



Mehr Festival

Short Film Section

The 2nd Mehr International Short Film Festival, organized by Mehromah House of Culture and Art in collaboration with Maad Film Company, will be held from September 26 to October 4, 2025 at the Mehromah House of Culture and Art in Dubai, UAE.

1. Festival Objectives

The 2nd edition of the Mehr International Short Film Festival aims to support independent and thoughtful short films, promote cultural cinema, discover new cinematic talents, and support borderless artists and filmmakers.

2. Festival Theme

Given the central role of motherhood in shaping family, culture, and identity, the theme for this edition of the festival is:

"Mother"

All submitted films should align with this theme.



3. Awards

- . **Best Narrative Short Film:** Certificate of Honor + \$300 cash prize
- . **Best Animated Short Film:** Certificate of Honor + \$300 cash prize
- . **Best Experimental Short Film:** Certificate of Honor + \$300 cash prize
- . **Best Documentary Short Film:** Certificate of Honor + \$300 cash prize
- . **Special Jury Award for Best Technical/Artistic Achievement:** Certificate of Honor + \$300 cash prize
- . **Grand Prize for Best Film of the Festival:** Certificate of Honor, Mehr Trophy, and a \$500 cash prize
- . **Special Talent Maad Award:** The Maad Emblem and a one-year specialized cinematography scholarship at Maad Film School, with an internationally recognized certificate, will be awarded to the best cinematographer of the festival.

4. Selection Process

The final selection of films will be announced by the festival director after being reviewed by the selection committee.

All films accepted into the competition section will receive a certificate of participation.

Once a film is selected for competition, withdrawal is not permitted.



5. Eligibility and Requirements

Open to short filmmakers from all countries with no age restrictions.

Maximum film duration: 15 minutes.

Accepted format: H.264, resolution 1920x1080, frame rate 24p or 25p.

All films must have burned-in English subtitles.

Two stills from the film and two behind-the-scenes images must be submitted for selected films.

A teaser/trailer (max 1 minute) in H.264 format with a maximum bitrate of 4 Mbps is required.

Films that do not meet technical standards will be disqualified.

6. Submission Deadline & Entry Fee

Submissions must be made online through the official festival website by August 16, 2025

Applicants are required to pay the designated entry fee as part of the registration process.



7. General Rules

Submission of the application form signifies acceptance of all festival rules.

Selected filmmakers will be invited as guests to attend the closing ceremony and award presentation.

Festival Dates: September 26 – October 4, 2025

Festival Location: Mehromah Arthouse, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

For more information, please contact the festival office via WhatsApp or official email:

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