

MystiCon

3735 Franklin Road, SW
Suite 228
Roanoke, VA 24014

Feb 24-26, 2012 - Holiday Inn Tanglewood, Roanoke VA

MYSTICON INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL SCREENING INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

Thank you for your interest in MystiCon! Please be sure to read all of the following information. We want to show your work and make this a positive experience for all parties involved, so any questions regarding these rules and guidelines are welcome at any time.

1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

MystiCon invites and encourages independent filmmakers from any area to submit films to and participate in our independent filmmaking track. This track includes screenings of independent films, Q&A sessions with the filmmakers and film performers, and panel discussions of issues related to independent films and filmmaking. As a science fiction / fantasy / horror convention, our primary interest is in films with content related to those genres, but we will consider films whose content falls outside of those boundaries if, in the sole judgment of the MystiCon staff, such films might be of interest to our convention attendees. A request for a screening does not guarantee acceptance by the convention, but each such request is considered carefully based on our time constraints, appeal to our core audience, and other factors. Our preference is to allow as many independent films as possible to be shown.

MystiCon screens both short features and feature films. For our purposes a short feature is defined as a film of 50 minutes or less including titles and credits. A feature film is defined as any film running 51 or more minutes including titles and credits. We have no specific upper limit to the running time of a feature film, but titles of 120 minutes or less are easier to schedule and are therefore more likely to be accepted for screening.

MystiCon is a family friendly convention, and it is important to us that films be screened for appropriate audiences. We realize that it is often outside of the scope of small independent productions to receive an MPAA rating, but any questionable content should be brought to the attention of the MystiCon staff prior to the convention so we can schedule an appropriate time slot for your film and, if necessary, restrict minors from entering the screening. Our preference is

to have a screener copy for review prior to the convention, but exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis. If in doubt, contact our staff as soon as possible so we can plan appropriately. We regret that screeners cannot be returned.

2 – FAN FILMS

We define a “Fan Film” as a film based on an existing property such as a commercial feature film, television series, individual title or series of books or comic books, or any similar existing commercial property. Such films are created by fans rather than by the copyright holder(s) or creator(s) of the original property. Fan Films have become an increasing part of both the independent film scene and of genre fandom as a whole, and we are happy to exhibit and/or promote such features provided that they comply with the policies of the original creator(s) and copyright holder(s). In almost all cases such compliances include a clear statement of copyright included in the film’s credits and a commitment to strictly non-commercial distribution and exhibition. If your fan film is an exception to these common compliances we must have written documentation of permission from the copyright holder(s) before we can show your work. In every case, any request from the original creator(s) or copyright holder(s) to remove a fan film from our schedule will be honored without question.

3 – FEES, POLICIES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCES

Our intention with this programming track is to promote and encourage independent films and filmmakers and to offer an avenue for independent filmmakers to exhibit their work and meet and interact with their peers and audience. For this reason, there is no charge or fee of any kind involved for submitting or screening an independent film at MystiCon. Similarly, MystiCon is unable to pay fees of any sort for screening the work of independent filmmakers. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

All submissions must be in English and/or contain English subtitles for any significant non-English segments. Films will be projected from industry-standard North American DVD equipment. Submissions should be in NTSC DVD format (Region 1 or 0). Please send copies, as we cannot be responsible for any loss of or damage to any original materials sent to us.

All films **MUST** be accompanied by a signed certification statement as outlined below. If we don’t have such a statement in hand the screening cannot take place, no exceptions. This is a legal necessity that we cannot bypass.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:

I, the undersigned, acknowledge and agree:

1. I have read, understand and agree to fully comply with the rules and guidelines of MystiCon's independent film track. Anyone appearing at the convention in association with the film or screening further agrees to abide by the guidelines of behavior outlined in the convention's program book.
2. To the best of my knowledge, all of the statements in this document are true.
3. The film being presented is not subject to any litigation nor is threatened by any litigation.
4. I am the primary creator of this film and/or am duly authorized to submit the film to the convention for exhibition and discussion.
5. I hold MystiCon harmless from any damage to any copy or copies of the film en route or otherwise during the course of the convention's possession of the film.
6. I certify that I have full rights to all aspects of the film, including special effects and performances. In the case of a "Fan Film" (defined above) I certify that to the best of my knowledge and ability those aspects which are derivative of an existing work are in compliance with the stated policies of the original creator(s) and copyright holder(s) regarding such films.
7. I give permission for MystiCon to use stills, titles, copy and similar information for promotional use for the convention itself and for promotion of my film(s).
8. I give permission for MystiCon to screen the film during their convention. No fee is to be paid for such a screening by either party.

Signature

Title (Please Print)