

# ECRANS NOIRS FILM FESTIVAL 2021

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

### GENERAL RULES

#### TITLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Created in 1997, the Ecrans Noirs Film Festival is a realization of the Ecrans Noirs Association. It aims to promote and distribute in Cameroon and Central Africa African cinemas, African diaspora cinemas and cinemas about Africa.

It aims to:

- Show quality African films to the general public;
- Promoting among children and young people, a film culture to develop discernment and encourage debate;
- Facilitate meetings among directors, actors and professionals of the 7th Art and with the public;
- Pave the way for training in film and audio-visual professions, as well as in related and ancillary professions;

#### TITLE II: GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

**Article II.1:** The Festival is organized by the Ecrans Noirs Association, recognized as Association Registered for Public Purpose by the Cameroonian government following Presidential Decree N°2016/219.

**Article II.2:** The working languages of the Festival are French and English.

**Article II.3:** The Festival includes competitive and non-competitive programs.

**Article II.4:** The organising committee of the Ecrans Noirs Film Festival is the only qualified authority to be allowed to settle any case not provided for in these regulations. Its decisions are final.

**Article II.5:** Acceptance to participate in the Ecrans Noirs Film Festival implies acceptance of the present regulations.

### TITLE III: PLACES AND PERIODICITY

**Article III.1:** The Ecrans Noirs Film Festival is held every year. The 25<sup>th</sup> edition will be held from **November 17<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. In the event of force majeure, the dates may be changed by decision of the Board of Directors of the Association. In this case, the decision is published **at least 15 days before** the dates initially scheduled.

**Article III.2:** The Festival will mainly take place in Yaoundé, but decentralizations can be organized in any city in Central Africa.

### TITLE IV: SELECTION

**Article IV.1:** The Ecrans Noirs Film Festival is open to all films made by Africans and members of the African diaspora, in long and short film format, in the fiction genre (animation genre included), documentary, series and Web series.

These films participate in the Festival in competition or out of competition (retrospective, panorama, tribute or favourite), and are subject to prior selection.

The deadlines for registration and submissions to the competition are set, except for exceptional notification, on **September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.

**Article IV.2:** The Ecrans Noirs Film Festival also programs, under the same conditions, films made by non-Africans that focus on Africa or on African communities or on communities in the diaspora, which include a significant African cast (at least 50% of the major players, or who have Africa as their main setting). These films are shown:

a / either in competition, in a single section called foreign films whatever the genre (fiction, animation and documentary), on condition that they are feature films;

b / nor in panorama, homage or *coup de cœur*.

**Article IV.3:** The registration form for selection to the competition or to the non-competitive programming is available on the website [www.ecransnoirs.org](http://www.ecransnoirs.org). It must be completed by the candidate production, the distributor or the director, and must mandatorily sent with the following documents:

- The technical and artistic sheet of the film.
- The bio filmography of the director, and if possibly of the screenwriter (s) and the main actors.

- A bio filmography of the producer or a presentation of the production company.
- Documentation relating to the film (trailer link, Synopsis, photos, poster),
- A private link to watch the film for selection, must be sent to: [programmation@ecransnoirs.org](mailto:programmation@ecransnoirs.org) with **mandatory copy to:** [ecransnoirscmr@gmail.com](mailto:ecransnoirscmr@gmail.com), [assistante@ecransnoirs.org](mailto:assistante@ecransnoirs.org) and [DG@ecransnoirs.org](mailto:DG@ecransnoirs.org)

An acknowledgment of receipt will be sent to the candidate within 48 hours, summarizing the elements received, and stipulating whether they are complete or not. If complete the acknowledgment receipt will serve as a discharge.

Article IV.4: In the event that these elements could not be sent electronically, copies of films and series submitted for selection and promotional documents listed below can be submitted very exceptionally and after express agreement of the organization on DVD, Blu-ray, or Flash Drive.

