

NFFTY EDUCATOR GUIDE

Film Submission and Festival Planning Information

Thanks for your interest in NFFTY 2024! NFFTY is the world's largest and most influential film festival for emerging filmmakers ages 24 and under. Now entering its 17th year, the festival offers a jam-packed four days filled with films, great speakers, parties and more. We've put together a little guide to help introduce teachers to NFFTY!



A great place to start is to follow NFFTY on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) or [TikTok](#) for updates about the festival!

GENERAL FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Dates: April 25th - April 28th, 2024 | In person

Location: Seattle, Washington **Online:** April 25th - May 5th, 2024

The 17th NFFTY will kick off with an Opening Night screening on Thursday evening, April 25, followed by a gala after-party. The festival runs through Sunday evening, April 28th, concluding in an Awards Ceremony. In addition to screenings, there will also be networking events, panel discussions, a Masterclass, parties, workshops, and more!

SUBMITTING FILMS & SCREENPLAYS

Film Submissions: All films must be submitted through [FilmFreeway](#). **Screenplay**

Submissions: All screenplays must be submitted here for our *Story Starts Here* competition: <https://www.nffty.org/storystartshere>

Ages: We accept projects made by directors 24 years and younger. We have had filmmakers and screenplay writers participate as young as 5 years old and as old as 24. We make sure to make room for a variety of ages, and certain awards are limited by age and/or student status.

Genres: We accept short films under 40 minutes, including narrative, documentary, experimental, animation, music videos and screenplays. Our episodic competition category returns for a third year!

Not Accepted: We do not accept trailers or PSAs.

Educators May Submit: Teachers may submit films on behalf of their students.

Educator Discount: Teachers may receive 20% off film submissions when submitting three or more films. Please contact info@nffty.org to receive a unique discount code.

Deadlines:

Early Deadline: \$30 | November 30, 2023

Mid Deadline: \$40 | December 21, 2023

Regular Deadline: \$50 | January 11, 2024

Final Deadline: \$60 | February 2, 2024



“ NFFTY is Sundance for young filmmakers. ”

-Bunee Tomlinson, NFFTY filmmaker

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Notifications: All students who submit work will be notified on March 1st, 2024. All filmmakers accepted will receive **one** All-Access Filmmaker Pass per film, and additional filmmaker passes will be available for purchase.

ATTENDING NFFTY

WHY TAKE YOUR CLASS TO NFFTY?

“ While Sundance and other film festivals have a program for youth, NFFTY is entirely designed with the young filmmaker in mind. Filmmaking is, by necessity, a collaborative art form, so building a network is a critical first step for every young filmmaker. NFFTY gives youth the opportunity to learn from industry professionals and each other as they meet other young filmmakers from all over the world.... We routinely travel out of state to visit college programs, tour the industry, or attend film festivals. If NFFTY was on another continent, the trip would be worth it.

- Matt Lawrence, Film & Media Teacher, Ballard High School

NFFTY EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

Whether or not your students have a film screening at NFFTY, student group field trips are highly encouraged due to the educational experience that the festival can provide. Every year we bring out industry professionals that connect with and speak to students and festival-goers, and we're increasing these offerings every year. In past years, we have had exceptional speakers such as Rayka Zehtabchi, Academy-award winning director of *Period. End of Sentence.*, Sev Ohanian, producer of *Fruitville Station* and *Searching*, Carlos Lopez Estrada, director of *Blindspotting* and Disney's *Raya and the Last Dragon*, and many other notable industry professionals!



We're always looking to provide exciting and relevant programming that challenges young filmmakers to take their work to new heights. In the past this has included feedback sessions and live table reads for scripts in competition, hands-on bootcamps with VR/360 technology, and works-in-progress screenings with live industry feedback. Please keep an eye out for similar offerings at future festivals, pop-ups, summits, and other programs and events!

Fridays and Saturdays are generally filled with screenings and panel discussions/workshops by industry professionals.

*Each screening event at NFFTY is followed by a panel discussion/Q&A session with all filmmakers in attendance. **About 80% of our filmmakers travel to NFFTY each year**, which makes a strong presence at these discussions!*

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TICKET PRICING

We offer exceptional pricing for groups of 10 or more at NFFTY! Passes will go on sale in early 2024, with individual tickets on sale closer to the festival. It is highly suggested that passes and tickets are purchased before traveling to the festival, as most of the festival events and screenings tend to sell out.

MORE INFORMATION

IMPORTANT LINKS

- NFFTY website: www.nffty.org
- Film Submissions: <https://filmfreeway.com/NFFTY>
- Official Rules & Guidelines for submitting: <http://www.nffty.org/official-rules-guidelines>
- Frequently Asked Questions about submitting: <http://www.nffty.org/frequently-asked-questions>

CLASSROOM VISITS

OCTOBER - DECEMBER, 2023: We are available to come talk to your students in-person or virtually about opportunities coming up, including any contests/competitions that NFFTY is hosting (which often provide cash and/or equipment prizes for your program!), and ways to get involved with the festival (including programming and/or marketing for the festival as an intern). We are also happy to show some "Best of NFFTY" films and talk about what it takes to make a NFFTY level film, as we accept submissions through the end of the year and into early January, 2024.

MARCH - APRIL, 2024: If you are interested in a classroom presentation for your students, the NFFTY team schedules visits about the upcoming line-up, what to expect, networking suggestions and more. We are able to visit local classrooms (in the Seattle, NYC and Atlanta area) in person, but we also schedule presentations via video call for our out-of-town schools and anyone else who prefers it!

Contact us to schedule a visit. We show previews of films and can even schedule a NFFTY filmmaker to chat with a classroom about their experience.

info@nffty.org