



Down to Earth Film Festival

Stories About Oregon Agriculture

Rules & Regulations

Mission:

To stimulate and perpetuate the creative talent of aspiring and professional filmmakers, while telling the fascinating stories surrounding Oregon agriculture and its ability to be economically, environmentally and socially responsible neighbors of the greater community.

Prizes:

The Down to Earth Film Festival: Stories About Oregon Agriculture will distribute \$5,000 in cash prizes:

Best of Festival: \$3,000

Runner Up: \$1,500

Audience Choice: \$500

Additional prizes will be awarded for best directing and best cinematography.

Festival Theme:

Filmmakers should tell stories through a documentary format about the modern day Oregon farmer or rancher, highlighting either the heritage of the industry on the modern farm, conservation efforts of individual farmers or ranchers, or the pivotal role of agriculture to a largely urban society.

Here's a sidebar behind the theme to help you develop story ideas:

- Oregon's economic and social foundation was built upon the floor of natural resources. Settlers roughed the trials and tribulations of the Oregon Trail in order to farm the fertile grounds of the Willamette Valley. Even today more than 30 percent of Oregon's economy is directly associated with natural resources. The root of Oregon is agriculture.
- Ninety-Eight percent of Oregon farm operations are family farms. In addition, more than 1,100 farms or ranches in Oregon have been designated with the Century Farm and Ranch certification, which indicates that the same family has farmed the same piece of land for more than 100 years. Maintaining viable farm and ranch lands is imperative to the family farm. Keeping the land fertile for

future generations is vital to the family business, and many farmers and ranchers embrace environmental conservation and practice it everyday.

- The average American is now three generations removed from the farm. Less than one percent of the population provides the food and fiber necessary for the rest of the population to survive. In 1940 one farmer produced enough food for 19 people, by 1970 it was up to 73 people and by 2010, one farmer produces enough food for 155 people. The ability for agriculture to remain sustainable is vital to the basic survival of every human.

Title Plate:

A ten second title plate, which will be provided as a QuickTime video, must be incorporated into the film. The title plate can be found by visiting the Down to Earth Film Festival Web page at www.aglink.org.

Time Limit:

The finished film must be a minimum of 4 minutes in duration, and a maximum of 9 minutes in duration. This is inclusive of all credits, which must be a minimum of ten seconds in length. We do encourage filmmakers to acknowledge the farm operations who are featured in the documentary.

Film Entries:

The DVD must be clearly labeled with the entrants name, film title and running time. Two copies of each entry must be submitted on separate DVD's and must be accompanied by a completed entry form and payment of a non-refundable entry fee. Entry forms may be submitted prior to the film deadline. Films must be submitted by August 31 to: Agri-Business Council of Oregon; C/O Down to Earth Film Festival; 7320 SW Hunziker Rd, Ste 100; Portland, OR 97223. No films will be returned to the entrant.

Entry Fees & Deadlines:

Early Bird Deadline of May 1: \$25
Regular Deadline of June 15: \$35
Final Deadline of August 31: \$45

Entry fees and applications may be submitted prior to the film. All films must be submitted by August 31.

Please send Entry Materials & Direct Inquiries to:

Down to Earth Film Festival
C/O: Agri-Business Council of Oregon
7320 SW Hunziker Rd, Ste 100
Portland, OR 97223

Film Costs:

All costs associated with the production of the entry are solely the responsibility of the entrant.

Shipping Costs:

Cost of shipping is the responsibility of the entrant. C.O.D's will be refused. The festival cannot accept responsibility for damage or loss of material while in transit.

Payment Method:

For entry fees please enclose a check for the total amount due made out to the Agri-Business Council of Oregon with a completed copy of the entry form. Payments may also be made via credit card through Paypal at www.aglink.org.

Refundable:

Entry fees are non-refundable and submission does not guarantee that the entry will be accepted in the festival for screening.

Liability:

Although every possible care will be taken with entry DVD's while in our possession, we cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage. Do not send original prints or tapes.

Jury:

All films will be viewed by the festival jury. All nominees will be notified by email and awards to the top three films will be presented at the showing on October 5.

Selection of Winners:

Entries will be judged by a process in which a qualified panel will evaluate eligible entries based on the following judging criteria:

- Artistic Merit (e.g., Story, Creativity, Entertainment Value) (50%)
- Technical Merit (25%)
- Adherence to the Assignment (25%)

Festival Viewing:

Because of time limitations, not every entry may be shown during the official festival viewing on October 5. The Agri-Business Council of Oregon may, in their sole discretion, disqualify entries deemed to be inappropriate or otherwise non-compliant. All films deemed appropriate by the Down to Earth Film Festival will be accessible via the Web site www.oregonfresh.net.

