

NEW MEXICO FARM & RANCH HERITAGE SHORT FILM CONTEST

RULES & REGULATIONS ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

FILM INFORMATION

Film Title: _____

FILMMAKER INFORMATION

Production Team Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Affiliation (if applicable):

☐ Student ☐ School ☐ Organization ☐ Independent Filmmaker

School / Organization Name (if applicable): _____

RULES & REGULATIONS

By submitting a film to the **New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Short Film Contest** (“the Contest”), the undersigned filmmaker acknowledges, understands, and agrees to the following Rules and Regulations:

1. ORIGINAL WORK & RIGHTS CLEARANCE

The filmmaker certifies that the submitted film is an original work and that all necessary rights, permissions, releases, and clearances have been obtained for music, images, footage, and performances contained within the film.

2. THEMATIC REQUIREMENT

The film meaningfully reflects themes of agriculture, ranching, rural life, or heritage, with a clear and intentional connection to New Mexico.

3. CULTURAL PHRASE REQUIREMENT

- All films must include the **official cultural phrase revealed at the Contest kickoff event**.
 - The phrase must be used **word for word**, without alteration, paraphrasing, or omission.
 - The phrase must be clearly identifiable within the film and may be presented through dialogue, narration, or on-screen text.
 - Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification.
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4. CREATIVE CHALLENGE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The filmmaker acknowledges that the delayed release of the cultural phrase is an intentional creative challenge designed to encourage originality and adaptability and agrees to incorporate the phrase as part of the filmmaking process.

5. ELIGIBILITY & COMPLIANCE

The filmmaker confirms eligibility to participate and agrees to comply with all Contest deadlines, technical requirements, and submission guidelines as published by the Contest.

6. TECHNICAL DELIVERY SPECIFICATIONS (OFFICIAL LANGUAGE)

Format / Container

- .MP4 or .MOV

Video Codec

- H.264 or H.265 (H.265 preferred for compression efficiency)

Resolution

- 1920 × 1080 (Full HD) will be fine. Film in 4K but export in 1920 x 1080p

Bitrate

- High bitrate recommended
- Approximately 20 Mbps minimum; up to 40 Mbps preferred for optimal image quality

Audio Specifications

- Codec: AAC or uncompressed PCM
- Sample Rate: 48 kHz

File Size Guidelines

- Initial short-form submissions must not exceed 350 MB for easy download and judging.
- Selected or finalist films must be able to deliver a higher-quality file of up to 10 GB

Side note: A happy medium should be 1 GB and 4 GB, balancing quality and file size.

Screening & Final Delivery

- Web-optimized MP4 files are preferred for initial jury screening
- Higher-quality exhibition files will be required for final screening, archival, and public presentation

7. SELECTION & EXHIBITION

- Selection decisions are made at the discretion of the Contest organizers and are final.
- Selected films may be exhibited at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum and will screen at the **Museum located inside the museum**, subject to programming considerations.

8. OWNERSHIP & USE OF SUBMITTED CONTENT

By submitting a film, the filmmaker acknowledges and agrees that **all submitted content becomes the property of the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Short Film Contest.**

The Contest, the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, and designated partners shall have the **unrestricted right, at their sole discretion**, to use, reproduce, exhibit, edit, adapt, archive, distribute, and publicly display the submitted content, in whole or in part, for any lawful purpose, including but not limited to educational use, promotion, exhibition, documentation, marketing, and archival purposes, without further permission, notification, or compensation.

9. FILMMAKER CREDIT & ATTRIBUTION

The Contest and the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum agree that **filmmaker credits will always be listed and publicly acknowledged** whenever a submitted film is exhibited, screened, or presented in whole, where reasonably practicable.

In instances where full attribution is not feasible (such as brief promotional excerpts), filmmaker credit will be maintained in official programs, catalogs, listings, and archival records.

10. WAIVER OF CLAIMS

The filmmaker waives any right to inspect or approve the use of the submitted content and releases the Contest, the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, and affiliated partners from any claims arising out of the use of the content, including but not limited to claims related to copyright, moral rights, or presentation context.

11. NO COMPENSATION

The filmmaker understands and agrees that participation in the Contest is voluntary and that no monetary compensation is provided for submission, selection, exhibition, or use of the submitted content.

12. PUBLIC INSTITUTION NOTICE

Participation in the Contest does not constitute endorsement by the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum or the State of New Mexico of any individual, organization, or viewpoint expressed in submitted films.

CERTIFICATION & SIGNATURE

By signing below, I certify that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by all Rules and Regulations of the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Short Film Contest.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

PARENT / GUARDIAN CONSENT (REQUIRED FOR MINORS)

This section must be completed if the filmmaker is **under the age of 18** at the time of submission.

I, the undersigned parent or legal guardian, certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor named below and that I have read and understand the **Rules & Regulations of the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Short Film Contest**.

I grant permission for the minor to participate in the Contest and **consent to all terms**, including but not limited to content ownership, usage rights, exhibition, and public presentation of the submitted film as outlined in this form. I further affirm that I have the legal authority to provide this consent on behalf of the minor.

I understand and agree that no compensation is provided for participation and that all submitted content becomes the property of the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Short Film Contest, with filmmaker credit provided as stated.

MINOR INFORMATION

Minor's Full Name: _____

Age: _____

PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent / Guardian Full Name: _____

Relationship to Minor: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

PARENT / GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

