

Documentary Edge Festival is Australasia's premiere international competitive documentary film festival.

Our mission is to showcase documentary films from New Zealand and around the world to celebrate the best in documentary filmmaking as well as to provide an opportunity for both New Zealand and overseas filmmakers to meet and explore business opportunities.

Our vision is to make New Zealand the documentary capital of the Southern Hemisphere.

Since 2005, the Documentary Edge Festival is the only dedicated annual international documentary film festival held in New Zealand that showcases the very best and edgiest documentary films from New Zealand and around the World.

The Festival runs in Auckland and Wellington from March and includes a Gala Awards, Q&A sessions with filmmakers, special events and more.

Organized by The Documentary NZ Trust, a non-profit charitable organization, the 7th edition of Documentary Edge Festival will be held in **Auckland between 15 March – 1 April 2012** and in **Wellington between 26 April – 13 May 2012**.

There are four submission deadlines:

Early Bird: 15 June 2011

Regular: 31 Aug 2011

Late: 15 Sept 2011

WAB Extended: 30 Sept 2011

Please check our website www.documentaryedge.org.nz for the latest news. We recommend that you also sign up for The Knowledge, our monthly e-newsletter.

A. General Festival Rules

i) Purpose

The Documentary New Zealand Trust is a not-for-profit charitable organization established to foster and promote the art of documentary films/filmmaking and to facilitate the screening in New Zealand of world class documentary films. Its signature event is the Documentary Edge Festival (DEF), Australasia's premiere international documentary film festival. DEF runs in Auckland and Wellington. The number, date(s), time(s), and location(s) of such screenings of the selected films are at the sole discretion of the DEF and DEF will inform the respective submitters accordingly.

ii) Eligibility

The filmmaker must have and warrant that they have the sole and exclusive ownership of all rights in the New Zealand territory related to the submitted film as well as the authority to submit the film to DEF. DEF 2012 accepts films for selection in two different categories: (a) short (under 50 minutes) and (b) feature (50 minutes and over).

DEF has a "premiere policy". Preference will be given to premieres in the following order:

- World
- International
- Asia-Pacific
- Australasia
- New Zealand

Films must have been made and/or completed after January 2010.

DEF does not pay screening fees nor will it negotiate to accord a film status as a competition finalist in exchange for screening rights.

In submitting the film, the filmmaker acknowledges that:-

1. there will be no screening fees paid; and
2. DEF will not negotiate competition finalist status in exchange for screening rights; and
3. DEF has full and sole discretion as to the number, date(s), time(s), and location(s) of screenings of the selected films.

Films previously screened at festivals or released theatrically in New Zealand will not be considered for DEF 2012.

iii) Entry

All entries must be submitted via Withoutabox (WAB). There are four deadlines (postmarked):

- Early Bird: 15 June
- Regular: 31 August
- Late: 15 Sept
- WAB Extended: 30 Sept

The applicable submission fee varies according to the submission deadline.

All screeners must be DVD (PAL or region free). All non-English spoken films must have English subtitles. Incomplete entries will not be accepted.

Preview materials must be shipped prepaid and the package must indicate the title of film and the customs declaration properly marked as follows:

"For Festival Purposes Only. No Commercial Value."

Filmmakers will be responsible for any duties payable as a result of an incorrect customs declaration.

The filmmaker acknowledges and accepts that the Festival does not return any of the DVD screeners submitted.

iv) DEF Competition

DEF is a competitive Festival with various award categories. **All films selected will be in competition.** An independent Jury Panel will view the films and the results will be announced at the DEF Gala during the Festival.

National Awards:

Best NZ Short Documentary, Best NZ Feature Documentary, Best Director, Best Editing, Best Cinematography, Best Emerging Filmmaker

“New Zealand” films are films that are: Shot, edited and completed in New Zealand; or with a New Zealand national in the role of producer, director, DOP or editor.

International Awards:

Best International Short Documentary, Best International Feature Documentary, Best Director, Best Editing, Best Cinematography

Additional Awards:

Best “On the Edge” Documentary, Outstanding Contribution to the NZ Documentary Industry

DEF’s decision as to finalists is final and DEF will not entertain any requests for review nor consider any complaints.

v) Exhibition Format

For a high quality, streamlined and uniformed exhibition, all DEF selected films will be digitally screened in the following exhibition format only:

Video Format: Apple ProRes (LT or HQ)

Aspect Ratio: HD1080(1920x1080)

Sound Format: Stereo Mix

We encourage you to send this preferred, final exhibition format via a light, portable external hard drive.

