

# LUMEN

RIO DE JANEIRO INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL

## **INTRO**

Lumen – Rio de Janeiro Independent Film Festival will take place in Rio de Janeiro from November 6 to 14, with a traveling edition in Brasília from December 3 to 6; admission is free for all audiences in both cities. The festival will take place in historic venues in both cities, such as the MAM Cinematheque, the Banco do Brasil Cultural Center, Estação Net Rio, and other venues to be confirmed. The festival features two competitive programs—one national and one international—as well as special screenings and retrospectives.

## **AWARDS**

The festival will offer post-production grants and equipment for future productions by the winning directors, provided by Visom Digital, Mistika, and NayMovie. In addition, the festival will award the Lumen trophy. The festival reserves the right to select a limited number of films for the competitive sections. Selected films will be added to the Amathus streaming platform upon the filmmaker's authorization. Brazilian films in competition will be available on the Festival Scope Pro platform upon the filmmaker's or distributor's authorization as a way to expand their reach at other festivals. Foreign films already registered on the platform that are selected for Lumen will be featured on the event's page on Festival Scope Pro. The awards will be chosen by juries formed by the festival; the critics' award will be selected by film critics from Abraccine—the Brazilian Association of Film Critics (affiliated with FIPRESCI).

## **SUBMISSIONS**

All submissions must be made online via the Filmfreeway platform. Emails or messages containing links will not be considered. The submission fee will go toward the production of this non-profit event. Submitting your film to this year's Lumen contributes to the production of the next edition in 2027. The festival will accept feature-length, medium-length, and short films from all countries released on or after January 1, 2024. Any film submitted with a release date prior to this date will be disregarded. Proposals for retrospectives must include a note in the submission. There are no runtime limits for submitted films. For the screening of foreign-language films, the film must have English subtitles, and the provided link must remain active until the end of the selection process, with the password kept up to date. There is no premiere requirement for Lumen, though films making their debut in Rio de Janeiro or Brazil are prioritized. The festival may move the selection results forward or backward by a few days depending on the volume of material and workload; the festival will not refund the registration fee regardless of whether your film is selected or not; films that submit an incomplete cut or only a trailer will be disqualified; provisional cuts of films will be accepted provided the festival's deadline for submitting the final copy is met in the event of selection. The festival reserves the right to determine the number of screenings the film will have, ranging from a minimum of one (1) to a maximum of three (3), with at least one in Rio de Janeiro. Submissions without files will be checked during the process, but the production team will not contact the submitter. The festival reserves the right, at this time, not to invite any selected international filmmaker to present their film in person due to financial constraints. Filmmakers interested in coming to the city to present their film must notify us in advance so we can organize a discussion and potential promotional activities for the film. If we are not notified in advance, the festival does not commit to any activities involving the filmmaker.

## **WAIVERS**

The festival reserves the right to grant fee waivers only in specific cases. If you believe your case falls into this category, please contact us via the email address provided on the website. However, due to the potentially high volume of emails, we cannot guarantee a response to your request.

## **MATERIAL AND PROMOTION**

If selected, the festival will request the complete film material for our website, social media, and event catalog. The festival will request the subtitle file in .srt format for translation into Portuguese, and submission of these files by the deadline is mandatory; failure to do so may result in disqualification. This also applies to the screening file. We will accept submissions via links in DCP,

MOV, or H264 formats without subtitles so that Portuguese subtitles can be burned into the file or displayed as electronic subtitles. Hard drives will not be accepted. If selected, the festival may use stills and a short clip of a few seconds from the film or a trailer to create the event's EPK and send it to the press. The festival will not share film links with critics and journalists interested in covering the event. Submissions must be made directly between the press and the production team of the selected film. In the event of selection, the festival will send the official awards for free use in the film's promotional materials. For any changes to event materials such as synopses, awards, or film information, please contact the event's production team.

## **SCREENINGS**

The festival reserves the right to schedule the films in accordance with the programming proposal stipulated by the production team. Venues and times will be determined by the festival program team and are subject to change without prior notice, either before or during the event. In the event of an additional screening, the production team will contact the filmmaker to request authorization. After the screening, the festival will not archive the film or make it available to third parties. Lumen does not have an online version, and any online activity or screening is not part of the festival's scope of production. To reserve tickets for guests, please contact the production team in advance. Submitted films may be selected for competitive or parallel sections in accordance with the curatorial guidelines.

## **FAQ**

### **Will the festival own the rights to my film during the event dates?**

No. Our mission is to promote the work, not to own anyone's work.

### **Is the festival competitive?**

Yes, the best national and international short and feature films selected by the jury will receive awards and certificates.

### **When will the results of the submissions be announced?**

By the date specified on our official Filmfreeway page.

### **Do you accept children's films?**

We will not be holding screenings for children, however, if a film aligns with the festival's mission, it will be considered.

### **Will you be screening video art or installations this year?**

No.

**Do you plan to screen films in public spaces?**

No.

**My film is experimental and low-budget. Do I have a chance of being selected?**

Of course! Send it in!

**LUMEN – RIO DE JANEIRO INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**

By submitting to Lumen – Rio de Janeiro Independent Film Festival, I confirm that I have read and accept the festival's terms and regulations. I will provide the festival with any additional information required in accordance with these rules and regulations. I authorize the festival to screen my film and, if selected, confirm that a screening copy will be available in the format required for screening during the 2026 festival. I certify that I hold all necessary rights to submit this film to Lumen – Rio de Janeiro Independent Film Festival and that all rights and authorizations have been duly obtained. This film is not subject to any legal action nor is it threatened by any litigation. I release Lumen – Rio de Janeiro Independent Film Festival from any damage or loss of materials and assume all legal liability in this regard. By accepting these terms, I transfer to Lumen – Rio de Janeiro Independent Film Festival the right to use excerpts from the submitted film, its images, and trailers for the purposes of promoting and marketing the film at the festival and for other non-commercial uses related to the promotion of the 2026 festival. I agree to indemnify Lumen – Rio de Janeiro Independent Film Festival should such rights not have been duly transferred."