

ANIMARIO 2026 RULES AND REGULATIONS INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION

1. INTRODUCTION

CINETECA MADRID (cinetecamadrid.com), part of the contemporary creation center MATADERO MADRID, is a venue dedicated to the exhibition, reflection, and production of cinema in its artistic forms., designated by Madrid City Council to be the driving force behind the design and implementation of a new municipal policy in support of cinema and audiovisual creators

The center is managed by MADRID DESTINO CULTURA TURISMO Y NEGOCIO, S.A., whose registered office is at: Calle Conde Duque, 9-11 2a Planta, 28015 Madrid and whose Tax ID (CIF) is A-84073105.

As part of its commitment to the creation and promotion of new languages and expressions of contemporary creation, Cineteca Madrid organizes ANIMARIO, Madrid International Festival of Contemporary Animation, a festival dedicated to animated cinema in its contemporary expressions that does not however neglect the history of this technique.

The 9th edition of ANIMARIO will take place from 10 to 13 December 2026.

2. OBJECT OF THE CALL

To open participation to works from all over the world, supporting a diversity of themes, styles and techniques, and placing special emphasis on those works that explore artistic avenues in dialogue with other disciplines, and that use animation in a particularly creative manner.

In this call, the principles of advertising, concurrency, equality, non-discrimination and transparency will be observed.

The purpose of this call for entries is the selection by the jury of the Best International Short Film among those submitted for competition at ANIMARIO 2026. The jury will select the Best Short Film Award (endowed €5,000) and they may also award a Special Mention, which carries no monetary award.

3. SECTION AND ANNOUNCED AWARD

INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION

Open to all animation films, of whatsoever nationality, that have a duration of less than 30 minutes and that creatively work any form of animation.

The films will be eligible for the following awards:

- Best Short Film Award, endowed with €5,000

- Jury Special Mention, with no monetary award..

4. REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

- Any producer and/or director, any natural or legal person, over 18 years old, who hold the rights to the works and have previously undergone the selection process, may participate.
- All the works which are submitted to the competitive sections must have been completed after January 2025.
- The works must not have been released in the Community of Madrid (a première in Madrid is essential), although works that have participated in online festivals in a limited form will be admitted. Films that have been made publicly available online, outside the context of a film festival, are not eligible. Under no circumstances may submitted films have been broadcast on television.
- The works will be presented in their original language. In the event of a version other than Spanish, a subtitled version in Spanish or English must be sent.
- Works produced using any animation technique will be admitted.
- As an exception, the Festival will accept films that are in an advanced editing (rough cut) process. The selection committee may request the most up-to-date version of the work before making a final decision

5. REGISTRATION PROCESS

- The deadline for film submissions is 13 September 2026 at 23:59 (CET).
- Projects may apply by filling in the [online form](#) available on the Cineteca Madrid and Matadero Madrid websites.
- DVD or other physical formats will not be accepted.

6. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SELECTED FILMS

- The deadline for the delivery of screening copies of the selected films and all promotional materials is 6 November 2026.
- The Festival will only accept high-definition digital screening formats (H.264 files or unencrypted DCPs) delivered via digital transfer. Physical media will not be accepted.
- All films selected for the Competition must submit a screening copy with Spanish and/or English subtitles if neither of these is the original language of the film, together with a dialogue list in Spanish or English.
- The submission of an H.264 backup copy with identical subtitles is strongly recommended.
- Selected participants must also provide a downloadable digital file or download link containing a 30- or 60-second excerpt of their film (hereinafter, the "Excerpts") for promotional purposes.

- Participants authorize the Festival to use such film excerpts for dissemination through any media for the purpose of promoting the Festival. Likewise, the Festival may use photographs and audiovisual materials of the films and their directors to promote the Festival or the cultural activities of Madrid Destino, as well as for the production of the Festival catalogue, provided that such materials are not used for commercial purposes. This license to reproduce, communicate and make such materials available to the public is granted for the maximum term permitted under applicable copyright law, until the works enter the public domain, and for all media, formats and territories. The submission of an Excerpt shall constitute acceptance of all of these conditions.
- The Festival management will notify the rights holders or their representatives of any technical issues detected in the digital files. The Festival reserves the right to reject any screening copy that, following inspection by the Festival's Technical Department, is deemed unsuitable for exhibition.
- The winner of the competition will be announced at the closing ceremony of ANIMARIO (13 December 2026) and published on the Cineteca Madrid and Matadero Madrid websites.

