

Regulations

General Provisions

The 10th Moscow Jewish Film Festival (hereinafter referred to as “MJFF” or “Festival”) is an international film festival that takes place in Russia and consists of a series of film screenings and cultural events dedicated to the world of professional Jewish filmmaking. By screening the latest Russian and Foreign films dedicated to Jewish themes, the Festival contributes to the development of tolerance among young people, and to the creation of an environment that fosters respectful behavior towards Jewish national traditions and culture.

The Moscow Jewish Film Festival was established in 2015 and is held annually.

Organizer

The Festival is organized by the Ark Foundation for Support and Development of the Jewish Cinema (Ark Foundation) (hereinafter referred to as “Organizer”). The present Rules and Regulations are approved by the CEO of the Ark Foundation for Support and Development of the Jewish Cinema (Ark Foundation).

Leadership

The head of the Festival is the CEO & Producer of the MJFF who is appointed by the decree of the CEO of the Ark Foundation for Support and Development of the Jewish Cinema (Ark Foundation).

Organizing Committee

The de-facto organization of the MJFF is performed by the Organizing Committee. The membership of the Organizing Committee is approved by the CEO & Producer of the MJFF.

Mandatory positions in the Organizing Committee structure:

- Producer
- Executive Producer
- Narrative Film Program Curator
- Documentary Film Program Curator
- Program Director
- Retrospective Program Curator
- Educational Director
- PR Director
- Technical Director
- Media Manager
- SMM Director

CEO & Producer also approves the membership of the Organizing Committee Directorate, which by default includes the following:

- CEO & Producer
- Producer
- Executive Producers
- PR Director
- Narrative Film Program Curator
- Documentary Film Program Curator
- Retrospective Program Curator
- Educational Director.

General Policy

The Moscow Jewish Film Festival is held annually in Moscow and lasts from 5 to 11 days. The Festival is an international event of competitive nature.

The 10th Moscow Jewish Film Festival will take place in Moscow from December 7 to December 14, 2025.

The aim of the MJFF is to create a multi-faceted understanding of the Jewish culture and traditions in Russian society, as well as to establish international and interconfessional peace by screening the latest Russian and Foreign films dedicated to Jewish themes.

Festival objectives:

- To develop ideas of peacemaking, tolerance, and humanism;
- To engage audiences in the global conversation between national communities;
- To strive to foster tolerance and mutual respect between people of different nationalities and religions.

Festival Program

The Festival Film Program includes the following:

- Main Competition: Narrative Feature Film Competition
- Competition Program
 - Documentary Feature Film Competition
- Documentary Short Film Competition
- Narrative Short Film Competition
- Out-of-competition Program
- Retrospective

An Educational Program takes place within the framework of the Festival and includes the following:

- Educational lectures and discussions
- Creative meetings with Festival film creators
- Workshops by leading global filmmakers, etc.

Film Entry

Those wishing to submit a film for participation in the 9th Moscow Jewish Film Festival have to make an official application to the Organizing Committee of the MJFF. The selection of the Festival films is performed by Program Curators. Film submissions for the consideration of the Program Director should be done via online systems Filmfreeway (<https://filmfreeway.com>) and Festhome (<https://festhome.com>). The submission deadline for film entry is May 1, 2025. The additional extended deadline is July 1, 2025.

Official notification of the Selection Committee's decision on each submission entered through the Filmfreeway and Festhome systems will be sent no later than July 15, 2025.

The films can also be selected for the Festival program upon the initiative of Program Curators.

The screening program of the Festival is approved by Program Curators. Each film can be screened up to five times during the Festival, including press screenings.

The Educational program of the Festival is developed and approved by the Educational Director of the MJFF.

Technical Specifications and Legal Requirements

According to the FIAPF criteria, the Main Competition Program is only open to Feature Narrative films the production of which has been completed no earlier than 24 months before the starting date of the Festival.

These restrictions do not apply to other Competition Programs and the Out-of-competition Program.

Acceptable formats for the MJFF films are DCP, mp4, mov.

Screening copies of the films that take part in the Festival Competition Programs have to be submitted in their original version with English subtitles unless the original language of the film is English.

Screening copies should be delivered to the Organizing Committee of the MJFF no later than August 10, 2024.

