

# 2023 Mosquers Submission Guidelines

## Festival Overview

The Mosquers Film Festival (Film Festival) is a short film competition that aims to educate, entertain, and build bridges by showcasing talent and the diverse Muslim experience. The Mosquers Film Festival Foundation (The Mosquers) was formed in 2006 to create a long-term proactive plan to counter media stereotypes of Muslims and the Islamic faith. Since then The Mosquers has become a recognizable organization in Canada and continues to attract increasing interest internationally. The evening is comprised of a red-carpet ceremony, screening of the short film finalists, feature entertainment, and the awards presentation. The evening ends off with a mixer where attendees and participants have a chance to network in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere.

## Entry Deadline – August 1, 2023

To submit your film, **submit online at [www.themosquers.com/submit](http://www.themosquers.com/submit) or at [filmfreeway](mailto:ijlal@themosquers.com) (no entry fee)**. If there are any further questions, please email [ijlal@themosquers.com](mailto:ijlal@themosquers.com).

## Awards and Selection Process

### **Best Picture (\$4000 CAD)**

Bringing the vision and mission of the Mosquers to life, this film utilizes all facets of the medium – narrative, cinematography, editing, sound, etc. – to build a work that promotes conversations and showcases the skills and talents of those involved.

### **Best in Technical Quality (\$1000 CAD)**

The film that best exemplifies the use of the technical aspects of filmmaking – from carefully designed cinematography and set design to meticulously executed sounds and scores, this film represents the high calibre skill required to make a film look and sound alive.

### **Best Performance (\$1000 CAD)**

Best performance by an actor or actress in an acting role.

### **People's Choice Award (\$1000 CAD)**

Chosen by a live text-to-vote audience poll.

### **Best Local Picture (\$2000 CAD)**

Entries will be judged according to the same criteria as for the Best Picture award. Only entries submitted by filmmakers residing in Alberta will be considered for this award.

## Submission Criteria

The Mosquers accepts films from any genre: live action, animation, comedy, documentary, etc. Furthermore, the competition is open to applicants from all over the world. Submissions must seek to satisfy at least one of the following objectives:

**Showcase talents of Muslim filmmakers:** Submissions may be about any topic as long as a member of the film making team identifies themselves as a Muslim.

**Showcase the Muslim experience:** We invite people of all faiths and opinions to submit to the Film Festival and showcase an experience with Muslims or Islam.

All films are eligible for consideration in the four main award categories as long as they meet one of the objectives outlined above and all conditions outlined within the Rules, Terms and Conditions. Only entries submitted by filmmakers residing in Alberta will be considered for the Best Local Picture award.

- Entries are not limited to one award
- The Mosquers reserves the right to add, remove or adjust award categories without notice.
- All eligible entries will be viewed prior to the Film Festival by a selection committee, headed by the Chair and Submissions Director. Finalists chosen by this committee will be screened at the Film Festival and adjudicated by a jury for award in one of the categories above. Entries will be selected based on how closely they meet the Mosquers mission statement.
- The selection committee reserves the right to not have a film screened and presented to the jury for adjudication. Its decisions will be final, and no correspondence or discussion will be entered into regarding the selection process or any outcomes reached.
- Successful applicants will be given the chance to make edits required by the selection committee, Chair and Submissions director prior to screening at the Film Festival.
- Winners will be announced at the Film Festival.
- Awards may be presented to any designated representative for the submission.
- The jury reserves the right to not present an award. Its decisions will be final, and no correspondence or discussion will be entered into regarding the judging process or any outcomes reached.
- The selection committee and judges are expressly excluded from acting, narrating, directing, writing, editing, or in any other direct manner contributing to a submission.

## The Mosquers Film Festival Rules, Terms and Conditions

- Films that have been released theatrically, publicly uploaded, or screened in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada prior to the Film Festival are not eligible for submission.
- Films completed prior to August 15th, 2020 are not eligible for submission.
- The duration of the film submitted must be between 3 and 20 minutes.
- The film must be presented in English; any other languages must have hardcoded English subtitles.
- Films must not exceed the Motion Picture Association of America's film rating of PG-13
- All films deemed objectionable will be disqualified. Objectionable material includes any material that promotes hate, is demeaning or derogatory, uses abusive or inappropriate language, or is unduly violent or sexual in nature. Determination of objectionable material remains within the sole discretion of The Mosquers.
- The Mosquers reserves the right to disqualify submissions at any time prior to the Film Festival.
- Successful applicants will be requested to provide trailers, video acceptance speeches, or other promotional material required for the Film Festival. If applicants are not responsive or cooperative in this process The Mosquers may decide to disqualify the film.

## Technical

- While all possible care will be taken in handling entries, The Mosquers will not assume any responsibility for loss or damage to submissions, therefore The Mosquers recommends that applicants submit a copy of their work.
- Acceptable formats are: 4K/1080p/1080i/720p, 23.97/24/30 FPS, High Quality Audio – Please contact our Submissions Director for information with capturing quality audio as this is a crucial component in your film.  
\*Permission is needed in advance if your format differs from the above formats.
- The presentation of any of the submissions at the Film Festival, including the time and manner, remains the exclusive decision of The Mosquers. The Applicant grants The Mosquers and its successors, licensees, and assigns the right to copy and version the entry in its entirety to facilitate technical operations of the Film Festival, in and through any and all media formats now known or hereafter devised.

## Indemnity, Grant of Rights and Waiver

- By submitting a film to the Film Festival, the Applicant grants The Mosquers the right to use the film as outlined in this form
- The Applicant agrees to hold The Mosquers harmless against any and all claims by third parties. The Applicant further agrees to indemnify The Mosquers for any loss, damage or expense incurred as a result of claims made by third parties in relation to their submission or participation in the Film Festival.
- It is the sole responsibility of the Applicant to secure authorization and permission from the copyright owner(s) of any and all copyrighted content or materials included within the submitted film. Any audio, images and film used from 3rd party sources must obtain copyright permission. Proof of copyright must be submitted with your film. Credits need to be given at the end of the film to relevant sources. Any copyright liabilities will be the responsibility of the Applicant.
- Failing to adhere to this rule will result in disqualification.
- The Applicant grants The Mosquers and its successors licenses and assigns the right to use up to one minute from the entry AND accompanying photos and trailers submitted to the Film Festival for promotional purposes.
- By submitting a film, applicants agree to taking responsibility for the content and creation of their submission, as well as having read and be bound by all elements within this package.
- The Mosquers reserves the right to amend the above rules upon reasonable notice.

Interpretation of these Rules, along with all terms and conditions agreed to between The Mosquers and applicants in the Film Festival, will be made in accordance with the governing laws of Alberta.