

# Umbrales Competition of Cinematographic Vanguard



The International Film Festival of the National Autonomous University of Mexico - FICUNAM, opens the call for the **Umbrales Competition of Cinematographic Vanguard** of its fifteenth edition.


Starting with its 13th edition, FICUNAM reinforces its drive to inject energy and resources into the most radical aspects of film production with the **Umbrales Competition of Cinema Vanguard**.

**FICUNAM 15 will take place from May 29th to June 5th, 2025.**

## GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Entries for the **Umbrales Competition of Cinematographic Vanguard** are open to all Latin American productions from 2024 until the closing date of this call.
2. The call is aimed at works interested in expanding the frontiers of cinema through novel approaches to the formal. We expect works with a certain awareness of the materials and the medium -be it filmic or digital- and that appeal to radicality -be it abstract or concrete-, seeking to confront aesthetic, genre, duration and discourse conventions. Works that challenge the experience of appreciation and that pay homage to disruptive processes and experimentation in the foreground. Performative proposals involving cinematic language are welcome.
3. The official exhibition formats are DCP, 35mm and 16mm. The presentation in other formats, including works with performative aspects of expanded cinema, requires prior authorization from the Festival.
4. Only works that have not been exhibited in Mexico City, either commercially or in other film festivals and exhibitions in the city, may participate.
5. Once the invitation has been accepted, films may not be withdrawn from the Festival's program nor may they be screened at any other event in Mexico City prior to their official presentation at FICUNAM.
6. The producers of the winning films or those receiving an honorable mention agree to mention the Festival in all publicity and subsequent press material, including the FICUNAM logo.
7. Both the selection made by the FICUNAM Committee and the jury's decision will be final.
8. The closing date for this call for entries will be **November 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** (Mexico Central Time). The Festival Selection Committee is not obliged to view films submitted after the deadline.
9. The fifteenth edition will be held in person with some virtual components. However, we reserve the right to change all or part of the program to virtual venues in the event of an eventuality beyond our control, such as a health emergency or natural contingency. Such changes will be made with the prior authorization of the film's representative.
10. The registration of a film to this call for entries implies the acceptance of these regulations..

## AWARDS

- **Films in the Umbrales Competition of Cinematographic Vanguard will compete for the following awards:**
- **Umbrales Award for Best Film**  
A cash award of \$50,000.00 pesos M.N. granted by the Ficomteca de la UNAM, and a diploma of recognition to the best film in the Umbrales de Vanguardias Cinematográficas Competition.
- **UMBRALES Award from Estudios Churubusco**  Estudios Churubusco.  
An in-kind award granted by Estudios Churubusco for developing and scanning services equivalent to \$100,000 pesos for the next film by the winning director.
- **Awards from other partners**  
The festival does not rule out making alliances with third parties to award other prizes and incentives.

## MATERIAL NEEDED FOR REGISTRATION

1. To register for the **FICUNAM Umbrales Competition of Cinematographic Vanguard** it is necessary to send the following material before **November 11th, 2024, at 18:00** (Mexico Central Time):
  - Complete online entry form (available at the Festival webpage: [www.ficunam.unam.mx](http://www.ficunam.unam.mx))
  - An online-available version of the film with access password

**Important:** It is needed to specify whether this version is a final cut or a work in progress.

---

**MATERIAL NEEDED IN CASE OF BEING SELECTED**

1. For the Festival catalogue and promotion, send the following material:
  - Director's statement in Spanish and/or English
  - Bio-filmography of the film's director
  - Photo of the director
  - Full film credits
  - Technical specifications
  - High-resolution photograms of the film (300 dpi)
  - Poster and/or press kit (if available), printed and in digital format
2. For screening the selected films, submit the following material to the Festival:
  - DCP screening copy and digital file of the film (Apple ProRes/H264) with English subtitles (if the film is in another language).
  - All DCP materials must be delivered under the current DCI norms, HDD formatted under DCI specifications, *frame rate*, *aspect ratio* and properly named content. In case of having a different screening digital format, the Festival is willing to offer an alternative
  - Dialogue list in the original language and in English (if available) with time codes for subtitling.
3. If there is a particular specification for setting or checking the copy of a film, this must be informed at the moment of delivering the material through a note written by the film's producer.
4. Participating works must deliver a promotional set of images for the film. If this material is not submitted, the Festival will be allowed to copy photograms and fragments (up to 3 minutes long) of the selected films for promotion purposes on the Festival's webpage and other mass media.

---

**SHIPPING SPECIFICATIONS**

1. In case the film is selected, it is recommended sending the copy in digital format. Otherwise, all the shipping costs will be borne by the participant. Material with surcharges will not be accepted.
2. The sender must inform FICUNAM about the sending date and the guide number of the exhibition copy. Also, the participant must consult the necessary documentation for the shipment according to the regulations of each country.
3. All materials must be sent to the following address:

*Dirección General de Actividades Cinematográficas (Filmoteca-UNAM)  
Oficina del FICUNAM  
Circuito Mario de la Cueva S/N Ciudad Universitaria  
04510 Ciudad de México, México.*

---

**EXHIBITION EXTENSION**

1. The Festival will organise a digital collection with programmed films. This research and educational space will only be open for students and professionals authorised by the Festival.
2. Throughout the year, the Festival will organise exhibitions in cultural spaces and educational institutions in Mexico City and throughout Mexico offering a selection of films screened during its latest edition. In all cases, prior authorization for screening will be asked.

Cases not foreseen in this call or derived from it will be resolved by the joint coordination of FICUNAM in accordance with the applicable regulations and the UNAM Code of Ethics.

**Information**  
+52 55 5622 9595  
ficunam@fic.unam.mx

**"Por mi raza hablará el espíritu"**  
**Ciudad Universitaria, 10 octubre, 2024**