



RULES AND REGULATIONS OFFICIAL COMPETITION SECTION – ANIMAYO 2026

OSCAR®-QUALIFYING FESTIVAL IN THE ANIMATION CATEGORY

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The company *Damián Perea Producciones SL*, with registered office in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, hereinafter referred to as "the Organizer", announces the "**ANIMAYO 2026 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR ANIMATED SHORT FILMS, VISUAL EFFECTS AND VIDEO GAMES**", a competition that opens its doors to creativity and artistic promotion, with the aim of selecting the best work in animation, visual effects and video games of the 21st edition of the Animayo International Summit.

Animayo is the first and only animation festival in Spain officially recognized by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences of Hollywood as a **qualifying festival for the Oscar® Awards in the animated short film category**. We are now also the only festival in our category that qualifies for the "**Animación con Ñ**" Award, recognizing the best Spanish-language animation. This allows countries with Spanish as an official language to compete for this prestigious prize.

The winner of the Grand Jury Prize will receive a monetary award of €3,000.

THEME, TYPE, AND TECHNIQUE

- **Techniques:** All techniques are accepted: 2D animation, 3D animation, stop motion, CGI, and experimental.
- **Types of eligible works:** Animated short films, animated advertising spots, animated music videos, and video game cinematics will be accepted. In works that include visual effects (VFX), these must not exceed 20% of the total content. Animation must represent at least 80% of the work submitted for competition.
- **Theme:** There are no thematic restrictions. However, the Organizer reserves the right to reject any work that promotes or condones terrorism, extreme and/or gender-based violence, racism, cults, or affiliation with extreme nationalist ideologies such as Nazism.

SCOPE AND NATURE

- International
- Submission: Free of charge

PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY

- Minimum age: 18 years old
- Open to participants of any nationality and country of residence
- Participants must not have any personal, professional, or commercial relationship—direct or indirect—with the Animayo Festival. They also may not have any affiliation with companies that sponsor or collaborate with the Festival.
- Employees and relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity/affinity of the organizing company, its subsidiaries, or any company involved in the organization or promotion of the competition are not eligible to participate.

CATEGORIES

The International Jury will be required to award the following category:

- "Grand Jury Prize" (winning work of the Festival and pre-selected for the Oscar® Awards)

The Jury for the *Animación con Ñ* category (pre-selected for the Oscar® Awards) will decide on the award for:

- "Best Short Film from a Spanish-speaking Country — Animación con Ñ"

The Jury for the *Cinematics, Music Videos, and Commissioned Advertising* category will select winners in the following categories:

- Best Video Game Cinematic
- Best Music Video
- Best Commissioned Advertising Spot

Additional award categories that may be granted by the International Jury — and which may be modified, replaced, increased, or reduced — include:

- Best Social Interest Short Film
- Best 2D Short Film
- Best 3D Short Film
- Best Visual Effects Short Film
- Best All-Audiences Comedy Short
- Best Adult Comedy Short
- Best Student Short Film
- Best Advertising Spot
- Best Music Video
- Best Video Game Cinematic
- Special Mentions of the Jury

Additionally, the Selection Committee reserves the right to grant Special Mentions of the Festival if deemed appropriate.

Furthermore, Damián Perea, director and producer of the Animayo Festival, reserves the right to present an award titled "Director's Award."

The Organizer also reserves the right to grant additional awards as Special Mentions.

SUBMISSION PERIOD

The submission period for the competition will be open from 9:00 AM on July 25, 2025, until 12:00 AM (midnight) on February 20, 2026, both dates inclusive (GMT +1).