Reproduction Agreement:

All entrants agree that clips of their film and other material relating to their project may be used or published in promotional materials for the festival. In addition, the film may be available to be viewed in its entirety for 13 months after the 2012 Down to Earth Film Festival on the Web site www.oregonfresh.net, or at other events as warranted by the Agri-Business Council of Oregon.

Project Terms of Submission:

By submitting an entry into this festival, each entrant warrants and represents that the entrant owns all rights to the entry he/she is entering into the festival, including, without limitation, the video or digital recording, and the materials contained in each entry. Each entrant further warrants and represents that the entrant has obtained permission from each person who appears in the entry to grant the rights to the festival parties described in these official rules, and will submit copies of such permissions to the festival participants. By submitting an entry, entrant agrees to the official rules, and further agrees to indemnify and hold the Down to Earth Film Festival, the Agri-Business Council of Oregon, festival parties and their respective affiliates, officers, directors, agents, co-branders, sponsors or other partners, and any of their employees (collectively the festival indemnities), harmless from any and all claims, damages, expenses, costs (including reasonable attorney's fees) and liabilities (including settlements), brought or asserted by any third party against any of the festival indemnities due to the arising out of the Entrant's Entry materials in this festival, or the Entrant's conduct during and in connection with this festival, including but not limited to trademark, copyright, or other intellectual property rights, right of publicity, right of privacy or defamation. Entrant agrees to release, indemnify and hold harmless the festival indemnities from any and all claims that any advertising, presentation, web content or any other material subsequently produced, presented, and/or prepared by or on behalf of the festival infringes on the rights of Entrant's work as contained in any Entry.

General Conditions:

By participating, entrants agree to these official rules which are final and binding in all respects. The festival is governed by the laws of the State of Oregon and all claims must be resolved in the State of Oregon.

Limitations of Liability and Release:

No liability or responsibility is assumed by the Agri-Business Council of Oregon or festival parties resulting from any user's participation in or attempt to participate in the festival or ability or inability to upload or download any information in connection with participating in the festival. No responsibility or liability is assumed by the Agri-Business Council of Oregon or festival parties for technical problems or technical malfunction arising in connection with any of the following occurrences which may affect the operation of the festival: hardware or software errors; faulty computer, telephone, cable, satellite, network, electronic, wireless or internet connectivity or other online communication problems; errors or limitations of any internet service providers, servers, hosts or providers; garbled, jumbled or faulty data transmissions; failure of any e-mail transmissions to be sent or received; lost, late, delayed or intercepted e-mail transmissions; inaccessibility of the Web site in whole or in part for any reason; traffic congestion on the internet or the Web site; unauthorized human or non-human intervention of the operation of the festival, including without limitation, unauthorized tampering, hacking, theft, virus, bugs, worms; or destruction of any aspect of the festival, or loss, miscount, misdirection, inaccessibility or unavailability of an email account used in connection with the festival. The Agri-Business Council of Oregon and festival parties are not responsible for any typographical errors in the announcement of prizes or these

official rules, or any inaccurate or incorrect data contained on the Web site. Use of Web site is at user's own risk. The Agri-Business Council of Oregon and the festival parties are not responsible for any personal injury or property damage or losses of any kind which may be sustained to user's or any other person's computer equipment resulting from participation in the festival, use of the Web site or the download of any information from the Web site. By participating in the festival, entrant agrees to release, indemnify and hold the Agri-Business Council of Oregon and festival parties harmless from any and all claims, damages or liabilities arising from or relating to such entrant's participation in the festival.

Notes on Submissions:

- We require that two copies of the final film be submitted.
- We recommend that you make sound levels relatively even throughout your film. (If your film has uneven sound or sound peaks, it may be modified to protect the playback equipment).

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the festival, entries must be the original work of the entrant; must not infringe third-party's rights; must be suitable for publication (i.e., may not be obscene or indecent); must not contain obscene or pornographic material; may not contain defamatory statements about any person, company, organization or entity; may not invade privacy or other rights of any person, company or entity; may not in any other way violate applicable laws and regulations; and may not contain any copyrighted elements (other than as owned by the entrant). Entries containing prohibited or inappropriate content as determined by the Agri-Business Council of Oregon, in its sole discretion, to be inappropriate will be disqualified. The Agri-Business Council of Oregon reserves the right to make the final determination as to which Entries are eligible. The Agri-Business Council of Oregon also reserves the right to refuse to screen a film or to make an announcement at the screening regarding the content of the film.

Amendments:

The Agri-Business Council of Oregon may add or amend these rules at any time prior to the final deadline date for submission.

Press Materials:

If selected, the Down to Earth Film Festival will require support from the film company in obtaining press materials to be distributed about the film and the filmmakers.

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Portland, OR 97233
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