



Rules of Participation

“Ouaga Côte Court” Festival

Edition 2025

Article 1 - Guiding principle

The festival team is organizing the 4th edition of "Ouaga Côte Court" Ouagadougou International Short Film Festival from **November 22 to 29, 2025**. It is a competitive event. This competition is open to professional and amateur filmmakers.

Article 2 - Themes

The films entered may be on any subject.

Article 3 - Genres

The following film genres are accepted:

- Documentary films of creation (short film).
- Short fiction films
- Animated short films

Commercials, industrial films, awareness films and clips are not accepted.

Article 4 - Eligibility of films

The maximum accepted duration is 30 minutes.

Films in competition, regardless of genre, must have been produced in 2024 or 2025. The **Ouaga Côte Court** festival does not apply a premiere rule, but special attention will be given to films that have not yet been shown. When registering, please list previous festivals and awards.

Authors, producers, or directors may submit several films to the selection committee. The rightful owner must imperatively inform of the availability or not of the film online on a provisional site (other festival) or definitive (VOD platform) before its potential diffusion at the festival.

All films with a digital format can be entered. For films that exist only on physical media, consult the festival management. For all films, an HD broadcast medium in .mp4 must be provided to the festival. The DCP supports can be accepted as broadcasting supports depending on the screening room (subject to confirmation by the organization).

The rightful owners guarantee **Ouaga Côté Court** that they have all the necessary authorizations from the co-producer, author, director, actor and, in general, from all the people involved in the film, allowing it to register the film and to respect the present rules.

Article 5 - Registration

The deadline for film entries is August 31, 2025. No registration will be accepted after this date. The registration of films to **Ouaga Côté Court** is free. However, a contribution to the technical costs is requested from the rights holders, for the benefit of the technical platform managing the registration of films ([Shortfilmdepot](#)) of an amount of 1,5 to 3 euros, in the form of a stamp.

To register your film, go to the festival website: <http://www.ouagacotecourt.com>. You will be redirected to the registration platform [Shortfilmdepot](#), partner of **Ouaga Côté Court**.

All fields must be filled in. Please specify if the film is a first-time director or not. Your registration will be automatically considered by the festival team.

The film sent for the selection is the same as the one that will be used for the broadcasting (see article 9 of these rules). If this is not the case (working version of the film), please inform the festival team.

The selection copy of the film will be kept by the festival for its archives. The selection copy will also be made available to accredited professionals during the festival in a dedicated consultation room.

If your film is selected, you agree to provide the festival with all the elements listed in article 8 of these rules. Only the technical costs related to the use of the [Shortfilmdepot](#) platform are to be paid. Acceptance of these rules includes acceptance of the payment of these costs by the applicants.

Article 6- Selection Copies

You must provide a selection copy of your film to the registration platform. The festival requires the ability to upload a digital copy of the film for the purposes of the selection committee and the selection screenings in the screening room.

English subtitles are required for foreign language films (see hereunder).

Means of file transfer: via the [Shortfilmdepot](#) server.

Article 7 - Selected films

Obligations of the producer or director - Before October 31, 2025

Only in case of selection of your film, you commit to be able to provide the festival, by October 31, 2024 at the latest, by uploading or via the dedicated platforms, the following elements:

- **2 representative photos of the film** (300dpi minimum) whose publication will be considered authorized and free of charge for the needs of the festival and by the press service of the latter, for posters, postcards, press kits, partnership files and any other communication support for exclusive use for the needs of the festival. (Please mention the photo credit on the photo file, preceded by the symbol ©. Example of file name: PhotoFilmY©firstname.jpg)

- **1 synopsis of 300 characters** MAXIMUM for the purposes of the program in French or English
- **1 photo of the director** (Please mention the credit of the photos on the photo file, preceded by the symbol ©. Example of file name: PhotoDirectorZ@firstname.jpg)
- **1 teaser of your film** for the communication needs of the festival (website, press, etc.) and possibly an excerpt of your film of about 30 seconds (festival awards ceremony, press, etc.)
- **1 file of your film in HD .mp4 format** for the needs of the projection rooms and the jury viewing room (art.9).

For foreign language films dubbed in French, the festival favors the screening of the film in its original language with French subtitles.

These data may be published in the program as well as on the festival's website or on any other communication medium specific to the festival. These documents will remain the property of the festival in the sole framework of its activity. If the credit of the photos is not mentioned in the title of the photos, the festival will not be held responsible in case of non-citation of the authors of the photos.

Article 8 - Broadcast copies

If the film file you send for selection is not the same as the broadcast file, we remind you that the final broadcast files must be received by the festival no later than November 7th 2025.

Digital File Standards:

- Encapsulation: Mpeg4
- The film file for broadcast must be provided in 1920x1080 HD (either 25p or 50i)
- Video: H264 codec
- Audio: AAC codec
- Maximum data rate 20Mbs/s

Means of file transfer :

- Link to Vimeo, Dropbox, WeTransfer or other digital transfer mechanism if downloadable by the festival.

Foreign films:

- Your film exists in French: provide the original version with English subtitles.
- Your film exists in a non-French version: provide the original version with French subtitles.
- Your film exists in a non-French version dubbed in French: provide the version dubbed in French and subtitled in English.

Article 9 - Shipping costs

The cost of sending the documents of all the films entered, whether they participate in the competition, is the responsibility of the participants.

Article 10 - Selection

The admission of works into the competition is the sole responsibility of the selection committee. The festival management may accept or invite films of particular interest regardless of their year of production, provided they meet the festival's selection criteria.

