



WE CHAMPION SHORT FILMMAKING

1317 F STREET NW, SUITE #920 \ WASHINGTON, DC 20004 \ 202-393-4266 \ DCSHORTS.COM

CONGRATULATIONS!

Out of 70+ scripts, we have selected your entry to be included in the 2017 DC Shorts Film Festival from September 7-17, 2017. Your script is one of 6 that will be read during the festival on Sept 15 at The Miracle Theatre in Washington, DC. You should be very proud!

**PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE PACKET!
IT INCLUDES EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THE
FESTIVAL!**

**AFTER READING, VISIT FESTIVAL.DCSHORTS.COM/WELCOME17
YOU NEED TO SIGN THE SCREENWRITER CONTRACT, RESERVE ACCOMMODATIONS
AND PASSES.**

**Please complete the contract by WEDNESDAY, JULY 19
or your script will be removed from programming.**

If you misplace any forms or want to see the latest information, visit dcshorts.com/welcome2017
We look forward to seeing you in September!

Joe and Jasmine
Programming Team
+1-202-393-4266 office
info@dcshorts.com

DEADLINES

Wed, July 19	Final day to Sign Screenwriter Contract Online Casting Information due	<i>See page 7</i> <i>See page 3</i>
Mon., July 31	Last day to approve your Festival Catalog listing and photo	<i>See page 6</i>

Wed., August 3	Last day to request Screenwriter Passes	See page 4
Mod., August 7	Final versions of screenplays due	See page 4
Fri. Sept 1	Last day to change names on Screenwriter Passes	See page 5

THE SCREENPLAY COMPETITION

The Award

DC Shorts will present \$1,000 to the winning screenwriter (awarded immediately after the festival weekend), plus a commitment of \$1,000 that will be awarded when the final cut of the film is received by the deadline for submission for DC Shorts 2016 (April 30, 2018). If submitted on time, the film will also have a guaranteed screening at the DC Shorts Film Festival 2018.

The final cut of the film must contain the final on-screen credit “Produced in Association with the DC Shorts Film Festival, dcshorts.com.” Representatives of DC Shorts/DC Film Alliance retain the right as a producer to act as a legal representative of the film to develop distribution and marketing deals, and has the ability to screen the film at DC Shorts or DC Film Alliance sponsored events. All prizes are subject to change and updates to the prize package will be posted online at dcshorts.com.

As per the original rules, the purpose of the competition and award money is to foster the creation and successful completion of an independent short film. All film/video shooting must take place after the award presentation. **If it is discovered that principal photography was begun before September 18, 2017, the screenplay will be disqualified from the competition. Restitution for associated expenses will be sought from the screenplay submitter.**

The winner will be determined by an open audience vote, with additional input by members of the Script Reviewer Committee. The decision of the Committee is final.

Schedule of Planned Events

Thursday, September 14 at 7 PM - There will be a cocktail/dinner reception at a location TBD for all the screenwriters as a chance to meet and relax.

Friday, September 15 from 10 AM to 12 PM - A casting call will be held for the live rehearsal at E Street Cinema at 555 11th Street NW

Friday, September 15 at 12 PM - The live rehearsal will take place at noon. We hope to have rehearsal space for you. If not you will need to find rehearsal space on your own. Past screenwriters have used coffee shops, parks and local public spaces.

Friday, September 15 at 7 PM - The DC Shorts Screenplay Competition Live Reading will occur at 7 PM. Following the last reading, ballots will be collected, counted and a winner will be announced, with a check for \$1,000 presented to the winner. A reception will

follow.

Final Versions of your Screenplay

Materials must be received no later than Friday, August 7th.

THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS DEADLINE.
Please email to info@dcshorts.com

Casting Your Reading

Materials must be received no later than Wednesday, July 19.

THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS DEADLINE.
Please email to info@dcshorts.com.

In order for us to help cast your screenplay reading, we will need a complete breakdown of your script. The breakdown is due by Wednesday July 19. If you need assistance with this, please email us at festival@dcshorts.com. The breakdown needs to include a list of characters and their descriptions. Make sure to indicate what you're looking for in a cast, such as each character's age, appearance, gender, height, etc. We will post casting notices around the DC/Baltimore region to our list of roughly 2000 actors, and will pass along headshots and resumes to you for review September 4th.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PRESCREEN AND INVITE ACTORS TO THE AUDITION ON SEPTEMBER 15. Please invite at least 3x more people than you will need. From past experience, one half of those you invite will not attend.

At the audition, each actor will perform a 90 second monologue. Following the last audition, the screenwriters will work together to cast all of the readings. Immediately following, two hours will be provided for rehearsal. If you would like the assistance of a stage or film director, please let us know. Additionally, if you have local actor friends or contacts you would like to bring to the audition, please let us know and provide their contact information.

