



2026 International Short Film Exchange

Rock The Boat Film Festival (Australia) and Yellowstone International Film Festival (India)

Terms & Conditions

Rock The Boat Film Festival (Australia) is committed to showcasing bold, independent voices from Western Australia, with a particular focus on impactful storytelling and championing emerging filmmakers. Yellowstone International Film Festival (India) is recognised for celebrating diverse global cinema, spotlighting innovative films and documentaries that inspire and connect audiences. These two independent film festivals have come together to present the International Short Film Exchange.

Filmmakers submitting their projects to Rock The Boat Film Festival who indicate “Yes” to being considered for the International Short Film Exchange will agree to the following terms:

1. Eligibility

- This opportunity is open to filmmakers who submit a short film or documentary to one of Rock The Boat Film Festival's four categories in 2026, who agree to adhere to festival eligibility criteria and category rules (e.g. Open Short Film entries must have a maximum runtime of 13 minutes, including credits)

2. Expression of Interest

- Filmmakers must opt in via the official festival submission form on Rock The Boat Film Festival's *FilmFreeway* website and, when prompted, provide a short written response (50 words or less) outlining what the International Short Film Exchange opportunity would mean to them.
- Opting in does not guarantee selection. Only three projects selected by the Rock The Boat Film Festival team will be chosen for screening at Yellowstone International Film Festival in India.

3. Selection Process

- Each festival will select up to three (3) films from its submissions to be shared with the partner festival.
- Final selections will be made by the respective festival teams (not judging panels). Selection will be based on a combination of factors, including artistic merit, storytelling originality, the potential to engage diverse audiences, and the filmmaker's response (50 words or less). All selected films are subject to review and approval by the partner festival to ensure suitability for their audience and programming.

4. Screening Details

- Selected films from Yellowstone International Film Festival (India) will be screened at the Rock The Boat Film Festival (Australia) from 12 September to 24 October 2026.
- Selected films from Rock The Boat Film Festival (Australia) will be screened at the Yellowstone International Film Festival (India) from 14 to 20 November 2026.
- Screening format, session placement, and scheduling will be at the host festival's discretion.

5. Subtitles

- Films must include **English subtitles** when requested, to ensure accessibility for international audiences.





6. Rights & Permissions

- By opting in, filmmakers grant Rock The Boat Film Festival permission for their film to be screened at Yellowstone International Film Festival. This includes permission for associated festival promotion.
- Filmmakers must hold all necessary rights, licences, and clearances for public screening of their work.

7. Materials Required

- Selected filmmakers may be required to provide a high-quality screening file and supporting materials (including stills, synopsis, and promotional assets) within specified deadlines. If your project is selected for this exchange program, Rock The Boat Film Festival will communicate with you which materials, if any, will be required to provide to Yellowstone International Film Festival.
- Failure to provide materials on time may result in withdrawal from the exchange program.

8. Communication

- Selected filmmakers will be announced at RTBFF's annual red carpet, black tie Awards Night in October.
- Both festivals may promote selected films across their marketing channels, including social media, websites, and press. In addition, selected filmmakers may be invited to participate in press releases, interviews, media briefings, or related festival media events. Media representatives interested in engaging with the program may arrange interviews or receive updates through official festival contacts.

9. No Monetary Exchange

- Being selected for the International Short Film Exchange will not result in any prize or payment; this is strictly an opportunity to have filmmakers' projects be screened internationally.
- Neither Rock The Boat Film Festival nor Yellowstone International Film Festival are responsible for any related costs or expenses incurred by filmmakers during the production or selection process.

10. Travel and Attendance

- Filmmakers, cast, or crew whose projects are selected are optionally welcome to attend the screenings at the partner festival, in which case their attendance will be acknowledged; however, all travel, accommodation, visas, and related costs are the sole responsibility of the attending individuals.

11. General

- Both festivals reserve the right to make necessary changes to their programs or schedules.
- Agreeing to these Terms & Conditions to participate in this initiative implies accepting Rock The Boat Film Festival's Rules & Terms as listed on their *FilmFreeway* page under 2026 Terms & Conditions.

We are excited to offer this opportunity to connect filmmakers across Australia and India, and to share stories with new audiences around the world. The International Short Film Exchange will showcase a diverse selection of films that illuminate global perspectives, human resilience, and authentic voices from each region. By encouraging filmmakers to explore both universal and uniquely local stories, the program aims to foster greater understanding and inspire audiences through innovation and creativity.

We look forward to seeing your submissions!

