



IMPORTANT DATES:

Entries accepted beginning March 1, 2009

First Early-Bird Discount April 1, 2009

Second Early-Bird Discount May 1, 2009

Final Deadline July 1, 2009

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- **NEW LOWER ENTRY FEES!**
- Entry Mailing Instructions
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NEW DIVISIONS!

- > Animation
- > Arts & Humanities
- > Basement
- > Broadcast Journalism
- > Marketing Strategies
- > Narrative
- > Promotional
- > Instructional
- > Science & Technology
- > Social Issues
- > Student

COLUMBUS INTERNATIONAL FILM+VIDEO FESTIVAL

Chris Awards 2009

Call for Entries

THE HISTORY

The CIF+VF is the Oldest Film Festival in North America

The Film Council of Greater Columbus was founded in 1950 by Dr. Edgar Dale, professor of educational media at The Ohio State University, and other media professionals interested in promoting the use of 16mm motion pictures. Dale was an early advocate of using the latest media as tools for education and communication. In 1952, their efforts grew into the Columbus Film Festival, further spreading the gospel of easy-to-use 16mm film and the documentary wonders it made widely available. Today the Festival is called the Columbus International Film + Video Festival, or the CIF+VF.

The Festival has run continuously since, making it the longest-running film festival in North America. As the decades passed, the Festival kept up with the times, as Dr. Dale would have wanted, becoming more international, adding video in the '80s, adding CD-ROMs in the '90s, and embracing digital video today.

Through the years, the Festival has honored thousands of films, filmmakers, and producers. The Chris Award—our top honor (a reference to Christopher Columbus)—is proudly displayed in production offices around the world. The Chris Award has also at times been a qualifying festival for the Academy Awards.

The Festival's awards remain a revered prize for industry professionals, but the organization is equally passionate about supporting independent film. The juried competition focuses on rewarding the world's best films, regardless of origin, while the Festival serves to promote and screen more and more films every year.

In the list below you will find familiar divisions, like Narrative and Social Issues, but you will also find new ground, such as "Basement" and "Marketing Strategies," both of which embrace the radically new ways in which many films are being made and distributed.

IF YOU ENTERED THIS DIVISION IN 2008 >>	YOU COULD NOW ENTER THESE DIVISIONS IN 2009
THE ARTS >>	ARTS & HUMANITIES
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY >>	PROMOTIONAL OR INSTRUCTIONAL
CHILDREN & YOUTH >>	ANIMATION OR INSTRUCTIONAL
EDUCATION & INFORMATION >>	INSTRUCTIONAL
ENTERTAINMENT >>	ARTS & HUMANITIES OR NARRATIVE OR BROADCAST JOURNALISM
THE HUMANITIES >>	ARTS & HUMANITIES
MENTAL HEALTH >>	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
PHYSICAL HEALTH >>	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
RELIGION >>	ARTS & HUMANITIES OR SOCIAL ISSUES
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY >>	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
SOCIAL ISSUES >>	SOCIAL ISSUES OR BROADCAST JOURNALISM
WAR & PEACE >>	SOCIAL ISSUES
MEDIA OF PRINT >>	MARKETING STRATEGIES
STUDENT >>	STUDENT
INTERACTIVE ONLINE >>	MARKETING STRATEGIES

BASEMENT FILMS IS A NEW DIVISION THIS YEAR!

COLUMBUS INTERNATIONAL FILM+VIDEO FESTIVAL

SPECIAL THEME ANNOUNCEMENT!

We will be seeking **additional Basement and Student Films** around specific themes:

Basement Film:
Experimental Narrative

Student Film: **GLBT Community and Issues**

You can find more information at www.ChrisAwards.org OhFilm.wordpress.com

SPECIAL PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENT!

This year, the **Best of Festival winner** will also win a **\$1000 bundle from Showbiz Software®**.

The top 3 Basement Films will receive a copy of **Showbiz Producer®**.



You've got a million tasks at hand and you can't let one slip through the cracks. Use Showbiz Producer to quickly organize all your tasks into easily manageable projects.

www.showbizsoftware.com

THE DIVISIONS

ANIMATION

Works in this division use animation as their primary practice. The division welcomes all topics and foci and encourages creative applications of animation. The Festival has a long-standing tradition of animation for all ages.