35mm: DEF will only accept films in 35mm format if the shipping cost (both ways) is covered by a 3rd party.

vi)Exhibition Shipping

Detailed shipping instructions will be sent to the print supplier once a film has been selected. Shipping to DEF is at the filmmaker’s cost and DEF will be responsible for onward shipping where required. Only hard drives and 35mm prints of selected films will be returned.

Customs declarations must be properly marked as follows: "For Festival Purposes Only. No Commercial Value." The dollar value should not exceed NZD\$150.

Filmmakers will be responsible for any duties payable as a result of an incorrect customs declaration.

vii) Film Withdrawal Policy

The filmmakers agree that as soon as the filmmaker receives written confirmation of the film's selection, it cannot be withdrawn from DEF. For avoidance of doubt, the date such notice is sent by facsimile, email or the post-mark shall be deemed to be the date of selection.

Once a film is selected, the filmmaker, no other festival, cinema or broadcaster will be entitled to screen the film in New Zealand prior to or during DEF. Should the film be screened by any of the above, DEF may at its discretion withdraw the film from programming.

viii) Changes to Film Status

If the filmmaker becomes aware of any matters which may prevent the film from being selected, the filmmaker will immediately in writing inform DEF accordingly. Any failure to do so may result in the film being withdrawn from programming or from competition at DEF's discretion.

The filmmaker undertakes to deliver to DEF upon receipt of confirmation of the film being programmed, full details of all prior screenings and future screenings up and including the duration of DEF 2012.

ix) Liability and Insurance

The filmmaker is responsible for insuring the film print or hard drive. DEF is only responsible for such serious loss or serious damage caused to the film print or hard drive through the fault of DEF and is within the control of DEF. DEF is not responsible for any loss or damage through force majeure, natural elements, theft and loss caused while in transit or when the film print or hard drive is in the control of a third party.

In case of loss or serious damage to a print, the obligation of DEF is limited to compensating the producer or distributor only for the cost of making a new print from another master.

The filmmaker confirms that all clearances and releases have been obtained for the film and the filmmaker will indemnify DEF in the event there is any successful claim against DEF for the screening or publication of any the film or any materials associated with it for breach of copyright or privacy or failure to obtain the appropriate clearances and releases.

Upon selection, the filmmaker agrees DEF is authorized to utilize publicity materials related to the production (i.e. press kits, posters, stills, etc.) for promotional purposes and to broadcast or screen clips up to a maximum of five minutes.

x) Consent

By completing a submission via WAB of the film, the Filmmaker understands and accepts DEF regulations and the conditions/certification.

B. Agreement

1. I have the sole and exclusive ownership of all rights related to the submitted production.
2. I have the full authority to submit the production to DEF and bind all other third parties with an interest in the film (director, producer, sales agent or film distributor) to this Agreement.
3. DEF's decision as to the selection of films into the DEF programme and the finalists for competition is final and binding.
4. I acknowledge that DEF is a not-for-profit organization and agree that if the film is selected, I will not seek to negotiate any conditions relating to competition selection, financial rewards or screening fees from DEF for including my film in its programme.
5. I agree that upon receipt of DEF's written confirmation of my film's selection:-
 - The film cannot be withdrawn from the DEF programme;
 - I will provide the agreed formats noted above to DEF in a timely manner and in all cases, no later than four weeks prior to the start of the Festival programme;
 - I will not screen the film nor allow any other organization/individual to screen the film in New Zealand in any format whatsoever prior to or during DEF.
6. I understand and accept that DEF is New Zealand wide festival with screening venues around New Zealand and authorize DEF to programme and publicly exhibit the film at its discretion.
7. If I am become aware of any matters which may prevent the film from being selected, that I will immediately by writing inform DEF accordingly. I accept that failure to do so may result in my film being withdrawn from programming or competition at DEF's discretion.
8. I acknowledge and accept that I am responsible for transportation and shipping of exhibition prints/tapes one way to DEF.
9. I agree that if a film is selected for screening at DEF, I authorize DEF to utilize publicity materials related to the production (i.e. press kits, posters, stills, etc.) for promotional purposes and to broadcast or screen clips up to a maximum of five minutes for features and 60 seconds for shorts.
10. For the purposes of this submission, the Parties agree that any notice will be deemed delivered to the other party at the date and time specified in a fax transmission confirmation, email receipt/delivery confirmation or confirmation of post.

I have read the above Certification and the Entry Guidelines and agree to abide accordingly. I undertake that the information provided in this Entry is complete and correct. I signify my acceptance of the agreement.