



PQA Film Festivals 2023 Brief

Overview

We are delighted to announce the 2023 Film Festival season following our celebratory return to face-to-face event screenings in 2022. To celebrate the fantastic work at our academies in the Film and Television module, we are pleased to let you know there will be two Regional Film Festival events plus the National Film Awards will return to central London!

PQA Film Festival Events

The following PQA Film Festival Events are scheduled for 2023 and we hope that they are a useful retention tool for academies.

- 1. North Regional Film Festival - Sunday 29th October - Location North West England**
- 2. South Regional Film Festival - Sunday 19th November – Location North London**
- 3. National Film Awards – Sunday 10th December – BFI Southbank**

Regional Film Festival events are not only Red-Carpet cinema screenings at flagship cinemas, but also an opportunity for PQA students to participate in film and television activities, audience Q&A sessions and attend the Awards Ceremony. A celebratory and aspirational day for students, teachers and parents in a fabulous cinema setting. The PQA National Film Awards represents the pinnacle of film and television at PQA. A star-studded red-carpet screening and awards ceremony event in central London.

Film Submissions

We invite academies to enter short films into our industry judged competition. Each academy may submit a maximum of **NINE** short films for consideration by our judges.

If an academy has an AM and a PM, they are considered separate academies. We advise that you submit films from a range of colour groups, such as 3 per colour groups.

We understand that some academies may plan to host local Academy Cinema Screenings in 2022/23 and wish to include completed films that they also wish to enter PQA Film Festivals.

We also understand that academies may wish to have films placed on PQATV channels beforehand. This is fine and completed films may be broadcast online and entered into PQA Film Festivals. We request that completed short films are sent to: filmandtv@pacademy.com as usual for placement on PQATV and films should be entered into PQA Film Festivals at the links below:

[Click here to submit to the NORTH Regional Film Festival](#)

[Click here to submit to the SOUTH Regional Film Festival](#)

We have created a document outlining which regional event you should submit your film to.

All submissions to the North and South Regional festivals will be considered for the National Film Awards.

Film Challenge and Competition Films

Academies that participate in HQ film challenges and competitions, (which can be found on the PQA Film and Television Competitions and Challenges Schedule 2023), such as the 5-week film challenges, can still submit nine films in addition to these. Please remember that challenge and competition films are judged separately at the time and winning films are automatically selected for PQA Film Festivals.

Film & Television Project Films

Film and television projects such as: Big Screen Classics, Voiceover, Mockumentary etc. Should be entered into the relevant colour group category on Film Freeway.

Judging Criteria

Films will be judged by a panel of industry judges. The following criteria will be considered:

- Originality
- Story structure and scriptwriting
- Location sound and audio
- Original music
- Cinematography
- Quality of acting
- Editing
- Visual Style

Awards

In 2023 PQA Film Festivals will award every short film that makes the 'Official Selection', with some additional awards for PQATV / Film and Television competition winners. Exclusive PQA bespoke awards will be presented at PQA Film Festival events.

Tickets

Academies that have films selected for the events will be allocated tickets (numbers TBC) to distribute to cast, crew, teachers, and parents. Attendees will need to organise and fund their own transport to events.

Instructions and Deadlines

- Submissions open on **Sunday 1st January 2023**
- The Deadline for film entries is **Monday 31st July 2023**
- Film entries need to be uploaded to Film Freeway's player, please follow the instructions during the submission process.
- The festival Official Selection/Winners will be announced on or after **Monday 21st August 2023** and you will be advised which event your film(s) is/are to be included in.

Technical and Content Requirements for all Films

- The maximum length for submitted films is 12 minutes

- All films should begin with academy specific PQA logos (the PQA logo with your academy location underneath), followed by the film title.
- Films should include full cast and crew credits at the end of films.
- All films should adhere to the PQA Film Classifications with regard to subject, language and behaviour. View the [Classification Leaflet here](#)
- All films should be shot in 1080p or higher and delivered at 25fps
- Full screen 16:9 or widescreen 1:2.39 (letterboxed)
- Films should be delivered as 1920x1080p 'Best Quality' H264 .mov or mp4 files (approx.10mbits) with AAC or uncompressed stereo sound.
- Sound should PEAK at -6db (including all music and FX)
- All music / imagery must be copyright free

Conditions of Disqualification

If any of the below applies to your entry, then your film will not be considered for judging.

- Films submitted past the deadlines.
- Films that have already been submitted to a previous PQA Film Festival.
- Films that do not meet the technical requirements detailed above.
- Films with a running time longer than 12 minutes.

**If you wish to enter a film that falls outside of this entry criteria for any reason, please email: nick.pilton@pqacademy.com to discuss a special entry waiver.*

- Films submitted without the requested information detailed above or submitted with incomplete information.

Good luck and have fun!

If you need any help or advice, or if you have any questions regarding PQA Film Festivals please get in touch: filmandtv@pqacademy.com