

We invite you to participate in the 25th edition of Macabro: Mexico City International Horror Film Festival, which will take place from August 13 to 23, 2026.

The twenty-fifth edition of the festival will be held 100% in person, with complementary online activities.

We kindly ask you to read this call for entries carefully and fully before submitting your work. We will be happy to answer your questions and provide additional information NOT INCLUDED here at the following emails: programacionmacabro@gmail.com and/or contacto.macabrofich@gmail.com

1 – GENERAL TERMS OF PARTICIPATION

1.1 There is no age or nationality restriction to participate.

1.2 Each participant may submit as many works as they wish.

1.3 Works will first be considered for inclusion in the COMPETITIVE sections: International Horror Feature, Ibero-American Horror Feature, Dark Fantasy & Sci-Fi Feature, Mexican Horror Short Film, International Horror Short Film, and Animated Horror Short Film. Films NOT selected for competition may be considered for PARALLEL EXHIBITION sections.

1.4 Macabro FICH does not pay screening fees for films in competition.

1.5 There are no restrictions regarding the original production format of the work.

1.6 To participate in competition, films must have been produced no earlier than 2025.

1.7 Macabro will not consider films resubmitted after not being selected in previous years.

1.8 Feature films previously screened in Mexico City before the 2026 edition of Macabro may NOT participate in the competitive selection, and will only be considered for non-competitive showcase sections.

1.9 The festival will agree with filmmakers on the streaming exhibition terms; this exhibition will be available exclusively in Mexico through a specialized platform.

2 – SUBMISSION

2.1 The submission period begins upon the publication of this call.

2.2 Submission forms and screeners will be accepted only through: <https://filmfreeway.com/macabro>

2.3 Authors are responsible for the rights to their works.

2.4 If selected for the Official Mexican Short Film Selection, the filmmaker must send a letter assuming full responsibility for any copyright dispute, releasing the festival from liability.

2.5 The submission deadline is March 31, 2026.

3 – SELECTION

- 3.1 Works will be selected for competition or exhibition. The final decision is not subject to appeal.
- 3.2 The festival will determine the screening dates and order.
- 3.3 Screenings will be held in DCP format in main venues, and in Blu-ray or digital format in alternate venues and/or streaming.
- 3.4 Films in languages other than Spanish must be submitted with English or Spanish subtitles. FILMS SELECTED MUST INCLUDE SPANISH SUBTITLES OR A DIALOGUE LIST FOR TRANSLATION.
- 3.5 Screening copies must be delivered according to the formats and deadlines established by the festival.
- 3.6 Award-winning works may be exhibited by the festival as part of commitments with its partners.
- 3.7 By accepting selection, works may be considered for activities beyond the official festival dates.
- 3.8 MACABRO FICH may invite feature films to the competition. Screener requests do not constitute an official invitation.
- 3.9 Feature films must have a runtime between 60 and 120 minutes, including credits.
- 3.10 Short films must have a runtime between 1 and 29 minutes, including credits.
- 3.11 The festival reserves the right to program medium-length films (30–59 minutes).
- 3.12 The organization may make last-minute changes or cancellations.
- 3.13 By accepting selection, works may be considered for post-festival activities.

4 – DELIVERY OF SELECTED FILMS

- 4.1 Selected works must be delivered within the deadlines agreed upon with the festival.
- 4.2 If the selected film is a work-in-progress, THIS MUST BE STATED UPON SUBMISSION, and a delivery date must be agreed with the festival; otherwise, it may be removed from the program without prior notice. The festival reserves the right to include the film in its lineup.
- 4.3 Macabro FICH will contact each filmmaker of the SELECTED WORKS directly to inform them of the participation requirements.
- 4.4 Upon selection, the festival will provide a PDF guide with the technical specifications required for exhibition files.
- 4.5 If your work is not selected and you request a written evaluation, it will have a cost of \$100 USD.

5 – JURY

5.1 The Official Jury will consist of renowned national and international filmmakers and specialists. Macabro FICH will announce the Jury members prior to the festival.

5.2 The Jury's decisions are final and may declare any category void.

6 – ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS

6.1 The festival will resolve any questions arising from this call; its decisions are final.

6.2 The festival may exhibit fragments of selected films for promotional purposes (website, social media, television, etc.).

6.3 Submission implies full acceptance of these terms.

7 – AWARDS

The following awards will be granted:

7.1 Macabro Rojo for Best International Feature – Red FICH Statuette

7.2 Macabro Rojo for Best Latin American Feature – Red FICH Statuette

7.3 Macabro Rojo for Best Dark Fantasy & Sci-Fi Feature – Red FICH Statuette

7.3 Macabro de Plata for Best Director – Silver FICH Statuette

7.4 Macabro de Jade for Best Mexican Short Film – Green FICH Statuette

7.5 Macabro de Ónix for Best International Short Film – Black FICH Statuette

7.6 Macabro de Zafiro for Best Animated Short Film – Blue FICH Statuette

7.7 Macabro Fantasma for the Audience's Favorite Film – White FICH Statuette.

All films produced between 2024 and 2026, regardless of nationality or section, are eligible for the Audience Award.

7.8 Daimon – Macabro Distribution Award for theatrical release in Mexico (feature categories only).

7.9 Daimon – México Macabro Mention, consisting of distribution consulting for feature films produced between 2024 and 2026.

7.10 Special Mentions in various categories awarded by the Jury.

8 – ABOUT MACABRO

Macabro is an event produced by Arte Audiovisual Alternativo, A.C., a non-profit organization dedicated to cultural management and audiovisual production.

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