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Works in this division address topics in the fields of arts and humanities. These documentaries explore the depth and diversity of culture, such as art, philosophy, and language. This division welcomes new approaches to bringing arts and humanities to life and making their meaning and significance clear to the public.

BASEMENT (NEW!)

The Basement Division seeks videos made inexpensively by people interested creating media works in a non professional, non broadcast arena. These works can be of any topic, no matter how local or modest. Basement videos are works of authenticity and immediacy. Works must be under 10 minutes and without distribution. While we seek videos made by non-professionals and meant mostly for the people around them, works of vision and quality will be rewarded. Winners in this division will not receive the Chris Award but instead will receive a prize and be included in a screening.

*Additionally, each year the Division will seek basement films around a specific theme. This year's special theme is **Experimental Narrative**.*

BROADCAST JOURNALISM

Works in this division consist of journalism created for broadcast television. All topics are welcome, and work will be judged on the strength of reportage and the broadcast format. The division welcomes and encourages creative approaches to form, but most important is adherence to rigorous journalistic standards. Broadcast TV includes free or fee-based, commercially-produced work broadcast over air, satellite, or cable.

INSTRUCTIONAL (EDUCATIONAL)

Works in this division are designed to teach something to a selected or self-selected audience. The division welcomes traditional training, how-to, educational, and teaching films, as well as more subtle or bold ways of instruction using narrative or technical means.

MARKETING STRATEGIES (NEW!)

The Marketing Strategies division accepts submissions that describe the various marketing devices for your film project. This groundbreaking division recognizes that film marketing is changing rapidly and that the best marketing strategies are a multi-front effort that include not only print material and packaging, but websites, blogs, and all other online social media efforts that develop communities for your film. Your submission packet may include all or some of the following:

- your print and packaging material
- up to five press clippings
- the link to your website
- the link to your social networking profiles
- up to 200 words describing your efforts at audience building
- up to 300 words describing how all elements are integrated

Creativity, entrepreneurship, and more-for-less will be rewarded. One award will be given for overall strategy and one given for best single element/item.

NARRATIVE

Works in this division are fiction works from all genres, subjects, and styles. The division welcomes works that explore new ways of telling a story.

PROMOTIONAL

Works in this division demonstrate what a business, organization, or individual has done or can do. These works are targeted to specific or potential clients or specific or general audiences. This division welcomes bold new approaches to promotional film, be they in business, non-profit, or political arenas.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Works in this division address topics in the fields of science or technology. These documentaries explore developments in these fields and their lasting significance. This division welcomes creative methods of making these topics accessible to the public.

SOCIAL ISSUES

Works in this division address any issues impacting society. Topics may include politics, economics, culture, or any subject of importance to the public. The division welcomes studies of both history and current events. Nonfiction documentary films are ideal, but the division welcomes and encourages creative approaches—both in form and aesthetics—to the subject matter.

STUDENT

Works in this division must be made by a student or student team. We encourage creative approaches and themes but are also interested in work developed in traditional genres and styles.

*The Festival will also seek student submissions around a specific theme. This year's special theme is **work for, by or about the GLBT community and issues**.*

COLUMBUS INTERNATIONAL FILM+VIDEO FESTIVAL

entry submissions:
March 1–July 1, 2009

judging period:
March 1–July 1, 2009

notification of winners:
Late September, 2009

showcase screenings:
November 10–15, 2009

producers roundtable:
November 14, 2009

awards presentation:
November 14, 2009

awards party:
November 14, 2009

Primary Factors and hints for determining placement of an entry into a particular Division:

- Target audience
- Subject matter
- Style (narrative, documentary, animation)
- Some productions could compete successfully in two or three Divisions. For example, a documentary about Native Americans who are prone to diabetes, could be placed in Social Issues, (documentary style); Arts and Humanities (subject matter); or Science and Technology (subject matter). All would be correct. You should choose which you think would work best for your production. If your entry has more than one purpose, state clearly on the Entry Form. Try to prioritize purposes. What do you want to achieve?
- You might want to enter it in more than one Division (a separate fee for each entry). Each Division has a different jury. The chairs of each Division reserve the right to shift your production to a more appropriate Division.

