

Animatou Festival - 2020 Edition

Terms & Conditions of Participation

Since its founding in 2006, the Animatou Association has worked to promote Swiss and international animation cinema. The Association is active throughout the year and offers a wide range of events for all audiences, opening a window onto the wonders of this art form. The highlight of the Association's activities comes in the autumn with the International Animation Film Festival, which takes place from the first to the second weekend of October in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Animatou Festival film programme is made up of two parts.

- The competitive sections bring together animated shorts released in the preceding two calendar years. The films are selected by a committee of animation cinema professionals.
- Out-of-competition programmes include screenings dedicated to the country of honour, Swiss premieres, and other series, feature films, student films, and various carte blanche or thematic programmes.

1. COMPETITIVE SECTIONS AND AWARDS

Conditions for participation

- Only films officially released between **January 2019 and May 2020** are eligible for competitive programmes.
- Accepted screening formats: DCP and digital files (ProRes or H264 if no better format is available).
- Films with dialogue and/or on-screen text in a language other than French should be subtitled in French or English for screening. If the subtitles are not available, a time code and dialogue list in English or Italian should be provided for internal translation.
- For the sake of fairness, the Selection Committee is only allowed to pick a single film per director for each competitive section.
- Awards are given to the directors in person.

International Competition

Animated shorts of all origins, which are not classified as documentary or experimental.

*The **Animatou Main Award*** consists in a CHF 3,000 cash prize. It is given to the director of the short that receives the most votes from the International Jury, which is made up of arts and culture professionals.

Doc'Anim International Competition

Animated documentary shorts of all origins.

The **Animatou Doc'Anim Award** consists of a CHF 1,000 cash prize. It is given to the director of the short that receives the most votes from the Documentary Jury, which is made up of professionals who are actively involved in social, cultural, and environmental issues.

Labo International Competition

Experimental animated shorts of all origins.

The **Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève - Labo Award** consists in a CHF 1,000 cash prize. It is given to the director of the short that receives the most votes from the Labo Jury, which is made up of arts and culture professionals.

Swiss Competition

Swiss animated shorts.

Note on the Swiss origin: a film's official origin is determined by its production entity. For a film to qualify as Swiss and be eligible to participate in the Swiss Competition, Animatou only requires the director or one of the production entities be either Swiss or based in Switzerland. A film can therefore be submitted in the International Competition and selected for the Swiss Competition (see point 5 below), or selected for both the Swiss and the International competitions.

The **Swiss Award**, worth CHF 1,000, is given to the director of the short which gets the most votes from the audience.

The **Taurus Studio Award** consists in a two-day recording session at the Taurus studio in Geneva. It is given to the film that receives the most votes for Best Soundtrack (music & sound effects) from the Taurus Jury, which is made up of music and film professionals.

International Competition for Young Audiences

A selection of films for kids from the International Competition.

The **Young Audience Award**, worth CHF 1,000, is awarded based on a vote of audience members under the age of 14. Depending on the selection, the programme may be rated for a minimum age.

Caramel & Pistachio Competitions

These programmes consist of animated shorts for pre-schoolers. Depending on the selection, one or two programmes may be presented with different age recommendations (usually 3 and 5 years old). The **honorary Caramel Award** is given by vote of the kids attending day-care facilities in Geneva and Carouge. The **honorary Pistacchio Award** is given by vote of the kids present at the screening.

Competitions for Swiss Schools

Programmes dedicated to primary and secondary school kids in Canton Geneva, as well as higher education students from the whole of Switzerland.

Made up of films selected from the current edition on the basis of the various age groups, these screenings provide kids with an opportunity to express their opinions in a debate after the screening, and then voice their preference by voting for their favourite film.

The **honorary Swiss Schools Awards** are given to the film that receives the most votes in each age group.

HUG — Belle-Idée Competition

A programme of films selected from the current edition specifically for the audience (patients and visitors) of the Geneva University Hospital [Belle-Idée](#) Psychiatric Unit.

The **honorary Belle-Idée Award** is given out based on a vote of the audience present at the screening.