The Reading Performance/Screenplay Competition.

Actors are asked to please wear black pants and shirts. This is to keep the playing field fair for everyone involved. Please do not wear costumes or jewelry, bring props, etc. to indicate character.

The order of the readings will be randomly assigned. Each group will move to the table to read, and the writer will be allowed to make a short introduction. The competition will be held at The Miracle Theatre at 535 8th Street SE, Washington, DC on Friday September 15th at 7pm.

FESTIVAL PASSES

REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

CHANGES MAY BE MADE UP UNTIL FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Every script accepted entitles you to two (2) Screenwriter Passes that allow entry into the all film screenings, parties and events. Tickets for the screenings will go on sale to the general public in mid-August. You will receive notice of when this happens, as well as the availability of All-Access Passes which your friends and family will be able to purchase.

TRANSPORTATION TO WASHINGTON, DC

We wish we could fly everyone to DC, but our budget does not allow us to do so. If you are traveling from NY, Boston, NC, NJ, PA, TN, or Ontario, we suggest taking the BoltBus or Megabus – both inexpensive and fast options.

If you are flying into Washington, DC, we recommend using Reagan National Airport (DCA); that allows you to get into the city by subway. Flights from Washington Dulles International (IAD) and Baltimore- Washington (BWI) might be cheaper, but the cost to get into the city will be close to \$50 each way by car service. At this time, DC Shorts does not provide transportation to/from area airports or train stations.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MEDIA COVERAGE

PLEASE DO NOT SEND UNSOLICITED PHOTOS, BIOS OR OTHER ITEMS.

Our Public Relations firm will contact you individually if press materials are needed. If you have questions or wish to speak about a specific story idea, please contact the team at media@dcshorts.com. In the past DCS has garnered amazing press, and has been featured in almost every publication in Washington, DC, as well as many national publications.

SIGNING THE ACCEPTANCE CONTRACT

PLEASE READ OVER CAREFULLY BEFORE FILLING OUT. The form contains important legal information about special programs for the festival weekend and the next year. If you have questions about any of these programs, please email us at info@dcsHORTS.com.

**THE CONTRACT MUST BE COMPLETED NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY JULY 19TH..
THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS DEADLINE.**

SIGN THE ONLINE CONTRACT AT: <http://festival.dcsHORTS.com/welcome2017>

If we do not receive the completed and signed form by July 19, we will assume that you do not wish to participate and your slot will be given to another screenplay.

We have adopted this formal contract to ensure that the information we receive from you is correct, to spell out the responsibilities of DC Shorts and screenwriters, and to protect each other in case of a dispute. Should you have questions about any of these items, please email us at info@dcsHORTS.com **BEFORE** you sign the Contract. ***This Contract is a legally binding contract.***

CONTRACT LANGUAGE

I understand that my script has been accepted into the 2017 DC Shorts Screenplay Competition. By accepting inclusion in the festival, I grant non-exclusive rights to perform the script during the festival September 7-17, 2017 in as many readings as required. In addition, DC Shorts has non-exclusive rights to repeat the showcases during the year at other theatrical venues for festival fundraising purposes only. All profits from ticket sales are property of DC Shorts.

I agree to attend DC Shorts from Thursday September 14 through Friday September 15, 2017. With the help of the DC Shorts staff, I will cast a live reading of my script from a bank of actors and directors. The live readings will be performed in front of an audience who will vote on their favorite and, along with the scores of the reviewers, will determine the competition winner.

DC Shorts will present \$1,000 to the winning screenwriter at the end of the competition, plus a commitment of \$1,000, which will be rewarded when the final cut of the film is received by the deadline, April 30, 2018, for submission for DC Shorts 2018. If submitted on time, the film will also be guaranteed to screen at the DC Shorts Film Festival 2018.

I acknowledge that the purpose of the competition and award money is to foster the creation and successful completion of an independent short film. All film/video shooting must take place after the award presentation on September 15, 2017. If it is discovered that principal photography was begun before this date, the screenplay will be disqualified from the competition. Restitution for associated expenses will be sought from the screenplay submitter.

The final cut of the film must contain the final on-screen credit "Produced in Association with the DC Shorts Film Festival, dcshorts.com." Representatives of DC Shorts/DC Film Alliance retain the right as a producer to act as a legal representative of the film to develop distribution and marketing deals, and has the ability to screen the film at DC Shorts or DC Film Alliance sponsored events. All prizes are subject to change and updates to the prize package will be posted online at dcshorts.com.

DC Shorts reserves the right to remove or reschedule a script from the Screenplay Competition for any reason or no reason and shall not be liable for any refund or claims of any kind arising out of such removal.

I have verified that my contact information is accurate and up-to-date. I understand that this information will be used for all future communication, and may be made available to media, other screenwriters, and Festival staff.