Judging Criteria

- Judging panels consist of carefully selected professionals experienced in production or with expertise in their respective fields. Jurors do not participate in the evaluation of any division in which any organization with which they are affiliated has an entry.
- Productions are evaluated on a seven point merit system, with the Chris Statuette presented to work receiving a rating of seven, the Bronze Plaque to productions receiving a rating of six, and Honorable Mention to productions with a rating of five.
- The Silver Chris (Best of Division) winners will be considered for the Best of Festival Award. This special award will be determined by a special panel.

The following criteria are applied during the judging process:

- Target audience
- Purpose
- Concept and Creativity
- Credibility
- Organization and Development
- Technical Proficiency



Rules, Regulations, & Eligibility

Carefully read the following Terms, Conditions, and Guidelines. Submissions must comply to be eligible for Festival competition.

The Entry Form may be photocopied. If you have questions, please contact (614) 444-7460, or e-mail: info@chrisawards.org

Format: Entries should be submitted on DVD (0 or 1). We cannot accept works on blu-ray, or formatted as MPGs. We cannot accept works in PAL or Seacam.

Deadline: Entry deadline is July 1, 2009. Entries must either be postmarked or in transit by that date. An e-mail acknowledgment will be sent to all entrants (except Basement Films) shortly after they have been processed by the Film Council office.

Eligibility Dates: Films and videos produced in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 are eligible for entry into the 2009 Festival.

Re-entry: Entries from previous Columbus International Film & Video Festivals are eligible for this year's competition if they are a revision, or entered in a different division than the original submission, and were produced during or after 2006.

English Language: All entries must have audio essential to the message on an English language soundtrack or English subtitles. An English translation script is not an acceptable substitute with the exception of foreign student entries.

Foreign language student entries: Although the jury panel would prefer an English soundtrack or English subtitled production, if this is not possible, you may submit an English language script with your entry. This exception applies only to student entries.

Promotion Rights: Producers or distributors who enter the Festival grant permission for their winning entries to be presented at any Festival screening or event unless we are otherwise notified. Please notify us at the time of entry if you require an exception.

Liability: Although every possible care will be taken with your entry materials while in our possession, we cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage. Do not send any original materials.

Publicity: Print publicity and reproducible stills may be used in Festival Programs and publicity materials. If you are interested in such coverage, please include stills on CD or DVD. We do not return these materials.

Judging Period: Notification & Retention of Tapes: Entries may be judged from receipt through September 1, 2009. Notification of competition results will be sent to all entrants via email by the end of September. Information about the awards presentations and an invitation to the awards presentation will be emailed to winners at this time. Entry DVDs will not be returned.



Photos from the reception after the Chris Awards by Tracey Jollay.

COLUMBUS INTERNATIONAL FILM+VIDEO FESTIVAL

address:
1430 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43207

phone:
614-444-7460

website:
www.chrisawards.org

e-mail:
Info@ChrisAwards.org

Stay connected to the CIF+VF with these other online media:

blog:
OhFilm.wordpress.com

facebook:
Columbus International Film+Video Festival

myspace:
myspace.com/chrisawards

twitter:
twitter.com/chrisawards

The Film Council is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

New Lower Entry Fees!

Fees Schedule

Feature/Long (Over 20 Minutes)	\$90
Feature/Short (Up to 20 Minutes)	\$70
Student/Long (Over 15 Minutes)	\$50
Student/Short (Up to 15 Minutes)	\$35
Basement (Up to 10 minutes) No Chris Award given	\$20
Marketing Strategies (Stand Alone Entry)	\$35
Marketing Strategies (When Associated With an Entry in Another Division)	No Charge
First Early-Bird Discount (For Entries Received by April 1, 2009)	\$10 off (each regular entry fee)
Second Early-Bird Discount (For Entries Received by May 1, 2009)	\$5 off (each regular entry fee)
Late Fee (For Entries to Arrive Between July 1 - July 15)	\$35

Submitting a Series? A series, campaign, or multi-part package may be entered. We suggest submitting two (2) or three (3) representative segments. If a series is made up of short segments, totaling under 20 minutes, it may be dubbed onto one DVD to qualify for lower fees.

