

June 12, 2011

The Margot George Short Film Competition 2012

Rules & Regulations

Introduction

The Margot George Short Film Competition is an annual short film competition open to all independent filmmakers. Residence in Vermont is not a prerequisite and no preference will be accorded to residents of Vermont.

The theme of the competition is *a celebration of Vermont's historical and culturally significant places. Eligible subjects include buildings, structures, or public spaces and can be well-known landmarks or sites special to a particular group. Films should illuminate how the featured environment reflects local identity and tradition and creates a sense of place. The film should focus on one community, but may include more than one site.*

Prizes will be awarded for the best film or films on that theme.

The following prizes may be awarded:-

- (1) ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000) for best film by filmmaker aged 18 and over*
- (2) FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500) for best film by filmmaker under age 18*

*as of December 1, 2011.

In addition the winning entries and such other entries as are selected by the jury will be screened at the Green Mountain Film Festival in March 2012.

The competition was inaugurated in recognition of the legacy of Margaret (Margot) George, co-founder of the Montpelier Heritage Group. Margot George led with enormous distinction the successful effort to revive and preserve the historic cityscape of Vermont's capital city, Montpelier.

The competition is hosted by Focus on Film, a 501(c)(3) organization, 26 Main Street, Montpelier, VT. Focus on Film presents the annual Green Mountain Film Festival.

1) Each Entry must include:

1. **Entry form** - filled out clearly and completely, with an original signature. Entry forms are available from the Green Mountain Film Festival website at www.GreenMountainFilmFestival.org.
2. **One short film on DVD.** Total running time must not exceed 10 minutes in length,

including front and back credits. Foreign DVD entries must be formatted for Region Code 1 (North America), or Region Code 0 (Universal).

3. **Entry Fee - \$25 (US Currency Only)**

* Payments from countries outside the U.S.A. must be in the form of a US bank check, money order, or cash. Personal checks are not accepted from outside the U.S.A.

Please make all Checks or Money Orders payable to:

Focus on Film

(and indicate *For Margot George Short Film Competition 2012*)

Mail all entries to:

Margot George Short Film Competition
c/o Focus on Film
26 Main Street
Montpelier, VT
05602

- 2) **Final Entry Deadline: Entries must be postmarked by December 1, 2011 or earlier.**
- 3) **Entrants may submit multiple entries.** Each entry requires a separate DVD, entry form and entry fee. (Entry fee is non-refundable)
- 4) **Short films that are submitted must be the entrants original work and shall not infringe on any copyrights or any other rights of any third parties.** Contestants agree that they have obtained all required permissions regarding music, sound and/or images presented in the film. By entering the competition, the entrant agrees that Focus on Film will not be held liable for any copyright infringements perpetrated by him or her, or his or her short film.
- 5) **Focus on Film reserves the right not to screen any film at its sole discretion.** Winners will be required to sign an affidavit confirming that their short film is original and he or she holds all rights. Failure to sign and return the form within the required time period (30 days) or provision of false information may result in disqualification and an alternate winner may be selected. Affidavits of winners under 18 years of age at time of award must be countersigned by parent or legal guardian.
- 6) **Entrants will retain all ownership rights to films submitted.**
- 7) **Entry materials (including DVDs) submitted will not be returned to the entrant.** Focus on Film is not responsible for late, lost, damaged, misdirected, postage due, stolen, or misappropriated entries.

8) Winners are selected by a jury appointed at the sole discretion of Focus on Film. Entries to be judged on the basis of:-

- **Thematic relevance** (“Vermont’s historical and culturally significant places”)
- **Content and originality** (Quality of storyline, and script, if applicable)
- **Production** (Camera work, lighting, and shot composition)
- **Post-Production** (Editing, transitions, pacing, continuity, and flow)
- **Image** (Focus, color, and lighting)
- **Sound Quality** (Clarity, consistency of audio levels, and lack of noise)

Winners will be announced by March 1, 2012 and will be notified by mail and/or email and will also be listed on the competition website at www.greenmountainfilmfestival.org. Focus on Film will use its best efforts to announce the winners at the designated time, but will not be held liable for any unforeseen delays.

All prizes will be awarded to the first name as it appears on the entry form, and division of prizes among co-directors is the responsibility of the winners. However, multiple directors will be listed on our website and in all press releases. Focus on Film will use its best efforts to send prizes out in a timely fashion.

9) All federal, state, and local taxes, and customs fees, when applicable, are the sole responsibility of the winner. Focus on Film will not pay any winners' taxes.

10) By entering the Margot George Short Film Competition, entrants and/or their parents or legal guardian (if such entrant is a minor) agree to accept and be bound by the decisions of the competition and its judges which are final and binding in all matters.

11) Entrants agree to be bound by all terms of these official competition rules and regulations as established herein. Employees of Focus on Film and their families are not eligible. If the entrant is under 18 years old, the signature of a parent or guardian is required. Focus on Film reserves the right to extend the competition deadline at its sole discretion. Entry constitutes permission to use winner's name, likeness, and voice for future advertising and publicity purposes without compensation. Void where prohibited.

Focus on Film
26 Main Street
Montpelier, VT
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