7. SELECTION PROCEDURE

- A Selection Committee, composed of four professionals and experts, will carry out the viewing and evaluation of all the works submitted.
- The artistic director of Cineteca Madrid will propose the Selection Committee members.
- The Selection Committee will be responsible for deciding which films are to form part of the International Competition.
- Those persons with interests in the production and/or commercialization of the works submitted to the present contest will be able to comprise the Selection Committee.
- The Selection Committee's deliberations will be confidential and their agreements adopted by a simple majority.
- At the end of the selection process, the festival will notify its decision by email to those selected. Once their participation has been confirmed, the festival will publish the list of selected films on the web pages of Matadero Madrid and Cineteca Madrid.
- Once a film has been included and referenced in the programme, it may not be unilaterally withdrawn from the program.
- The festival will not pay screening fees for the selected works.

8. COMPOSITION AND PERFORMANCE OF THE JURY

The Festival Director shall propose the members of the Jury from among professionals in the fields of film, the arts and culture, and/or members of the staff of Madrid Destino.

The Jury shall consist of three members. Jury meetings and deliberations shall be held in person or, exceptionally, where circumstances so require, by remote means.

The members of the Jury shall be appointed by the Contracting Authority of Madrid Destino.

The Jury shall be governed by the applicable internal regulations. In all matters not expressly provided for therein, it shall be subject to the provisions governing collegiate bodies set out in Law 40/2015 of 1 October on the Legal Regime of the Public Sector.

Following due deliberation, the Jury shall reach its decision by unanimous agreement of all its members.

The Prize may not be declared void.

The Jury may not award the Prize ex aequo.

A Secretary, who shall have the right to speak but not to vote, shall accompany the Jury throughout the deliberation process. The Secretary shall hold a degree in Law, be a member of the staff of Madrid Destino, act in accordance with the applicable legislation referred to above, and shall draw up the minutes of the deliberations. The minutes, which shall include the grounds for the Jury's decision, shall be signed by all members of the Jury and shall record the name of the winning project.

The decisions of the Jury shall be final and not subject to appeal.

The participation of Jury members who are not employees of Madrid Destino shall be unpaid. Madrid Destino shall cover the travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses of those Jury members travelling from outside the city of Madrid.

Evaluation criteria

The short films in competition shall be evaluated by the Jury on the basis of the following criteria:

- Technical and thematic merit.
- Works that explore artistic approaches in dialogue with other disciplines or that employ animation in a particularly creative and artistic manner.
- Innovation and originality.

9. GRANTING OF AWARDS

Once the Jury has been duly convened, it shall issue its decision, which shall be recorded in the corresponding minutes. The proposed award recipient shall be notified accordingly and shall have a maximum period of thirty (30) calendar days from the day following receipt of such notification to communicate acceptance of the proposed Prize and submit the documentation required under these Rules.

The final award of the Prize shall be subject to the selected participant's compliance with all applicable legal requirements and the conditions set out in this Call for Entries, including the submission of the documentation specified herein. Fulfilment of all such requirements shall be a prerequisite for the granting of the Prize.

If awarded the Prize, the recipient shall submit the following documentation within thirty (30) calendar days.

Where the Prize recipient is a natural person, the following documentation shall be provided:

1. A declaration of acceptance of the Prize.
2. A valid National Identity Card (DNI), passport or equivalent identification document of the Prize recipient(s).
3. Where applicable, proof of representation (notarial power of attorney or equivalent document).
4. A certificate issued by the relevant registry or competent authority confirming that the Prize recipient(s) hold the rights to the awarded film.
5. A bank account ownership certificate.
6. An official tax residency certificate for recipients who are not tax residents in Spain. Participants whose tax residence is outside Spain must provide a tax residency certificate issued by the competent authorities of their country of residence, provided that a bilateral tax treaty exists between that country and Spain, together with a sworn statement confirming that they have fulfilled any tax and social security obligations owed to the Spanish authorities, where applicable. Otherwise, the corresponding withholding tax applicable to non-residents shall be applied.
7. A sworn statement declaring that the recipient is not subject to any of the grounds for exclusion set out in Article 71 of Law 9/2017 of 8 November on Public Sector Contracts and, in the case of Spanish films, that all tax obligations with the Spanish State Tax Administration Agency (AEAT) and social security obligations with the General Treasury of the Social Security have been duly fulfilled.
8. Bank account details for payment by bank transfer.

Where the Prize recipient is a legal entity, the following documents shall also be submitted in addition to those listed above:

9. A copy of the deed of incorporation of the entity or an equivalent document issued in its country of origin.
10. A copy of the power of attorney or document appointing the authorised signatory, or an equivalent document issued in the country of origin.
11. The legal entity's Tax Identification Number (CIF) or the equivalent identification document issued in its country of origin.

