

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sundar Prize Film Festival Opens Submissions for 2026 Edition

Submissions Now Open for 2026 Festival Celebrating Diverse, Impactful Storytelling

Surrey, BC – June 3, 2025 — The Sundar Prize Film Festival proudly announces that submissions for its 2026 edition are now open via FilmFreeway. Following a record-breaking 2025 festival that showcased over 50 films from 22 countries and attracted more than 850 attendees, the festival continues its mission to spotlight stories that inspire social change and celebrate the human spirit.

New Initiatives and Expanded Opportunities for 2026

Building on its commitment to diversity and inclusion, the 2026 festival introduces several new award categories and programs:

- **Best Spiritual, Health & Wellness Film:** Honoring films that promote emotional resilience, personal transformation, and holistic well-being.
- **Best Environmental Film:** Recognizing films with environmental themes; 100% of net ticket sales from this category will be donated to a local reforestation charity in Surrey.
- **British Columbia Student Film Showcase:** A competition exclusively for BC high school and post-secondary students, offering cash prizes of \$1,000, \$750, and \$500.
- **Youth Jury Program:** Engaging Grade 11 and 12 students from across the Lower Mainland to serve on a special jury and select the winner for Best Youth Film.
- **BC Filmmaker Mentorship Program:** Providing selected emerging filmmakers with free mentorship, networking opportunities, and professional development resources from established Canadian industry leaders.

"The Sundar Prize Film Festival is more than a showcase for cinema—it's a platform for empathy, understanding, and positive change. With new awards and programs in 2026, we're amplifying voices that heal, educate, and inspire action. I'm proud to see our

festival continue to grow as a home for stories that truly matter." – Alex Sangha,
Co-Founder of the Sundar Prize Film Festival

Festival Details

- **Event Dates:** TBD, 2026
- **Venues:** Simon Fraser University – Surrey Campus and Landmark Cinemas Guildford, Surrey, British Columbia
- **Submission Deadlines:**
 - Earlybird: August 31, 2025
 - Regular: October 17, 2025
 - Late: November 8, 2025
 - Extended: December 1, 2025
- **Notification Date:** March 1, 2026

Submission Guidelines

The festival welcomes submissions across various categories, including narrative features, documentaries, short films, animations, and films focusing on environmental, spiritual, health, and wellness themes. Special encouragement is extended to BIPOC, 2SLGBTQ+, Indigenous, and marginalized communities. All films must have been released after May 1, 2024, and include burned-in English subtitles.

About the Sundar Prize Film Festival

The Sundar Prize Film Festival is an IMDb-qualifying, social justice-driven festival based in Surrey, BC. Hosted on the unceded traditional territories of the Semiahmoo, Musqueam, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt, and Tsawwassen First Nations, the festival is dedicated to showcasing diverse, underrepresented, and courageous voices from around the world. Founded by filmmakers for filmmakers and film enthusiasts, the festival offers meaningful recognition, community engagement, and real-world opportunities for social impact through the power of film.

Contact Information

- **Website:** sundarprize.com
- **FilmFreeway Submission Page:** filmfreeway.com/SundarPrize
- **Programming Email:** programming@sundarprize.com
- **Social Media:**
 - Instagram: [@sundarprize](https://www.instagram.com/sundarprize)
 - Facebook: [Sundar Prize Film Festival](https://www.facebook.com/SundarPrizeFilmFestival)

- LinkedIn: [Sundar Prize Film FestivalLinkedIn](#)

Press Contact

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