

# Youth Jury Competition

40<sup>th</sup> Cinekid Festival, the Netherlands, 10 – 25 October 2026

The **Youth Jury Competition** showcases the best new feature films for children from 9 years and up from all over the world. All films competing in the **Youth Jury Competition** are eligible for an award, which is given to winning film's director.

- **Cinekid Lion – Youth Jury Award**

A jury of Dutch teenagers decide which film is honoured with a Cinekid Lion Youth Jury Award statuette and prize money.

There is **no entry fee**.

The submitted film needs to be **at least 50 minutes**.

Deadline for entry: **1<sup>st</sup> of June 2026**.

1. Cinekid aims to promote high-quality media for children. The films selected for the Cinekid Youth Jury Competition need to meet Cinekid's quality standards. The films need to be made or at the very least suitable for children from the age of 9 and up.
2. Deadline  
The submission deadline for the competition is **1<sup>st</sup> of June 2026**.
3. Selection  
In addition to viewings by the Cinekid programming team, viewing sessions with the children of our children's panel are part of the selection procedure.
4. Festival screenings
  - a. Films selected for the Cinekid Youth Jury Competition are screened a maximum of 2 times.
  - b. Cinekid doesn't pay screening fees for screenings.
5. Premiere requirements  
There's no premiere requirement.
6. Length  
Only feature films are eligible for the Cinekid Youth Jury Competition. To be considered as a feature film your production needs be 50 minutes or longer. Films of less than 50 minutes are regarded by Cinekid as shorts.
7. Required materials
  - a. In order to submit a film for the Youth Jury Competition the following materials need to be provided:
    - i. An English subtitled streaming link of the film, remaining available until the last day of the festival
    - ii. Three high-quality stills of the film (at least 300 DPI)
    - iii. Synopsis and logline
    - iv. Credits, and biography of the director
    - v. Poster Image in CMYK colours as a PDF file in 300 DPI.
    - vi. an English subtitle file (.SRT) or time-coded dialogue list.
  - b. Cinekid is free to unlimitedly use all publicity materials (fragments and stills) for promotional reasons.
  - c. All films at the festival will be presented with Dutch subtitles or – in case of films for the youngest audiences – with a live Dutch voice-over. Cinekid covers the costs of producing the Dutch subtitles or dubs. In order to produce the best translation, applicants must provide Cinekid with an English subtitle file (SRT) or time-coded dialogue list. In the case of a subtitled film, applicants are requested to provide Cinekid with an unencrypted DCP of their film OR a DKDM so that the file can be repacked with the Dutch subtitles.

8. Screening copy and transportation

- a. For screening purposes Cinekid requires DCP. If your film is not available on DCP, acceptance of any alternative formats needs to be specially decided by Cinekid. Cinekid's Traffic Coordinator will be in contact with the participant about the screening copy transfer.
- b. Each screening copy should be made available for the entire period of the festival and in case of a physical screening copy it will not be returned or forwarded before the festival has ended.
- c. All screening copies of selected films should reach the festival before **September 1<sup>st</sup> 2026**.
- d. Cinekid only receives screening copies through digital transfer. If your film is not available for digital transfer, Cinekid will need to individually decide on available options.
- e. Like most international film festivals, Cinekid strongly urges filmmakers to provide an unencrypted DCP, since they cause significantly less logistical problems. In case only an encrypted DCP can be provided, the costs for producing a DKDM or KDMs will need to be borne by the submitting party.
- f. Providing Cinekid with additional physical promotional materials (such as posters and flyers) is not required and if received Cinekid will not send them back or promise to store them after the festival.

9. Organization:

- a. The applicant must in any case inform all other rights holders that their production has been submitted. The rights holders will appoint one contact person for the submitted production.
- b. All correspondence about the submission will be done via the contact person specified on the registration form.

10. ScreeningClub

- a. All films selected for the Youth Jury Competition will automatically be included in Cinekid's online video library ScreeningClub. ScreeningClub is a digital sales library where accredited guests of Cinekid for Professionals can screen Cinekid's festival programme. More information about the ScreeningClub can be found [here](#).

11. Accreditation

- a. Cinekid offers one free accreditation for the festival to someone of the film team. The invitation will initially be sent to the director, who can forward it to another member of the film team if they please.
- b. Cinekid does not cover travel or accommodation expenses for invited filmmakers, unless specifically communicated with said filmmaker.

**12. The submission of an entry implies acceptance of these regulations.**

For all further questions, kindly contact [film@cinekid.nl](mailto:film@cinekid.nl).