

MARGARET MEAD



FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL

General Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What kinds of films do you exhibit?

A: The Mead screens a range of non-fiction films and videos including, but not limited to: feature documentaries, short documentaries, indigenous works, community media essay films, hybrid films, animation, and experimental non-fiction.

Q: Does the Mead Festival show only science-based or ethnographic films?

A: No. The Mead Festival shows films about a variety of themes and topics and aims to screen work that represents a broad spectrum of stories, communities, and geographic locations.

Q: Who selects the films for the Mead Festival?

A: The Mead pre-screening committee reviews all submission and gives staff feedback. Ultimately Festival staff reviews all submissions and determines the Mead line-up.

Q: My film was made over 3 years ago, is it still eligible for entry into this year's Festival?

A: In general, the Mead Festival seeks work that was completed in the past three years. However, the Mead Festival will consider works older than 3 years if they have not screened in the United States.

Q: I am a student, can I submit my film?

A: Yes, the Mead Festival is open to anyone.

Q: Will a work-in-progress screening elsewhere disqualify my film?

A: No.

Q: Can I submit my film as a rough cut?

A: Yes, but if selected the final version must be completed before the Mead Festival in November.

Q: What is your preferred format for submission?

A: Region 1 or region free DVD. See guidelines for all acceptable formats.

Q: Do you accept any of the High-Definition DVD formats?

A: No.

Q: Can I send you my DVD in PAL format, or do you accept NTSC only?

A: We accept both PAL and NTSC. However, NTSC is preferred.

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Q: I would like you to send my preview DVD back. Is this possible?

A: Due to the large number of submissions we receive each year, we are unable to return preview copies. We hope you understand!

Q: What do I need to send along with my preview DVD?

A: Please be sure to fill out an *entry form* and send it in with your preview screener. Please read the Mead **guidelines** and this **FAQ** before submitting a film.

Q: I don't have my film in a format that the Mead screens; will the Mead make a new copy?

A: If your film is accepted into the Festival and you do not have one of the necessary exhibition formats available, the Mead requires that you be responsible for the new transfer in order to ensure filmmaker satisfaction. Please take this into consideration when you submit. In some instances the Mead may be able to accommodate formats not listed.

Q: I want to submit to the Mead Festival but I won't know if it can show at the Mead until I hear back from other festivals. Is this OK?

A: Once you have submitted to the Mead Festival you cannot withdraw your film. If you are interested in other festivals that have a premiere policy we ask that you please make this assessment before submitting your work to us.

Q: What is a premiere policy and does the Mead Festival have one?

A: A premiere policy is a policy dictating what kind of premiere a festival requires (for example, a world premiere, a US premiere, an NYC premiere.) The Mead does not have a premiere policy but does take into account what kind of audience the film has already had and if there have been previous screenings in the New York City area.

Q: My film was rejected last year, can I submit it again?

A: Yes, but only if it has changed significantly. We do not accept a resubmission of the same cut — it should be a complete reworking of the previous version that was submitted to us. If you are in doubt, it probably hasn't changed enough.

Q: How many films can I submit?

A: You may submit as many films as you'd like, just be sure to fill out a separate entry form for each.

Q: When will I find out if my film was selected?

A: All applicants will be notified via email by the end of September.

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Q: When does the 2010 Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival take place?

A: The 2010 MMF&V will take place November 11th-14th 2010. We hope to see you there!

Q: Where does the Mead Festival take place?

A: At the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. The Museum has four theaters within the Museum's walls and utilizes all of them during the Festival.

Q: When was the Mead Festival established?

A: 1977. The Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival is the longest running international documentary film festival in the United States.

Q: Are your venues wheelchair accessible?

A: Absolutely. All of our venues are wheelchair accessible as is the entire Museum.

Q: How can I buy tickets to the Mead Festival?

A: Online at www.amnh.org/mead, call 212 769-5200 or come in person to the Museum up to a week prior to the screening of your choice during business hours.