Upon expiry of the thirty (30) calendar-day period following acceptance of the Prize, and once all the required documentation has been duly submitted, Madrid Destino shall process the formal award of the Prize and notify the recipient(s).

10. PRIZE PAYMENT PROCEDURE

The cash Prize established in the ANIMARIO 2026 Rules and Regulations shall be awarded to the director, production company or distributor that submitted the film to the Festival.

The Prize shall be paid by Madrid Destino, in accordance with its payment procedures, upon submission of an invoice and by bank transfer to the account designated by the Prize recipient. The amount of the Prize shall be subject to any applicable taxes and withholding obligations in accordance with the legislation in force.

11. SCREENING AT THE FESTIVAL

The Festival management shall determine the screening schedule and order of all selected films and reserves the right to screen them at Cineteca Madrid during the Festival dates, in accordance with the Festival programme.

12. PRIVACY NOTICE ON THE PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

Madrid Destino Cultura Turismo y Negocio, S.A., holder of Corporate Tax Code (CIF) A-84073105 and with registered office at Conde Duque 9- 11, (C.P. 28015) Madrid, pursuant to prevailing legislation governing personal data protection, hereby informs data subjects that the data furnished will be included in a personal data file with the following information:

Data controller: Madrid Destino Cultura Turismo y Negocio, S.A. (hereinafter, Madrid Destino), with Tax ID (CIF) no. A-84073105 and with registered address in Madrid, Calle Conde Duque 9- 11, C.P. 28015.

Data Protection Officer: dpd@madrid-destino.com.

Purposes: To process applications submitted to the 9th Madrid International Contemporary Animation Festival – ANIMARIO 2026 for the purposes of reviewing, evaluating and selecting finalists and Prize recipients (including the administration of the corresponding records and compliance with tax, invoicing, transparency and audit obligations), as well as publishing the names of the Prize recipients on the Cineteca Madrid and Matadero Madrid websites and on their respective official social media accounts.

Retention period: Personal data will be retained only for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes for which they were collected, unless the data subject requests their erasure, in which case the data will be retained until such request is made.

Recipients: The personal data of the participants in this call will not be transferred to any type of organization, neither public nor private, with the exception of the Tax Agency and other public administrations, for the fulfillment of obligations of transparency and control, tax, as well as financial institutions for the management of collections and payments and judicial authorities.

Lawful basis: Consent of the data subject.

Rights: Exercise of rights to access, rectification, erasure, data portability and restriction on processing or objection may be exercised by sending an email to dpd@madrid-destino.com, with the subject "CINETECA/ANIMARIO". The person making the request must identify themselves using their official ID document. You may also file a complaint with the Spanish Data Protection Agency (AEPD).

13. IMAGE RIGHTS OF PARTICIPANTS

Participants acknowledge that they may appear in photographs, video recordings or other audiovisual materials captured during the Festival for the purposes of informing about and promoting the activities of Madrid Destino, and hereby authorize such promotional use.

Participants also consent to the use of their image in catalogues, magazines and other publications or materials documenting the activities of Matadero Madrid.

This authorization is granted subject to the limitations established by applicable legislation protecting the rights to honour, personal and family privacy, and one's own image, including Organic Law 1/1982 of 5 May on the Civil Protection of the Right to Honour, Personal and Family Privacy and One's Own Image. Any use beyond the scope expressly authorized herein is excluded from this authorization.

14. ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS

The submission of the duly completed and signed application form constitutes the applicant's confirmation of participation in this Call for Entries and implies full acceptance of these Rules and Regulations by the participant.

Participation in this competition also entails acceptance of these Rules and Regulations in their entirety, as well as the grant to the Festival of the non-exclusive right to exhibit the submitted films during the Festival.

Failure to comply with any of the requirements set out in this Call for Entries shall result in the participant's disqualification.

In the event of any doubt or dispute regarding the interpretation of these Rules and Regulations, the Festival Organization shall interpret them in accordance with the spirit and purpose of the competition.

Any matter not expressly provided for in these Rules and Regulations shall be decided by Madrid Destino upon proposal of the Festival Director.

These Rules and Regulations shall remain available on the websites through which the Festival is promoted for the entire duration of the Call for Entries.

15. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any dispute or controversy arising from this Call for Entries shall first be submitted in writing to Madrid Destino with the aim of reaching an amicable settlement between the parties.

Should no amicable settlement be reached, the parties expressly waive any other jurisdiction to which they may be entitled and submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of Madrid, Spain.

In Madrid