高雄電影節
KAOHSIUNG FILM FESTIVAL

**2024 Kaohsiung Film Festival
International Short Film Competition Regulations**

XR Section

A. Goals

The Kaohsiung Film Festival aims to break down genre limitations and explore the artistic merits of independent short films. We are looking for projects that are worthy of recognition, ones that combine an independent spirit with meaningful narrative content and a high degree of applied technological integration. These films will be showcased during the Kaohsiung Film Festival, and will compete for the highest honor of the First Prize.

B. Festival Dates

The 24th Kaohsiung Film Festival is scheduled to be held in October.
Registration Period：From now until **May 31st 2024 23:59 GMT+8.**
Works-in-progress submission：had to complete by **June 15th 2024 23:59 GMT+8.**
Nominations announcement：Nominations are expected to be announced before
August 31st 2024.

C. Eligibility

1	**Date of Completion**	Only works completed between **January 1st 2023 and May 31st 2024**（the registration deadline） are eligible for submission.
2	**Encouraged Submissions**	Regardless of genre, we encourage works in which innovative narratives and immersive technologies are used in conjunction to enrich each other and the overall experience. ● **Technologies applied (include but are not limited to)**：Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), Mixed Reality (MR), VR360, multimedia devices and other pre-existing or innovative technologies. ● **Works-in-progress** are also eligible for submission.

3	Submission Restrictions	**Duplicate entries**： Identical versions of previously submitted projects cannot be submitted to this competition, nor can they be re-registered by changing the project title. **Completion status:** If a works-in-progress cannot be submitted as a complete work by **June 15th 2024**, the organizer reserves the right to cancel its eligibility for participation.
4	Technical Specifications	The hardware equipment and technical support provided by the organizers for the competition judging process are detailed in **Appendix 1**. In the event that participants wish their project to be shown to the judges using equipment that exceeds these technical capabilities, those participants will be responsible for any additional costs that arise.
5	Language Restrictions	Entries must provide English subtitles or English-dubbed versions of their project to register for the competition.
6	Premiere Status	There are no specific restrictions on premiere status in this competition. However, works that are eligible for World Premiere, International Premiere and Asia Premiere status at the 2024 Kaohsiung Film Festival will be given priority.

D. Registration

1	Registration Fee	$30 USD (Once the Registration is completed, no refunds will be accepted.)
2	Registration Period	**From now until May 31st 2024 23:59 GMT+8.** * Submissions will not be accepted once the deadline has expired. Please ensure you register early to avoid delays caused by network congestion or other technical issues.
3	Registration Platforms	Step1 Please go to the officia**l FilmFreeway** website to register and pay the registration fee. URL： https://filmfreeway.com/KFFCompetition Step2 Participants must also provide information about their project on **the official Google form** at the same time. If this information is not filled out, the registration will be considered invalid. URL： https://forms.gle/aEGcAGanDsG7cMqp9 * If you have any questions about using the registration platforms or require technical assistance, please contact the XR Competition Team at KFFXRteam@kfa.gov.tw

4	**Submission of Video File**	<u>Please provide the download link as instructed on the Google form</u>. If the download link does not function, the registration will be deemed invalid. * If the file link is set to non-public , please authorize KFFXRteam@kfa.gov.tw for sharing in order to view and download the file.
5	**Declaration**	* If the participant wishes to submit more than one project, please register each project separately. Otherwise, the registration will be deemed invalid. * The registration details and uploaded materials provided by registrants may be used by the organizers for the purposes of nomination announcements, award announcements, printing Festival brochures, awards ceremonies and more. Please ensure that all submission details are accurate. Participants are responsible for any errors or omissions in their applications.

E. Selection Process

Preliminary Judging	The Preliminary Jury is made up of Taiwanese film and media experts and professionals, who will decide the Official Selection for each competition. Projects chosen to be part of the Official Selection will be shown during the festival.
Final Judging	The Final Jury is made up of film and media experts and professionals from Taiwan and abroad. Final Judging will take place during the festival to determine the winners of each competition.

- The hardware equipment and technical support provided by the organizers for the competition judging process are detailed in **Appendix 1**. In the event that participants wish their project to be shown to the judges using equipment that exceeds these technical capabilities, those participants will be responsible for any additional costs that arise.
- If the shortlisted films fail to meet the judging criteria for the final selection, the organizers reserve the right to withhold the award.

F. Award Categories

Award	Aims	Number of Winners/Prize
XR Golden Fireball Award	To honor XR projects that utilize innovative technology and mature storytelling, and which offer unique artistic perspectives.	One / $8000 USD and an official KFF trophy

XR Immersive Award	To encourage innovation in the use of XR technology, and the use of such technology to create highly immersive interactions with real-time computing and device experiences, and other such non-VR360 projects.	One / $4000 USD and an official KFF trophy
VR360 Award	To encourage the use of VR360 technology to present profound narrative experiences and viewpoints in non-interactive VR short films.	One / $4000 USD and an official KFF trophy
XR Special Mention	To honor works featuring outstanding uses of technology or performances, or those which the jury deem particularly worthy of encouragement.	One / $2000 USD and an official KFF trophy

G. Announcement of Nominations and Awards

Nominations are expected to be announced before **August 31st 2024.** Nomination announcements will be made on the official website (https://www.kff.tw) and notification letters will be sent out to nominees. The list of winners will be announced on the day of the KFF International Short Film Competition awards ceremony in October 2024, and will also be published on the official website.

