exhibition you will be notified by October 9, 2009. If your entry is not accepted for exhibition you will be notified by October 16, 2009. (These dates are approximate and are subject to change.)

AUTHORIZATION

By entering the festival, the entrant automatically authorizes a public screening of the work in the festival and agrees to provide an exhibition copy for the period of the festival (November 5-14, 2009) **at no charge**. Should the distribution rights for the work change by the time the festival takes place, it is still the responsibility of the entrant to provide an exhibition copy to the festival without charge. **Once a film/tape is submitted for entry, it may not be withdrawn.** The entrant assumes all financial responsibility and legal liability for the content of their work including, but not limited to, usage of all copyrighted material for story, voice, visual images, and music.

EXHIBITION COPIES

Eligible Formats for Exhibition

Acceptable formats for exhibition include 35mm and 16mm film, Mini-DV, DigiBeta and Beta SP (must be NTSC). DVD exhibition is acceptable for music video entries. The festival cannot screen Beta SP PAL tapes and the cost of transferring work that arrives in this format must be paid by the entrant. Foreign language work must be subtitled in English.

Deadline for Receipt of Exhibition Copy: October 16, 2009

If your entry is accepted for exhibition, your exhibition film or videotape should arrive in our office by October 16, 2009. Please inform our office if this will be a problem. Exhibition copies will be returned to the entrant by November 28, 2009 unless we are requested in writing otherwise. Transshipments of exhibition copies to other festivals must be requested in writing.

Shipping

Exhibition copies must be sent to the festival prepaid. The festival will cover return shipping via UPS or US Mail. Additional charges for express shipping or transshipments to foreign film festivals must be paid by the entrant or the recipient. The festival cannot accept nor assume responsibility for damage or loss of materials while in transit. All film reels, cans, videotapes and cases must be labeled with the title of the entry. Please do not use fiber filled shipping envelopes; fibers can damage videotapes and equipment.

International Shipping

Foreign entries must be shipped prepaid. Because of the increased cost of shipping to the festival, Reeling waives the entry fees for foreign entries. Exhibition copies must be sent directly to the festival office with all transportation charges, delivery fees, and any duties or taxes prepaid by the shipper. The entrant will have to bear financial responsibility in the event that the festival is charged any brokerage fees. Please be sure to include all proper customs documentation. We recommend that the following declaration be printed on the outside of the package and on customs forms: TEMPORARY IMPORTATION – FOR FILM FESTIVAL EXHIBITION ONLY. NO COMMERCIAL VALUE. Exhibition copies will be returned to the entrant at the festivals' expense.

MAIL TO:

Chicago Filmmakers
Attn: Reeling 2009
5243 N. Clark Street, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60640

LOSS OR DAMAGE

The festival cannot accept nor assume responsibility for damage or loss of materials while in transit. In the event of loss or damage during the festival, the festival's responsibility is limited to repair or replacement of the print. Please do not send master tapes. The festival will not accept responsibility for video masters.

ACCEPTANCE

Entering a film or video automatically indicates the acceptance of all Reeling 2009 submission guidelines and regulations.

FESTIVAL PRIZES

The festival will award cash prizes to films and videos selected by our juries as best in their categories. Non-cash prizes are also awarded by audience vote.



Reeling is a partner festival for the Iris Prize, an international gay and lesbian short film prize which is open to any short film which is by, for, about or of interest to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or intersex audiences and which must have been completed within 2 years prior to the submission deadline of July 3, 2009 (made between July 4, 2007-July 3, 2009). The prize, valued at £25,000, will allow the winner to make their next short film in the UK. The Reeling jury will nominate a short film for the prize from among entries to Reeling. The Iris Prize winner will be announced in October 2009 in Wales.

RENTAL FEES

The festival does not pay rental fees for the exhibition of entered works.

MEDIA PROMOTION

Programmed works may be excerpted for TV, website, and other promotional purposes. Photos supplied by makers may be used for promotional purposes. Copies of your DVD may be burned for the purpose of review by film critics. If you prefer that Reeling not burn DVD copies for critical review purposes, please notify us in writing and supply at least 5 DVDs for press review. Reeling must be notified in writing at the time of submission of any press restrictions.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Phone: (773) 293-1447

Fax: (773) 293-0575

Email: reeling@chicagofilmmakers.org

www.reelingfilmfestival.org