ENTRY PROCEDURE

Submissions must be made via an online registration form, governed by the present rules and accessible through the website www.animayo.com. Works not submitted through this form, or without acceptance of these terms and conditions, will not be considered:

- Entries may be submitted individually or as a group.
- In the case of group submissions, there is no limit to the number of directors and/or creators. However, only one representative will be responsible for submitting the work, and the prize will be awarded in their name.
- In the specific case of Schools, Production Companies, and/or Distributors submitting multiple works, and in order to streamline the submission process, they may send all video links and corresponding press kits (if available) in a single email to animayo@animayo.com. After reviewing all entries, the Animayo programming team will contact them to request the official submission via the online form for the selected work(s).
- During the registration process, it is mandatory to provide an online screening link for the submitted work. This link must be free to access and ad-free to facilitate viewing by the programming team.
- Once the registration form has been completed and the initial pre-selection phase has passed, the Festival programming team will contact the creator(s) using the contact information provided in the form, to request 2 to 5 still frames from the work, as well as a screening-ready version for official competition.
- Pre-selected participants must follow the organization's instructions to submit their work using a downloadable link in the required format and quality, as specified in the following section. Participants are expected to meet deadlines rigorously. Within one week, pre-selected entrants must send their work to animayo@animayo.com using a cloud storage service that allows file upload and link sharing. We recommend one of the following: Dropbox (www.dropbox.com), OneDrive (www.onedrive.com), or WeTransfer (www.wetransfer.com). The subject of the email must include: "2025 Competition Entry", followed by the participant's name and the title of the work.

PRESENTATION CONDITIONS AND FORMATS

- All submitted works must include title credits, except for those submitted in the categories of advertising, music videos, and cinematics, where the absence of credits is understood as acceptable.
- All short films and pieces not previously submitted to past editions of Animayo and produced from 2023 onwards will be eligible for competition.
- Works do not need to be premieres; however, those that have not yet been screened at other festivals will be positively considered.
- Maximum duration of the work: 30 minutes.
- Final format for screening in competition: Only works meeting the following technical specifications will be accepted:
 - 1080p resolution (1920x1080)
 - 24 frames per second. If the work does not meet this frame rate, the author must convert it to this format to avoid quality loss.
 - 15 Mbps bitrate with multipass export for higher quality (preferred for easier transfers).
 - H.264 encoding.

FINALISTS

- The jury will be appointed by the Animayo Gran Canaria 2025 Executive Committee.
- In April 2026, the Festival programming team will select between 200 and 250 works as pre-selected entries.
- From these, at least 40 finalist works will be chosen to form the Official Competition Sections.
- The final list of selected works will be published on the official festival website during Animayo Gran Canaria 2026.
- The finalist works will be screened before the International Jury and the attending audience.
- Finalists may request an official selection certificate starting from June 1, 2026, by emailing animayo@animayo.com.
- The cost of the certificate is €12, payable via PayPal or bank transfer.
- Requests made before June 1 will not be answered.
- Certificates will be issued within a maximum of three months after payment confirmation.

JURY DECISION

- From among the finalist works, the International Jury will select the winners in the different categories listed in the “Categories” section, during the Animayo 2026 Festival.
- The official verdict will be announced between May 20 and June 30, 2026, via the Animayo website (www.animayo.com) and/or Animayo’s official social media channels. Winners will also be notified personally via email.
- The jury’s decision is final and not subject to appeal.
- The jury reserves the right to declare any category void and to resolve any issues not covered in these rules.

AWARDS

- The winner of the “Grand Jury Prize” category will receive a monetary award of €3,000. This amount is subject to applicable taxes and withholdings as established by law, unless exempted by the competent authority of the Tax Administration.
- The effective awarding of the prize is conditional upon the winner's full compliance with the contest rules and the accuracy of the information provided during registration. The prize is non-transferable.
- The commercialization of the prize or the right to receive it is strictly prohibited.
- Renouncing the prize does not entitle the participant to any kind of compensation or indemnification.

DATA PROTECTION, IMAGE RIGHTS, AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- In accordance with Organic Law 15/1999, of December 13, on the Protection of Personal Data, the personal data of those registered in this competition will be included in an automated file owned by Damián Perea Producciones S.L., with registered office in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, for the purpose of managing participation in this competition. These data may also be used for the acceptance, administration, and delivery of prizes.
- Participants may exercise their rights of access, rectification, cancellation, and opposition at any time by sending an email to animayo@animayo.com, including a copy of their ID, NIE, or passport, and specifying “DATA PROTECTION” in the subject line.
- In cases where participants have given their consent through the website, their personal data may also be used to send them commercial communications, including by electronic means, about products and services of Damián Perea Producciones S.L. and its affiliated companies.

