

Call and regulations

28 International Festival of Children and Youth Film of Cartagena de Indias -FesticineKids 28

From September 22 to 27, 2026

Call to film productions

Opening **June 1, 2026** Closing date **August 1, 2026**

1. FesticineKids 28:

The International Children's and Youth Film Festival of Cartagena de Indias - FesticineKids is a film festival that focuses its efforts on strengthening the production and distribution of Colombian and Latin American films for children and young people, outlining their programming from the diversity of cinematographies that they make up the fields of children's and youth cinema, encouraging the making of Colombian films by and for these audiences; and promoting the formation of new publics through the offer of meetings and workshops.

In 2026, FesticineKids reaches its 28th edition and with the aim of highlighting and celebrating cinema for girls, boys and young people as a place of recognition, has chosen as slogan the phrase **"Where Dreams are Born"**. From this concept, it is intended to relieve the cinema as a narrative art, and as a pretext to tell stories; stories that emanate from a place, from a space of events, a space that composes cultural elements and that transcends to become a source of emotions and feelings, a true empire of the senses, where one sees, listens, feels, tastes, and that in the end it is configured as a scenario of identity, of representations.

We turn this place into an instrument to ask ourselves the reason for some things that disturb us and is in it, where we awaken different sensations according to those cultural environments in which we live.

The cinema offers the possibility of exploring the experiences of approaching others, but also facilitates the experience of getting closer to ourselves. It is a process of identification, of empathy, which becomes a very important element for the dissemination of culture, the creation of public attitudes. Through the empathy that is built between the spectators, it contributes to a

better understanding of who we are, of our nature. The cinema allows us to know the world better and to know ourselves better in that world.

After reflecting on how cinema is able to generate spaces for meeting, for socialization but at the same time for creating connections between the subjects that share those spaces, the need arises for version 28 of the Cartagena FesticineKids to be that scenario that gives rise to we find, to share, that encourages reflection, but also that it is a meeting space that reflects the diversity of interests, that represents us, that represents the needs and dreams of children and adolescents; a place for each one, where we feel a part, where to identify ourselves.

In the construction of the profile of FesticineKids 28, the screen is problematized as a point of confluence of children and adolescents. By postulating the cinema as that scenario in which feelings, emotions and beliefs are externalized, it is intended that girls and boys, understanding what the cinema evokes, what they extract from it and its meanings, ask about the place that the cinema has in their lives, in their environment, in parallel to the place they want and dream they have.

It is also an opportunity for adults, parents, teachers, cultural and film authorities to think about the need to strengthen their capacities to be trainers in tension and interaction with audiovisual media, especially film.

2. Call

a. **The FesticineKids Foundation** invites directors and filmmakers to register their film productions to FesticineKids 28, which will have the following sections to. **Official Feature Film Competition** It hosts cinematographic productions of any kind of story, aimed at children and young people and preferably, tell stories about interests and needs related to football, discipline, camaraderie, family, values, respect, sacrifices, the neighborhood, friends, passion, merit, hope, dedication, fighting for your dreams, growth, health, progress, the fruits of labor, leadership, and setting a good example In this section, Colombian and foreign productions of great visual and narrative value will compete.

b. **Official Short Film Competition** This is a window of world short film production in the field of children's and young people's cinema. It will group foreign works of any kind of story that do not exceed 10 minutes in length, and whose stories are aimed at children and adolescents between 8 and 17 years.

c. **Colombia in shorts** The purpose of Colombia in Shorts is to contribute to the process of circulation and exhibition of Colombian short films for children and

adolescents. This category, in addition to being a window of national short filmmaking, is constituted

it constitutes a possibility to make known to boys and girls the cultural diversity and miscegenation that characterize our country. The works inscribed in this section must not exceed 10 minutes in length.

d. U-Lab: U-Lab is the section of FesticineKids dedicated to the promotion of works made by new filmmakers. Therefore, in this category short films of a maximum duration of 15 minutes may be taken by university students and technical and technological careers from the Caribbean Region

e. Experimental Kids: The Experimental Kids, is a contest of short films made by students of educational institutions of the Caribbean Region. Its purpose is, on the one hand, to promote filmmaking by children and adolescents; and on the other, to promote the formation of new filmmakers. The short films must have a maximum duration of 5 minutes

a. 3. Regulation

b. 3.1. Registration of the works:

c. 3.1.1. Terms and Conditions:

d. I. Cost of registration: The registration of productions in any category is free.