H. Copyright Issues, Terms and Conditions

Rights and Obligations of Participants

1. Nominees must provide a screening file of the nominated film via the internet, such as by providing a download link or online viewing access code (please ensure that the link/access code provided remains valid until the end of the 2024 Kaohsiung Film Festival). If there are any issues, please contact the organizer.

2. Participants agree to grant, at no cost, the Kaohsiung City Government Bureau of Cultural Affairs, the Kaohsiung Film Archive, and their related/authorized third parties the right to reproduce, adapt or partially edit the nominated project (including but not limited to CD-ROM formatting, dubbing in a different language, and adding Mandarin/English subtitles) and for them to use up to 10% or no more than 3 minutes of the audio and video content of the submission (or else participants may edit and provide this material themselves), as well as the content information and screening files provided during the competition. These materials may be used for reproduction, adaptation, public presentation, public performance, public recitation, public display, public broadcast and public transmission, at events related to the 2024 Kaohsiung Film Festival International Short Film Competition (including but not limited to promotional and festival events).

3. All dubbing, music, and graphic content used in the project must be authorized for use by the original creators for reproduction, adaptation, public presentation, public performance, public recitation, public display, public broadcast and public transmission. In the event of any copyright disputes arising from the project's screening, the participants shall bear full responsibility. Where necessary, the organizer may request that participants provide evidence and sign a copyright affidavit for verification.

4. Once the registration process has been completed, participants are considered to have agreed to all the regulations laid out by the organizer and may not cancel their registration for any reason. The registrant, film producers, distributors, publishers or related parties have an obligation to ensure the legality of the film. The organizers reserve the right to make the final decision on whether or not the film is eligible for the competition.

5. If participants wish for their project to be shown to the judges using equipment beyond the technical support provided by the organizers, those participants will be responsible for the related additional costs.

Rights and Obligations of Nominees

1. Once a film has been nominated, it cannot be withdrawn from the competition for any reason. Nominees should attend events related to the film festival and the award ceremony.

2. Participants retain copyright over the nominated films. However, the organizer has the right to use, modify, reproduce, download, and publicly display the nominated films as well as any related stills, project proposals, products and service contents free of charge, for the purposes of marketing, promotion, and exhibition.

3. Nominees must provide screening files that comply with the technical specifications set by the organizer and ensure that the link/serial number is functional and valid for use throughout the entirety of the 2024 Kaohsiung Film Festival. In the event of a failure to comply with the regulations, the organizer reserves the right to make the final decision regarding the eligibility of the nominated work.

4. Nominees must provide an exhibition plan or technical installation document. If the hardware/equipment required for exhibition exceeds the scope of the technical support provided by the organizer, the resulting expenses incurred during the exhibition period - such as the cost of equipment rental, transportation, on-site technical manpower, and so on - will be borne by the nominees.

5. The organizers of the Kaohsiung Film Festival reserve the right to make the final decision regarding the equipment used for the exhibition of nominated projects during the festival.

6. Before the organizers of the Kaohsiung Film Festival announce the list of nominations, nominees must maintain confidentiality and not publicly disclose their nomination status.

<u>Rights and Obligations of Award Winners</u>

1. The winners of the XR competition agree to grant a free license to the Kaohsiung Film Archive for their work to be screened at the VR FILM LAB after the 2024　Kaohsiung Film Festival, for the duration of one month. The exact screening dates shall be mutually agreed upon by the festival organizers and the award winner.

2. The recipient of the certificate, medal and prize money shall be designated by the production team responsible for the winning project. In case of any dispute, the organizers shall designate the recipient as the film's director, whose identity will be determined by the documents submitted alongside the winning nomination. If someone else is commissioned to receive the award on behalf of the winner, an authorization letter should be attached. The winner thus agrees to bear all legal responsibility for this decision, and the organizers shall not be held liable in any way, shape or form.

3. In accordance with the Income Tax Law of Taiwan (R.O.C.), if the value of the prize or award exceeds NT$20,000, the winner must pay a 10% tax on the award before receiving it. If the winner is a foreign national (i.e. someone who has been resident in Taiwan for less than 183 days), this tax rate will be raised to 20%, in accordance with the law.

<u>Other Points for Attention</u>

1. If a submitted work becomes involved in an intellectual property dispute, the participants shall be solely responsible and the organizer shall not be held liable. If the winning work is found to have violated the relevant laws or regulations, then the award certificate, trophy/medal and prize money shall be returned. If other intellectual property is used within the submitted work, participants must submit the relevant proof of the intellectual property's source and its authorization for use within the work at the time of the project's submission.

2. If any matters are not covered by these regulations, the organizers reserve the right to supplement, amend and announce it. The organizer reserves the right of final interpretation and decision-making with regards to these regulations, the selection process, and the results of the competition.