These physical media must therefore be sent to the Festival, by all the most appropriate and fastest routes, at the candidate's convenience so as to be received before the deadline, ensuring registration has been made on the site within the official deadlines announced in article IV, 1 above.

## **TITLE V: COMPETITION**

**Article V.1:** The organizing committee of the Ecrans Noirs Film Festival is solely responsible for the selection of films and series and their entry into competition, or not, as well as their programming.

**Article V.2:** The official competition concerns the following categories:

- International feature film fiction and animation;
- International feature documentary;
- International short film fiction and animation;
- International short documentary;
- Foreign film (Fiction or documentary feature film);
- Series (3 successive episodes of 26 minutes, or 2 successive episodes of 52 minutes);
- Web series (3 episodes or issues of 15 minutes maximum each)
- Central African scenario;
- Feature film fiction Central Africa;

- Feature documentary Central Africa;
- Central Africa short documentary;
- Central Africa short film fiction;
- Web series Central Africa (3 episodes or issues of 15 minutes maximum each)
- Cameroon feature film fiction;
- Cameroon web series (3 episodes or issues of 15 minutes maximum each)

The decision to cancel any section of this competition is the sole responsibility of the organizers.

**Article V.3:** Only films or series (3 consecutive episodes) or web series (3 episodes or numbers), fulfilling the conditions set out above and produced after **January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019** may be admitted to the Official Competition at the 25th edition. .

**Article V.4:** The films which apply for the competition undertake not to be shown on Cameroonian territory indoors, outdoors or on television the 45 days preceding the Festival.

**Article V.5:** Any film co-directed by two or more authors, one of which is not African, competes in the Foreign films section. Likewise, any film which includes a cast of less than 50% of African actors and actresses significant in terms of the cast competes in the Foreign Films category.

**Article V.6:** The selection of films is made on the basis of submissions received, unless expressly notified or exception, before **September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.

**Article 7:** The duration of the various films must be for:

- Feature films and animation: 75 minutes minimum;
- Long documentary films: 52 minutes minimum;
- Series: 3 successive episodes of 26 minutes or 2 successive episodes of 52 minutes;
- Short fiction films: 26 minutes maximum;
- Short documentary films: 26 maximum;
- Web series: 3 issues or episodes of 15 minutes maximum each.

**Article 8:** The same director cannot have more than one film selected in competition in the same category. If two or more films of him were to be selected, he would have to choose one. The same producer can have several films in the same competition, as long as he is not the director.

**Article 9:** A screenplay competition, the details of which are contained in a separate regulation, is organized for screenwriters from Central Africa.

**Article 10:** A screenplay competition, the details of which are contained in a separate regulation, is organized for screenwriters from Cameroon.

## **TITLE VI: PARTICIPATION**

**Article VI.1:** The official selection will be announced on **October 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**.

**Article VI.2:** The selected producers and directors must send to the Festival the media intended for professional distribution.

**Article VI.3.** Films to be broadcast will be received in their High Definition version (DCP, Blu-Ray, Hard disk preferably). However, by mutual agreement between the Festival and the sender, the film to be broadcast may be sent over the internet. The costs of sending and returning any films to be officially released are the responsibility of Ecrans Noirs, which cannot, however, be held responsible for damage resulting from the poor condition of the material conveyed by this route.

**Article VI.4:** Any film present at the Ecrans Noirs Film Festival may only be withdrawn before the end of the event by the director or the producer with the agreement of the Festival's organizing committee and against discharge.

**Article VI.5:** Any film registered for the Ecrans Noirs Film Festival is made available to the Festival for two (02) public screenings maximum.

**Article VI.6:** Unless there is a special exemption, for these two screenings, the Festival will pay rental fees to the rights holders of the film when these are not covered by an organization, a sponsor or a country, or have already been broadcast in Cameroon.