Selection results will be communicated by October 18th 2025, subject to delay, depending on the progress of the selection committee.

Information on the selections via the festival website / Festival 2025 section - Films in competition.

Article 11 - Formula and broadcasting rights

Given the international health context in November 2025, the festival could be held either entirely face-to-face, entirely online, or in a hybrid formula combining face-to-face programming and online broadcasting.

The festival may be cancelled in its entirety for exceptional reasons, on the sole decision of the organization. The organization of **Ouaga Côté Court** reserves the full right to decide on the form that the event will take.

Broadcasting rights / Screening during the Festival

Films selected for competition participate in **Ouaga Côté Court** free of charge. The festival does not pay any broadcasting rights for the films in competition (short documentary films, short fiction films and short animation films), nor for films proposed in special activities organized by the festival (special screenings, school screenings and specific audiences, thematic programs, debates sessions).

The film's owner cannot withdraw his film or cancel his registration once the film is registered on a platform. The registration of the film on one of the platforms set up by the festival ([Shortfilmdepot](#)) is considered as a definitive commitment to participate on the part of the rightful owner and acceptance of the present rules of participation.

Broadcasting rights / Online broadcasting

Some or all the films in the selection may be offered to the public as online broadcasts, in addition to the in-person version or replacing it entirely. Considering the increase of the potential audience, broadcasting rights will be paid to the rights holders for these broadcasts (VOD or streaming) according to a table of rates established by the organization.

Broadcasting rights / Theatrical broadcasting outside the festival dates

Some or all the films in the selection may be offered to the public for special screenings in partner cinemas or directly linked to the festival. Each screening will be subject to a rights agreement between the production company and the festival.

Article 12 - Obligations

We inform all competitors that the films selected for the competition may be shown at other non-commercial events as part of the general promotion of the festival, with the imperative agreement of the director.

The selected films may be screened in a preview, before the festival and for the needs of promoting it, within the limit of two previews per film, with the imperative agreement of the director.

The selected films may be screened in school screenings during the festival or in delocalized screenings, with the imperative agreement of the director.

Films that are part of the festival's prize list may be shown after the festival, in whole or in part, for non-commercial screenings, with the imperative agreement of the director.

The selected films can be integrated into a specific program for a partner of **Ouaga Côté Court**, with the imperative agreement of the director.

For any external projection, a specific agreement will be asked to the director.

Excerpts may be shown on television or in cinemas, or for any other promotional purpose of the festival, unless written opposition is sent to the organizer at the same time as the registration form.

Extracts of the films can be made available to the festival's partners.

An excerpt of the film may be included in the festival's promotional teaser, shown in theatres, in the festival's promotional venues, during delocalized screenings, and on the festival's website (including Facebook and YouTube) as well as on the partners' websites (including Facebook).

The selected films will be kept by the festival for its archives. The film will be proposed for free consultation on site by the festival team, without date limit. In the case of a theatrical replay for a retrospective, the director's agreement must be sought.

Article 13 - Competitions

The selected films will compete for the following prizes to be awarded by the festival's international jury:

General awards :

- 1st Prize fiction
- 2nd Prize fiction
- 3rd Prize fiction
- Best documentary film
- Best animation film
- Special Jury Prize
- Special Jury Mention

Technical awards :

- Best Screenplay
- Best Picture
- Acting Awards

Special awards :

- Student Prize (Student Jury)
- Waka Myria Award (Grin des Arts Vivants)
- Young Audience Award (School Jury)
- Others.

Financial or material prizes may be awarded to the winners of the prizes, according to the sole and exclusive judgment of the festival's organizing committee. The festival is not obliged to give an endowment to the winner of a prize awarded by the juries. The prize money will be given to the director of the film (unless specifically requested by the production, in agreement with the director).

The winning directors undertake to mention the prize in their film's communication materials and if possible, in the credits of their film. The prizes are unique and indivisible.

Exceptionally, the jury meeting and the award ceremony may be cancelled in its entirety in case of force majeure.

Article 14 - Representation

The directors of the selected films may be invited to come and present their film during the public screenings, within the limits of the number of people invited by the organizing committee.

Only one person will be taken in charge to represent a film, except by special agreement with the festival organization.

Each director with a film in official competition is invited to Ouagadougou for 7 days, this invitation including accommodation and food is taken care of by the **Ouaga Côté Court** festival. Travel expenses (airfare) are not covered, but the festival will provide support to raise funds for the director's visit to the extent that it is able. Please note that the invitation is not transferable to a third party.

A stand will be available at the exit of the theaters for the sale of their DVDs and books.

Article 15 - Programming

The schedule and the rhythm of presentation of the films selected in competition and of the films programmed out of competition will be carried out according to the programming grids established by the festival management based on the organizational requirements.

The same film may be shown several times during the festival and in different theaters (two or three screenings for films programmed in competitive sections).

Article 16 - Responsibilities

The management, while taking the utmost care of the film materials, declines all responsibility for any damage they may suffer during the performance or the period they are in its hands. Participants are asked to ensure the material provided.

Article 17 - Commitment

The registration of the films on the internet platform partner of the festival implies the acceptance of all the conditions established in the present rules.

Any postal shipment, except DHL, Chronopost or equivalent operating on the territory of Burkina Faso, is prohibited.

Contacts, address, e-mail, telephone:

- The postal address is: Festival Ouaga Côté Court - Mille Couleurs Production – 02 BP 5217, Ouagadougou 02, Burkina Faso
- To contact the festival team: info@ouagacotecourt.com - www.ouagacotecourt.com / Tel: +226 76 58 72 72 / 70 00 10 51