2024 KFF International Short Film Competition XR Section
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2024 KFF Official Website： https://www.kff.tw
2024 KFF Short Film Competition Submission Guidelines： https://www.kff.tw/about/brochure

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Appendix 1：Technical specifications

A. Specifications for video experiences (VR360)

1. Video

Format	1. 360 Mono - in Lat-Long 2：1 format 2. 180 Stereo - Side-by-Side 3. 360 Stereo - Top-Bottom (Top - L, Bottom - R)				
Containers	MP4, MKV				
	Resolution	Codec		Fps(Max)	Bitrate(Max)
		HEVC (H.265)	H.264		
360 Mono／180 Stereo	3840 x 1920	V	V	60 fps	100 mbps
	4096 x 2048	V	V	60 fps	
	5760 x 2880	V		60 fps	
	7680 x 3840	V		30 fps	
360 Stereo	3840 x 3840	V		60 fps	
	4096 x 4096	V		60 fps	
	5760 x 5760	V		30 fps	
* The above form is supported by CPU I7 & GPU GTX 1080, actual situation still depends on hardware.					

2. Audio

Stereo	AAC（44.1Khz & 48Khz）
Spatialization	Ambisonic：1st Order, 2nd Order, 3rd Order Supported File Formats： 1. Silent MP4 video with separate TBE files 2. MKV Video file with Opus codec (* Encode with FB360 Encoder)

* Regarding the screening equipment used during the festival for nominated works, priority will be given to the **Samsung Odyssey (WMR) series of VR headsets**. The Kaohsiung Film Festival organizers reserve the right to make the final decision.

B. Specifications for 6DoF/3DoF experiences (tethered VR headset + computer)

1. PC Computer specifications
   The computer specifications used by the organizers are as follows：
   - **CPU： Intel i7-12700（12 cores）**
   - **GPU： Gigabyte GeForce RTX™ 3080 Ti**
   - **Drive： 500GB SSD**
   - **RAM： 32G**
   - **OS： Windows 10x64**

   * During the preliminary testing and judging period, the organizers will primarily use wired VR headsets such as **HTC Vive Pro** and **Oculus Rift S** If the submitted work requires equipment or file formats with higher specifications for screening, please provide detailed information during registration.

2. Instructions for submitting technical screening documents
   When submitting the registration form, please provide a technical document detailing the screening technology requirements for the project files, including (but not limited to) the following information:

   - Please provide the standard requirements and specifications for the PC computer host.
   - If the project requires the use of the internet or a LAN (Local Area Network), please describe the requirements in detail.
   - A complete description of the experience and its content, instructions for interacting with the experience, and/or step-by-step puzzle-solving guides.
   - A complete description of any shortcut keys used by the project and their functions, including (but not limited to) the following:
     - Input method for starting the experience (e.g. none, controller, gaze).
     - Start, pause, restart, stop.
   - Room size requirements (we recommend that you include the minimum size specifications needed for the experience).
   - Specific considerations needed for the overall space and/or technical setup.

   * Other suggestions:
   - Please ensure that, during the screening process, sound will not be interrupted due to clicking the cursor outside of the application window or switching windows (alt-tab).
   - The default viewing mode for the computer screen during the screening process will be full-screen.

3. Instructions for submitting download links for files

   File submission method:
   - Offline version (recommended): Please compress the application (.exe) file and provide a download link (.zip) on a file hosting platform such as Google Drive, WeTransfer, Dropbox…etc.
   - Online version: Please provide the URL of the viewing platform/redemption code. When providing online redemption codes (such as for Steam, the Meta Quest store、 Meta App Lab, etc.) please provide at least 4 such codes for the organizers to use.

* Please ensure that the link/redemption code remains valid until the end of the 2024 Kaohsiung Film Festival.

C. Specifications for 6DoF / 3DoF experiences (all-in-one VR headset)

The organizers of the Kaohsiung Film Festival will use the **Meta Quest 2**、 **Meta Quest 3** or **HTC Focus 3** all-in-one VR headset as the primary device for preliminary testing and judging.

Please use the following methods to submit your work:
- The organizers recommend providing a .apk file for offline use. If your work has a specific installation process, please provide detailed instructions.
- If you are providing an online redemption code for redemption at the Meta Quest store, please provide 4 such codes for the organizers to use, and ensure that the codes will remain valid until the end of the 2024 Kaohsiung Film Festival.

D. Specifications for AR experiences

The organizers accept **.ipa (iOS)** or **.apk (Android)** file formats. Please specify the compatible format of the project when submitting the registration form. We recommend that you provide the project file through TestFlight for iOS files, or through Google Play Console for Android files.

* The organizer will use the following equipment as the main testing and judging devices:
- **IOS： iPad Air (5th Generation / 10.9 inch)**
- **Android： Samsung Galaxy S8+ 6.2 inch)** 、**Samsung Galaxy Tab A8 (10.5 inch)**

E. Mixed Reality

* Please specify compatible devices for the submitted project and provide related information such as 2D playthrough experience recordings when submitting the registration form.