- Fiction International feature film: CFA F 100,000
- Fiction International short film: CFA F 65,000
- International feature documentary: CFA F 75,000
- Foreign film: CFA F 100,000
- Series (3 successive episodes of 26min. Or 2 episodes of 52min): CFA F 75,000
- International web series (3 issues or episodes of 15 minutes maximum) CFA F 35,000
- Feature film fiction Central Africa: CFA F 65,000
- Documentary Central Africa: CFA F 50,000
- Short fiction film Central Africa: CFA F 35,000
- Short documentary film Central Africa: CFA F 35,000
- Fiction Feature film Cameroon: CFA F 65,000
- Cameroon web series (3 issues or episodes of 15 minutes maximum) CFA F 35,000
- International short documentary: CFA F 65,000

**Article VI.7:** Unless there is a special exemption, rental costs are excluded for any film already broadcast on Cameroonian territory before the Festival is held, indoors, outdoors, or on any television received in Cameroon by any means whatsoever. .

## **TITLE VII: JURIES AND AWARDS**

**Article VII.1:** The official competition is arbitrated by international Juries composed of at least four members, chosen from among film professionals, artists, fashion professionals, writers, critics, men of culture, teachers , and exceptionally any person who has distinguished himself in his field, appointed by the Organizing Committee.

**Article VII.2:** Each Jury includes a President and members.

The President draws up a brief written report for the Festival's archives, various nameless assessments.

Decisions within the Jurors are taken on a consensual basis, but if necessary after a vote and by a simple majority of the voters.

If it is impossible to decide between the jurors by vote, the President's vote counts twice.

**Article VII.3:** Cannot be part of a jury any person having taken part in the production of a film selected in the section where he is supposed to be juror.

**Article VII.4:** The Festival is represented during the deliberations by the General Delegate, or a member of its staff, appointed by the General Delegate. The General Delegate or the appointed member does not take an active part in the deliberations, and of course does not take part in the possible vote. It is exclusively responsible for providing clarifications on a specific question raised by the jury, the resolution of which falls within the competence of the Festival, as well as facilitating the work of the jury on a practical level.

**Article VII.5:** The jurors award the following rewards, the cash prize for each of the prizes which may give rise to them being decided by the Board of Directors, on the proposal of the executive board, after prospecting and consultation of the sponsors and public partners and institutional, 30 days at the latest before the Festival:

<b>DISTINCTION</b>	<b>CASH PRIZE</b>	<b>DISTINCTIONS</b>
<b>1-Ecran meilleure Web série camerounaise</b>	To determine*	A trophy + a parchment
<b>2-Ecran du meilleur acteur camerounais</b>	To determine	A trophy + a parchment
<b>3- Ecran de la meilleure actrice camerounaise</b>	To determine *	A trophy + a parchment
<b>4-Ecran du film camerounais</b>	To determine *	A trophy + a parchment
<b>5- Ecran du meilleur scénario de long métrage de l'Afrique centrale</b>	Development Support	A parchment delivered by TV5 Monde
<b>6- Ecran du meilleur scénario de long métrage</b>	Development Support	A parchment
<b>7-Ecran du court Afrique Centrale</b>	To determine *	A trophy + a parchment
<b>8- Ecran du documentaire</b>	To determine *	A trophy + a parchment
<b>9- Ecran du film d'Afrique centrale</b>	To determine	A trophy + a parchment

<b>10-Ecran du Court International</b>	To determine *	A trophy + a parchment
<b>11- Ecran du documentaire international</b>	To determine *	A trophy + a parchment
<b>12- Ecran du meilleur scénario</b>	No cash prize	A trophy + a parchment
<b>13- Ecran de la meilleure Comédienne africaine</b>	No cash prize	A trophy + a parchment
<b>14- Ecran du meilleur comédien africain</b>	No cash prize	A trophy + a parchment
<b>15- Prix du jury</b>	No cash prize	A trophy + a parchment
<b>16- Ecran d'Or</b>	To determine *	A trophy + a parchment

**Done in Yaoundé, July 24, 2020**

**The General Delegate of the Festival**