- Participants agree not to plagiarize any artistic or advertising work, or violate trademark rights or any other intellectual property rights of third parties. The Organizer is not liable for any claims arising from such infringements. Participants will be held responsible for any violations of third-party rights related to the submitted content and shall indemnify the Organizer for any damages resulting from non-compliance.
- Participants must ensure that no third-party rights exist on the submitted works and shall hold the Organizer harmless from any liability due to plagiarism or violations of current legislation, including audiovisual materials (music, images, characters, etc.) for which participants do not hold duly accredited usage rights. By entering the Festival, participants certify ownership or authorization over their submissions.
- Each short film and/or submitted work shall be registered under the name of the person listed in the registration form, who will be considered the beneficiary of any potential prize. The Organization assumes that the person submitting the work holds the necessary rights, and therefore assumes no liability in this regard.
- All works in a foreign language must include Spanish subtitles if they contain dialogue. If not subtitled, a translated transcript must be submitted, authorizing the Festival to subtitle the work based on that script.
- Selected authors grant permission for the screening, reproduction, communication, and dissemination of their work within the framework of the Animayo International Festival. After the Festival, the authors also authorize the non-profit screening of winning works during Animayo's Touring Events, for a maximum period of five years, strictly for promotional purposes of the authors and their work.
- The Festival is also authorized to use up to 15 seconds of the submitted work(s) to create a promotional trailer for Animayo 2026, which may be broadcast for promotional purposes via the following media: cinema screens hosting the Festival and its Touring Events, television, online platforms, the Festival website, social media, and other digital platforms.
- If a participant who has registered a work decides to withdraw it from competition, they must notify the Festival by sending an email to animayo@animayo.com no later than January 10, 2026.
- The screening of works does not imply any transfer of rights, which remain protected under Royal Legislative Decree 1/1996, of April 12, approving the revised text of the Intellectual Property Law. In accordance with the Data Protection Law, any personal data contained in the submitted works and related materials is transferred to ANIMAYO S.L. solely for the purposes outlined above and in compliance with legal provisions concerning the public disclosure of authorship.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

- The Organizer reserves the right to disqualify any participants who misuse the competition, engage in fraudulent acts, or negatively affect other participants. If the Organizer or any entity professionally associated with the competition detects any anomaly or suspects that a participant is interfering with its normal operation—by unlawfully altering registrations through any technical or digital means, or by committing any fraudulent act that undermines the transparency of the competition—the Organizer reserves the right to disqualify and even revoke the prize from any such participant, automatically and without explanation. This applies to those who have benefited directly or indirectly from such fraudulent conduct. The Organizer may also pursue any applicable civil or criminal actions.
- The Organizer declares that appropriate technological systems and tools have been implemented to detect any fraudulent, irregular, or malicious activity intended to alter the normal course of the competition.
- The Organizer reserves the right to take legal action against any person who commits acts that may be considered as manipulation or falsification of the competition.
- The Organizer shall not be held liable for any damages of any kind resulting from the temporary unavailability or interruption of the services enabling participation in the competition, or from the

lack of utility or expectations users may have placed in them. This includes, without limitation, access failures to various online participation pages or designated telephone communication lines.

ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Participation in the competition implies full acceptance of these rules and express submission to the interpretative decisions made by the Organizer regarding them. Winners may be required to sign a written document confirming acceptance of all the contest's terms and conditions.

The claims period ends 15 calendar days after the conclusion of the competition.

These rules are available on the website www.animayo.com and are also filed with a notary.

MODIFICATIONS

The Organizer reserves the right to make changes, suspend, or extend this promotion, with prior notice published on the contest's official website, www.animayo.com.

The Organizer is also entitled to suspend the festival due to force majeure. The Organization reserves the right to modify these rules for reasons beyond its control that require changes to any of the structural elements of the competition.

APPLICABLE LAW AND JURISDICTION

This promotion is governed by the current laws of Spain.

For any disputes arising from the interpretation or application of these rules, both the Organizer and the participants expressly submit to the jurisdiction of the Courts and Tribunals of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, without prejudice to any other jurisdiction that may apply by law to the consumer.



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