Entry Fees

Please make check or international money order payable to:
Film Council of Greater Columbus

Send fees with **TWO** entry forms for EACH entry and your entry to the:

The Columbus International Film & Video Festival
1430 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43207

- Overseas checks or money orders must be drawn on a U.S. bank in U.S. dollars
- We accept company purchase orders
- Entry Fees are Non-Refundable

Credit card payments are accepted via Paypal through www.chrisawards.org

Entry Guidelines

Entry Form: Send two (2) copies of the Entry Form with each DVD. The back of the form may be used for expanded purpose, synopsis or production information. One copy of the Entry Form accompanies the video to the jury panel. The other is retained in the Film Council office.

Divisions: Entrants should select the appropriate division for each entry. The subject matter and purpose of the production are primary considerations for placement in a division. The festival office can provide guidance as to which division might be most appropriate. (See hints for placement below or on our web site)

Division Transfer: You, the entrant, best know the material and its purpose; however, each division chairman has the right to change the division of an entry if another placement seems more appropriate.

Purpose Statement: Make sure you carefully consider your production's intended purpose and target audience. State them clearly and concisely. Jurors will consider how well you meet these criteria. Judges' decisions are final.

Shipping Requirements

- DVDs of each entry should indicate the title, running time, and name of the entry and entrant. In the case of a series, indicate the part or sequence number.
- Any incoming shipping, wire, banking, or other charges will be billed back to the entrant and must be paid before the entry is eligible for competition.
- Please let us know if your email address changes between time of receipt of entry and notification of results in mid-to-late September! Otherwise you will not be advised of, or receive any award you may have won.
- DVDs and print materials will not be returned. We do not return entries!

Entries will be included in the Chris Awards Collection Archives unless special arrangements are made.

Ohio Arts Council
A STATE AGENCY
THAT SUPPORTS PUBLIC
PROGRAMS IN THE ARTS



COLUMBUS INTERNATIONAL FILM+VIDEO FESTIVAL

Chris Awards 2009

COLUMBUS INTERNATIONAL FILM+VIDEO FESTIVAL

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT.
 SEND TWO PHOTOCOPIES OF THIS ENTRY FORM FOR EACH ENTRY.
 Please make check or money order payable to *Film Council of Greater Columbus*
 Mail entries and entry fees to:
 The Columbus International Film + Video Festival
 1430 South High Street
 Columbus, OH 43207

AN = Animation
 A&H = Arts & Humanities
 B = Basement
 BJ = Broadcast Journalism
 MS = Marketing Strategies
 NAR = Narrative
 PR = Promotional
 INST = Instructional
 S&T = Science & Technology
 SOC = Social Issues
 STU = Student

ENTER DIVISION CODE HERE: _____

Entry Fee: \$ _____

Refer to Fee Schedule and Rules, Regulations, & Eligibility sections.

ENTRY DEADLINE: July 1, 2009. Entries accepted beginning March 1, 2009. Early-Bird discounts apply for entries received by April 1 or May 1, 2009.

Production Title: _____

Running time: _____ Division: _____ Special Theme

Intended Purpose of Production (Be clear and concise—or attach additional material if necessary.)

Synopsis of Production (Be clear and concise—or attach additional material if necessary. Information may be used for Screening Showcase notes.)

Entrant (check all that apply): Producer Distributor Agency Independent Corporate Non-professional Student (College) Student (High School)

Company or Individual Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/PC _____ Country _____

Contact _____ Title _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____ E-mail _____

Production Company: _____ Phone () _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

Director: _____ Phone () _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

Students Only: Name of School _____ Department Contact: _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/PC _____ Country _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____ E-mail _____

Indicate desired award inscription:
 Awarded to: (Name of Person and/or Company - punctuations and abbreviations will appear as you indicate)

 For the production (Title): _____

How did you learn about our Festival: Our Web site Web search Colleague Mail Previously Entered Other

I understand that my entry will not be returned and it will be included in the Chris Awards Collection Archives. (See Rules, Regulations & Eligibility section)

Sign Here: _____ Date: _____