i48/2026 OFFICIAL RULES

1) Filmmaker teams must have at least two (2) members. All cast and crew must be volunteers.

2) Filmmaker teams cannot pre-plan or pre-produce any element of their i48 short film except the following: A) organizing the team and securing equipment, crew and potential cast members, B) scouting and securing locations, and C) securing rights to pre-recorded, royalty-free, original music for use as soundtrack music.

3) All filmmaker teams based in the Treasure Valley must have a Team Representative present at the Pre-Production Meeting on May 29, 2026 by 6:00 p.m. (location TBA). At the Pre-Production Meeting, each team will be given a packet assigning A) the genre of their film, B) a line of dialogue, C) a specific character, and D) a prop.

4) Final announcements at the Pre-Production Meeting will start at 5:50 p.m. so that packets can be opened at 6:00 p.m. It is recommended that Team Representatives arrive at the Pre-Production Meeting no later than 5:45 p.m. to secure your packet and prop.

5) **All films must be delivered, in approved format, by 6:00 p.m. on May 31, 2026 via a WeTransfer in order to be eligible for the competition judging. Films turned in after 6:00 p.m. will still be considered for screening at the festival and inclusion on i48's Vimeo page at the complete discretion of the directors of i48 but will be disqualified from consideration for awards.**

6) For Technical Specification please go to www.idaho48.org and download the Technical Specification information sheet.

7) Teams must turn in four (4) items at the deadline:
   A) a copy of the finished film in the approved format,
   B) a copy of the screenplay for the film,
   C) talent/location releases for all cast and privately owned locations depicted in the film.
   D) A cast credits list – submitted online www.idaho48.org

8) To qualify for consideration for awards, each team's film must comply with their assigned genre and include the line of dialogue, the character and the prop.

9) All filmmaker teams must write a screenplay for their film, a copy of which shall be included with the finished film. Screenplays do not need to adhere to any industry-accepted standard and can by in any format (typed, handwritten, etc.) Substantially improvised movies are prohibited. (Creativity on-the-spot is inevitable and encouraged so the finished film and the screenplay may differ, but filmmaker teams must be working from a screenplay.) Screenplays must be written within the 48 hour time period of the competition.

10) All footage must be shot within the 48 hour time period of the competition. No stock footage or footage shot or created at another time may be used. Animation and special effects are permitted but must be created during the 48 hour time period.

11) Music: Filmmaker teams are encouraged to work with local composer and/or musicians to write and record music for the films. Understanding that this may be difficult to achieve during the 48 hours of the competition, it is permissible for filmmaker teams secure rights to use pre-recorded music prior to the competition. Filmmaker teams **must** have the rights to any music used in their films. Filmmaker teams **do not** need to provide written "music rights" release forms to i48.

12) Films must be at least three (3) minutes long and no longer than six (6) minutes long, EXCLUDING ending credits, unless otherwise specified in a special rule. So—the clock starts ticking with the first image of your film, be it opening credits, your production team's logo, etc and ends with final image of your film, EXCLUDING ending credits.

13) Films must include ending credits, limited to a MAXIMUM of 30 seconds. Films must include the following credit: "**This film made as a part of i48/2026**"

14) THE COMPETITION AND FESTIVAL IS OPEN TO ALL AGES, SO THE FILMS MUST BE ACCORDINGLY APPROPRIATE. IN OTHER WORDS, ALL MOVIES MUST BE PG—IF IT COULD AIR ON PRIMETIME TV, YOU'RE SAFE. NO NUDITY, FCC BANNED PROFANE LANGUAGE, EXTREME VIOLENCE, OR GRAPHIC SEXUAL SITUATIONS.

15) Each team must secure talent releases and location releases, which must be turned in with the finished film. Copies of suitable talent releases and location releases are available on-line at www.idaho48.org

16) Use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) in i48 is allowed with the following restrictions:

Use of generative AI programs should be done with extreme caution. There is great controversy and pending litigation against generative AI companies complaining that large language models have been "trained" on copyrighted content from media companies and creators. Filmmaker teams must have legal rights to all material used in your film. If your team cannot certify that your generative AI was trained on cleared and non-copyrighted data, your film shall not include that footage or materials.

There are AI tools embedded in editing, graphics and animation software intended to create content more efficiently and speed up post-production workflow. As long these tools do not breach copyrights, you may use these tools.

FOOTAGE: As noted in Rule 10, every frame of your film must contain footage shot or created within the 48 hour time period. AI-generated video is permitted if it is based on footage shot during the competition weekend — for example, AI-enhanced, re-stylized, or manipulated versions of that footage.

SCRIPTS, MUSIC, EFFECTS: You may only use AI in ways that are legal in Idaho. Filmmaker teams must have the legal rights to all material used in their film, including AI-generated content. Any AI output that incorporates copyrighted material without written permission is not allowed.

CREDITS: Filmmaker teams must list all AI Applications or Software used in their film in the film's closing credits.

17) **IMPORTANT LEGAL STUFF.** Filmmaker teams agree that i48 will become a co-owner of the completed films and i48 has the right to screen, show, exhibit, broadcast or disseminate in any way possible, including and not limited to theatrical release, compilations for sale to the public, broadcast television, cable television and/or the internet; and the right to publicize i48 using the name or images of the films. Filmmaker teams retain all other rights to their film.

18) Filmmaker teams will not exhibit, broadcast or disseminate their films (including posting their films on-line on personal or commercial websites such as You-Tube or Vimeo) until AFTER the Festival Screenings at The Egyptian. Once the festival screenings are complete, i48 encourages filmmaker teams to distribute and show their movies however and whenever they want.

19) When registering online the team representative is agreeing to adhere to all rules and guidelines by checking the agreement box.

20) Failure to abide by any of these rules will result in disqualification of the film for consideration for awards and/or screening at the Festival. Inclusion of a film in the Festival and/or on the i48 Vimeo site is entirely within the discretion of the Directors of i48.

21) The Directors of i48 may add to or amend these rules at any time prior to the beginning of the competition.