e. II. Nationality of the works: The official competition of feature films may register Colombian and foreign works, as well as co-productions. There will be no limit on the number of productions registered per country. To the official short film competition, films made in any country other than Colombia may be registered. To the Colombia section in shorts, only short films made in Colombia or national co-productions may be registered. The Experimental Kids, will only admit works made by students of educational institutions of the Caribbean Region; and in U-Lab only short films made by university students and technical and technological careers of the Caribbean Region may participate.

f. III. Year of production: In the competitive sections, only works carried out between 2024 and 2026 can be registered.

g. **IV. Language and subtitles:** In all competitive sections, films filmed in any language can be registered. However, works done in a language other than Spanish should have subtitles in Spanish, or be dubbed into Spanish. The productions made without dialogue will be valued in a special way.

h. **V. Registration form:** Regardless of the route chosen to register a work, its formalization requires the completion of the form designed for that purpose. The registration form can be downloaded from www.festicinekids.org/inscripcion/. **PRODUCTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT AN ENROLLMENT FORM.**

i. **3.1.2. Registration channels:**

to. Via festhome.com or Filmfreeway.com: Through this route, you can send the screener and detailed information of the work that is registered. However, to the email inscripciones.festicinekids@gmail.com, you must send the registration form to the festival (published in www.festicinekids.org/inscripcion/), in pdf format.

b. Via e-mail: Those who choose this option to register their productions, should send an email inscripciones.festicinekids@gmail.com, the registration form duly completed and a screener of the work through a link of platforms such as Vimeo and We Transfer or others that allow its visualization. In addition, they should send a brief review of the director's bio-filmography accompanied by a photo.

REMEMBER

The registration form, the screener and the bio-filmography of the director are **insubstantial requirements** for the registration of a work.

4. Selection:

I. The Festival director, with the advice of the Selection Committee, reserves the right to accept, choose or invite the films that will participate in the contest.

II. Communication: Interested parties will be notified of the acceptance or rejection of their production via email. They can also be notified through the website and social

networks of the FesticineKids Foundation (Website: festicinekids.org, Facebook: Festicinekids Foundation, Twitter: @FesticineKids, Instagram: @festicinekids).

III The filmmakers of the selected productions must submit a screener for viewing. This is followed by a DCP copy, the film's press kit, trailer, and stills. Copies of the works and information for the selected films must be received by the Festival no later than August 30, 2026, and must be sent exclusively via FedEx. It is important to send to FesticineKids, via e-mail, the shipping guide for the Import and Export Department of the event to do the appropriate follow-up so that the film reaches the Festival's power safely and on time. The return of the works will be paid by the Festival and will be sent to the addresses specified in the registration form:

Fundación FesticineKids

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SIN VALOR COMERCIAL, CON PROPÓSITOS CULTURALES

5. Event:

Competition	Adult Jury	Kids Jury
	<i>Award</i>	<i>Award</i>
Official K-Kids Feature	K of Kids to best feature	K de Kids to best feature
	Special mention	Special mention
Official short film	K of Kids for the best short	K of Kids for the best short
	Special mention	Special mention
Colombia in shorts	K of Kids for the best short	K of Kids for the best short
	Special mention	Special mention
Experimental Kids		K of Kids for the best short
		Special Mention

U-Lab.	K of Kids for the best short	
	Mención Special Mention	

6. Rights of the organization:

I. Transfer of rights: The films selected to make up the film sample of each section of the festival will only be projected by the FesticineKids Foundation in the free functions and projections that are part of the FesticineKids 28, and of the replicas that are made of it in other municipalities and cities of Colombia. The inclusion of said works in the programming of the other educational projects developed by the Foundation requires the prior authorization of the authors.

II. This call and regulation can be extended and / or modified. The possible changes can be consulted on the page www.festicinekids.org and through the email inscripciones.festicinekids@gmail.com.

III. The questions, doubts and / or clarifications regarding this call and regulation, will be addressed through the e-mail inscripciones.festicinekids@gmail.com.

IV. The inscription of a film means the acceptance of the present regulation

Gerardo Nieto Núñez
 Director
 Fundación FesticineKids
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