HUG — Teens Competition

A programme of films selected from the current edition specifically for the teenagers in the various services of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Division of the Geneva University Hospital.

The **honorary HUG — Teens Award** is voted on by teenagers from three hospital units ([Malatavie](#), [Salève](#) and [Hôpital de jour de la Médecine A2](#)) who are present at the private screening which takes place a few weeks before the Festival.

2. EAA 'EMILE' AWARDS

Animatou Festival has the great honour of being affiliated with the European Animation Awards, also known as the Emile Awards. All films selected to take part in Animatou's competitions are therefore eligible for the annual Emile Awards. For more information on [conditions for participation](#) please go to their website animationawards.eu.

3. SPECIAL PROGRAMME SHOWCASING THE YEAR'S AWARD-WINNING FILMS

Around the winter solstice, about two months after the end of the Festival, Animatou showcases all the award-winning films from that year's edition in a free, single screening session which takes place at [Spoutnik](#), a 70-seat independent cinema.

Entry and participation in the Animatou Festival's competitions implies acceptance of this point by the copyright holders.

4. OUT-OF-COMPETITION PROGRAMME: CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

This programme showcases animated feature films or shorts made for television or cinema, which may or may not be distributed in cinemas. The year of production is irrelevant. Accepted formats: DCP, Blu-ray, DVD and digital files. Subtitles in French or English are needed for films with dialogues or on-screen text in a language other than French.

5. USE OF FILM EXCERPTS FOR PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES

Participation implies consent to the use of sound and video extracts from the selected films (not exceeding 10% of each film's total running time) for promotional trailers broadcast on television, screened in the Festival movie theatres or on official sponsors' advertising screens (public transport companies such as [TPG](#) in Geneva and/or [CFE](#) in Switzerland, etc.).

6. FILM SUBMISSION AND SELECTION

All short films must be submitted online via the Short Film Depot platform **before 9th May 2020**. Please go to www.shortfilmdepot.com for instructions. The Selection Committee will meet during the month of May to vote on all submitted films. Those films that are included in the selection are then arranged into sections, which may also be split over several programmes, depending on the selection.

When applicable, a selection confirmation will be sent to the contact person via the platform by the end of July at the latest. No message will be sent if the film is unfortunately not selected. See point 7 regarding the upload of screening copies for short films.

7. UPLOAD, SHIPMENT AND RETURN OF SELECTED FILMS

Short films

The screening copies need to be uploaded in digital format (DCP, ProRes, or H264 if no other format is available) on the provided server at <http://pro.animatou.com>, as per the instructions received in the selection acknowledgement email.

Feature-length films

For feature films and special cases, please contact the Festival team. Upon agreement, DCP and Blu-ray should be shipped with a comment stating '*no commercial value, for cultural purpose only*'.

Shipping by post

Festival ANIMATOU
Matilda Tavelli & Lani Weber Schaer
CP 5524
1211 Genève 11
Switzerland

Shipping by private delivery service

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8. LIABILITY IN CASE OF LOSS OF, OR DAMAGE TO, FILM SUPPORT

Costs in case of loss or damage incurred between the receipt and the return of film copies are covered by Animatou. The Festival is only liable for the replacement of the empty film support (film reel, CD, DVD, USB key, etc.).

9. VIDEO LIBRARY

The Animatou Association aims to contribute to the promotion of Swiss and international animation cinema. To that end, a video library was created to serve as an archive for the films selected for the Festival. This video library is not directly accessible by the public and serves as a basis for thematic educational programmes which are put together by the Festival team upon request from local institutions (schools, museums, libraries, hospitals, public parks, day care institutions, prisons, etc.). Copyright holders are free to accept or reject the agreement at the time of film submission, and will be contacted directly by the team if necessary.

For more information: <http://animatou.com/espace-pro/videotheque-video-library>

For direct contact and queries: info@animatou.com

10. UNSPECIFIED CASES AND DISPUTES

The Festival team will settle cases not provided for in these Terms and Conditions. Exemptions from the above dispositions are possible for specific, legitimate requests.

Entry and participation in the Animatou Festival implies unconditional acceptance of the present rules and regulations.
