

Best Children's Film Competition

38th Cinekid Festival, the Netherlands, 19 October – 3 November 2024

Cinekid is the world's largest media festival for children. Every year more than 60,000 children are given the opportunity to visit over 500 media productions selected by the festival: feature films, short films, episodic productions, cross-media projects, interactive installations as well as partake in workshops and masterclasses.

For more than 35 years, Cinekid has been largest international children's film and media platform in the world, bringing children from all over the Netherlands in contact with the richest selection of film productions. Cinekid wants to amaze, entertain, connect, and contribute to the development of children into independent, conscious, and thoughtful citizens of the world. Cinekid is also the most important international professional's platform focused on children's film and media productions. With Cinekid for Professionals it intends to improve the availability and quality of productions and connects the industry.

The highlight is the annual Cinekid Festival in the autumn vacation. In Amsterdam and dozens of film theatres around the country, children can experience new striking international films, and television productions and get in touch with the creators, as well as explore in the MediaLab, with interactive art installations, workshops and games. International professionals meet during the festival's professionals' program at its co-production market, conferences, and during talent development programs that run throughout the year.

The Cinekid festival gives an overview of the best new international children's films, television productions and cross-media productions for children with the aim of promoting the quality of media for youth. In addition to its unique public programming, Cinekid encourages collaborations through Cinekid for Professionals, an internationally influential five-day industry program.

Each year Cinekid presents its prestigious **Best Children's Film Competition** showcasing the best new feature films for children from all over the world. Cinekid takes great care to select films of all genres and include works for children in each of Cinekid's age categories (from 3 until 14 years old).

On average 15 feature-length films are invited. All films competing in the Best Children's Film Competition are eligible for two awards, which are given to the winning film's director.

- **Cinekid Lion - Best Children's Film Competition - Jury Award**
An international jury of children's film professionals decides which film is honoured with a Cinekid Lion Jury Award statuette and prize money.
- **Cinekid Lion - Best Children's Film Competition - Audience Award**
The votes of the children's audience attending Cinekid Festival decide which film wins the Cinekid Lion Audience Award statuette.

In addition to the Best Children's Film Competition, the programming team can select up to ten films from films submitted for the Best Children's Film Competition for the **Youth Jury Award Competition**. All films competing in the Youth Jury Award Competition are eligible for one award, which is given to winning film's director.

- **Cinekid Lion – Youth Jury Award**
A jury of five teenagers from the Netherlands 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**.

The screening of the submitted film at Cinekid should at least be a **Dutch premiere**.

Deadline for entry: **1st of June 2024**.

Regulations

1. Cinekid aims to promote high-quality media for children. The films selected for the Cinekid Best Children's Film Competition need to meet Cinekid's quality standards. The films need to be made or at the very least suitable for children between ages 3-14.
2. **Deadline**

The submission deadline for the competition is **1st of June 2024**. Cinekid can take films into consideration based on a work-in-progress version. Of course, the submitted film will still need to be completed well in time for the festival.
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 Best Children's Film Competition need to be screened a minimum of 3 times.
 - b. Cinekid doesn't pay screening fees for screenings.
 - c. In some cases, Cinekid might want to present even more screenings of a given film. If that is the case, the film's applicant will receive a separate request to give authorization for the additional screenings. If the applicant declines to give authorization this will not affect the film's selection for the competition.
5. **Premiere requirements**

All international films for children and youth films released after Cinekid's previous festival edition are eligible for the competition, provided that the film has not yet been screened in the Netherlands. Dutch produced films that are planning to be released in autumn holidays can still be selected for the competition even if they are no longer premieres. As long as the film will not be playing in Dutch cinemas before the Wednesday prior to the start of the national autumn holiday, they can still be taken into consideration.
6. **Length**

Only feature films are eligible for the Cinekid Best Children's Film Competition. To be considered as a feature film your production needs to 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 Best Children's Film Competition the following materials need to be provided:
 - i. An English-spoken or 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. Digital press kit (EPK) and other promotional materials such as poster art
 - 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. As an international jury will be viewing the films, a DCP version with soft-coded English subtitles needs be made available to Cinekid Festival, free of charge.
 - c. 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.
 - d. All screening copies of selected films should reach the festival before **September 1st 2024**.
 - e. 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.
 - f. 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.
 - g. 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. ScreeningClub
- a. All films selected for the Best Children's Film 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](#).
- 10. The submission of an entry implies acceptance of these regulations.**

For all further questions, kindly contact film@cinekid.nl.