FAQs – International VIFF Immersed Competition

The Vancouver International Film Festival is inviting immersive storytellers to submit their narrative-driven virtual or augmented reality projects to the International VIFF Immersed Competition.

Submissions will be considered for the 2020 VIFF Immersed Exhibition, a multi-day public showcase celebrating the best in immersive storytelling from Canada and around the world. The VIFF Immersed Exhibition will take place September 25 – October 1, 2020 in Vancouver.

A distinguished panel of international jurors will judge the entries and award the winning selections from each category at the opening night of the exhibition.

When are the submission deadlines and entry fees?
The following dates are the deadlines to submit your content through FilmFreeway. All submissions must be sent through that platform. Submissions fees are non-refundable.

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<th>Deadlines</th>
<th>International VIFF Immersed Competition Submissions</th>
<th>BC Showcase Submissions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Early Deadline: April 24, 2020</td>
<td>$40.00 USD</td>
<td>$20.00 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Deadline: May 29, 2020</td>
<td>$45.00 USD</td>
<td>$25.00 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Deadline: June 12, 2020</td>
<td>$50.00 USD</td>
<td>$30.00 USD</td>
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What are the submission categories?
Below is an overview of each submission and award category. All projects must be story driven narratives and be able to be distributed to consumers through commercially available platforms.
Please view our eligibility criteria for more information.

International VIFF Immersed Competition Categories

Virtual Reality – Cinematic Live Action
Narrative-lead VR experiences created from the live-action capture of human participants using camera or volumetric methods that exemplify works of narrative fiction.
Virtual Reality – Animation
Narrative-lead VR animation experiences created using original crafted artwork to embody the characters, setting and objects of its story.

Virtual Reality – Documentary
Immersive VR stories created to document and explore an aspect of the real world.

Augmented Reality – Live Action / Animation / Documentary
This category is designed to showcase narrative AR experiences. Content may be interactive and include fiction, documentary or animation.

BC Showcase
Virtual & Augmented Reality – Curated BC Showcase
A curated showcase of VR and AR works emerging from the creative nexus that is British Columbia.

Where will my work be exhibited?
Selected virtual and augmented reality works will be presented at the VIFF Immersed Exhibition 2020, an exhibition in a black box theatre in the heart of the Vancouver International Film Festival. All works in the exhibition will be accessible to public audiences and a delegation of global immersive industry experts.

Project creators will also be considered for the VIFF Immersed Market Place, a private industry market that brings together leading immersive storytellers to pitch projects to a wide range of industry, including distributors, agencies, brands, and more.

Is my content too old to submit?
Any project submitted to the 2020 International VIFF Immersed Competition must have been completed after June 1, 2019.

May I submit my project as a rough cut?
Rough cuts or works in progress are eligible for entry as long as they are of presentational quality and showcase the approximate full run time of the final piece. Final completed pieces MUST be submitted for review by 5PM Pacific Time on June 12, 2020 for pieces to retain eligibility.
How many projects can I submit?
You are free to submit as many films as you wish. However, each film must be submitted (and paid for) separately.

Who watches my submission?
Submissions to the International VIFF Immersed Competition are reviewed by VIFF Immersed programming staff and screening committees made up of individuals well-versed in immersive content.

A distinguished panel of international jurors will judge the finalists and award the winning selections from each category at the VIFF Immersed Exhibition.

Does VIFF offer fee waivers?
As a not-for-profit society, VIFF relies on submission fees to help cover administration and programming costs. In order to maintain the high quality of our programming, we are not able to offer fee waivers.

Will I receive feedback on my submission?
Regrettably, with the large number of submissions every year, we don’t have the ability to offer feedback on each individual submission.

When will I be notified about your decision?
You will be advised of our decision by email no later than August 30, 2020.

Have a question that isn’t on this list?
Please contact: immersed.submission@viff.org