Films selected for the Festival Programs have to provide the following documentation:

- The electronic copy of the shot or dialogue lists in the original language and/or the file with subtitles in Russian, English, or the original language in the .srt format;
- Synopsis, press materials, promotional materials;
- Trailer and film stills in digital format;
- Materials for the Festival catalogue (information about film creators, photographs including director's photo, and film stills).

Simultaneously, the copyright owner agrees to the following:

- The public screening of a film as part of Competition or Out-of-competition Programs with the participation of the creative group representatives;
- The presentation of film clips on television, the official website of the Festival, and in other advertising materials for the Festival;
- The usage of film stills in advertising materials for the Festival (including catalogues, promotional booklets, official website, multimedia presentations, etc.).

All conditions and suggested dates are obligatory, otherwise, the Organizing Committee of the MJFF has the right to exclude the film from the Festival Program.

Jury

To select the winners of the MJFF, the following Jury Committees are formed:

- Main Competition Jury (International)
 - No less than three Jury members;
- The Jury of the Documentary Competition (Feature and Short)
 - No less than three Jury members.
- The Jury of the Feature Short Film Competition
 - No less than three Jury members.

All Jury Committees are headed by the President of the Jury.

Jury candidates are proposed by members of the Organizing Committee Directorate and are confirmed by the CEO & Producer of the MJFF.

The MJFF Organizer will cover the stay of each international Jury Member in Moscow and their round-trip tickets to the Festival.

The members of each Jury Committee must not have participated in the making or the commercial distribution of any film screened in the competition they are judging.

Public Council

The Public Council includes filmmakers, representatives of culture, journalists, religious and cultural figures, who are supportive of Jewish filmmaking and share the goals and objectives of the Festival.

The Public Council candidates are proposed by members of the Organizing Committee Directorate and are confirmed by the Chairman of the MJFF Public Council.

The Chairman of the Public Council is elected by the current members of the Public Council by direct vote for the term of 5 (five) years.

Prizes

The Prize of the Festival is The Key to Discoveries. The Statuette symbolizes the place of the Jewish culture at the confluence of the interaction of diverse countries and nationalities.

The International Jury of the Main Competition will award the following prizes:

- The Prize for the Best Film

The Jury of the Documentary Competition will award the following prizes:

- The Prize for the Best Documentary Feature Film
- The Prize for the Best Documentary Short Film

The Jury of the Narrative Short Film Competition will award the following prizes:

- The Prize for the Best Narrative Short Film

The Public Council of the Festival will award the following prizes:

- The Honorary Award For the Outstanding Contribution to the Development of Jewish Cinema in Russia

Members of each Jury Committees select winners by voting. All winners have to be confirmed by the President of the Jury.

All Jury members award the Jury Prize to a film that took part in the Festival Competition Programs.

Members of the Organizing Committee Directorate can award the Organizing Committee Choice Prize based on the voting of the Organizing Committee Directorate members.

Guests

The Organizing Committee of the MJFF determines the terms of guest invitations, dates and conditions of their stay and accreditation.

Each film participating in the Main Competition should be personally presented at the Festival by 1 (one) representative. The Organizer of the MJFF covers the expenses associated with the arrival of the representatives of the Main Competition films.

At the discretion of the Organizing Committee Directorate representatives of other films can also be invited to the Festival based on pre-agreed conditions specified in their invitations.

Media Accreditation

Moscow Jewish Film Festival Media Accreditation is available only to Members of the Media and Bloggers. Applications for Media Accreditation must be submitted to the Organizing Committee of the MJFF no later than December 5, 2025.

Accreditation grants free access to film screenings at the Festival with an option to occupy seats reserved for the Accredited Persons, as well as empty seats if available.

Members of the Media and Bloggers whose accreditation for the Festival is approved will be sent a confirmation letter by December 6, 2025.

Details of the accreditation process are outlined in Accreditation Rules.

Final provisions

Participation in the Festival presumes observation of all articles of the present Rules and Regulations.

The present Rules and Regulations are drawn in two copies, in Russian and in English. In case of any disputes which may arise out of the present Regulations, only the Russian-language version of the present Regulations is considered authentic.

Contact Information

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CEO

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Ark Foundation for Support and Development of the Jewish Cinema (Ark Foundation)