



LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER PREVIEWERS FOR 2008 FESTIVAL

The Calgary International Film Festival (CIFF) is seeking a dedicated team of Previewer Volunteers to help screen and select films for the 2008 program.

A total of seven Preview Committees will be created, each with a focus on a specific Series in the 2008 Festival (see below.) A maximum of six previewers will be chosen for each committee. In addition to previewing solicited and submitted films in a chosen series, previewers must be willing to screen and rate short films fitting in to this series as well.

Previewer Volunteers are expected to contribute a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer time prior to the festival, from the beginning of April through to the end of June. Volunteers must be available for regular meetings and work closely with CIFF's programming team.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 17TH, 2008

If you are interested in applying for a Preview Committee position, please go to **Volunteer Information and Login**. You will need to complete the following steps:

- Register as a CIFF volunteer.
- Choose **Preview Committee** as your preferred activity.
- Attach a resume and brief letter of intent as to why you would be a great addition to the 2008 Programming Team.

Already registered as a volunteer with CIFF? Please submit your letter of intent to volunteer@calgaryfilm.com with **Previewer Volunteer** in the subject line.

2008 FESTIVAL SERIES & PROGRAMMERS

Canadian Filmworks - Programmed by Pete Harris

CIFF strives to bring the absolute best of Canadian Cinema to Calgary each year by showcasing narrative features from coast to coast to coast. The main criteria for the program is that the films be Canadian-shot and produced. All genres, languages and styles are accepted and it will be the previewers job to help view both submitted and solicited films and select the best available to fill approximately 15 premiere titles for the 2008 program. Canadian Filmworks becomes more varied each year, and 2008 will absolutely be the strongest in the history of the festival!

Contemporary World Cinema - Programmed by Brenda Lieberman

The Contemporary World Cinema series will showcase a wide variety of narrative foreign films from around the world, excluding North America. The majority of our CWC films will be subtitled, and be comprised of both solicited and submitted films. Previewers need a strong interest in foreign cinema, with expertise in a particular region being an asset. For this series, previewers should also be able to assist in soliciting films and working directly with the programmer. All genres, languages and styles are accepted, with an aim to program the best available films for 28 premiere screenings in 2008.

American Independent - Programmed by Christian Argyll

The American Independent Series is one of the highlights of the festival program. Each year, CIFF brings the best of American Cinema to Calgary by showcasing narrative features from south of the border. The films are generally made outside of the traditional Hollywood system. Successful previewers need to be dedicated, hardworking, and enjoy a diverse selection of subject matter. All genres, languages and styles are accepted and it will be the previewer's job to help screen both submitted and solicited films, and assist in selecting the most exciting features for the 2008 program.

Documentary Features - Programmed by Trevor Smith

CIFF seeks to find the best in documentary filmmaking from around the globe, creating an exciting program of 28 titles for 2008. These films tell varied and engaging stories in cinematic ways and should be powerful, big-screen experiences. Themes for documentary features include music, art, world issues, political environments, small character studies, quirky sub-cultures, etc. Previewers need the necessary dedication to watch a lot of documentaries – both solicited and submitted – and have an eye for story and distinction.

Short Films – Programmed by Jenn Cecconi

The festival receives short films from all over the world, and these comprise about one third of our submissions. These films can push the limits – both technically and content-wise – and the program requires strong, capable, and discerning previewers. Short films are generally between 30 seconds to 22 minutes in length, ranging from comedy to drama, experimental to documentaries – definitely a veritable smorgasbord for previewers who love to watch lots of films in a short amount of time. Most of the shorts are created by up-and-coming independent filmmakers, although there are also those created by mainstream filmmakers.

Late Shows – Programmed by Brenda Lieberman

The Late Shows Series screenings take place at 11:30 PM during the festival. The titles tend to be dark, scary and creepy, and come from all over the world. Late Shows are primarily horror, but cover other genres including: thrillers, fantasy, sci-fi and everything in between. Previewers must be willing to watch both foreign and North American films and be comfortable with any subject matter displayed. *This is not for the weak.* This committee will be extremely selective about films (only 6 titles are in the program) and will be doing lots of soliciting and watching to find hidden gems.

Family Films – Programmed by Wendy Fallon

The Family Series is comprised of four feature films plus one shorts program. The solicited and submitted family oriented films that CIFF receives come from all over the world, with a diverse range of styles, languages, genres and subject matter. These films are meant to be an exciting alternative to the usual Cineplex, blockbuster fare. The selected films need to be appropriate for different age groups (generally 5 and up, 8 and up, and over 14) while also being entertaining for the whole family.