

The Bowlus Fine Arts Center Keaton Celebration Film Competition 2022 Rules and Participation Agreement

The 2022 Keaton Celebration is focused on the influences of Buster Keaton and Gene Kelly on film. Both were innovative in their use of the camera and the incorporation of choreography and music. The Bowlus is looking for the next generation of filmmakers by holding a film competition for local area film enthusiasts.

1. Eligibility

All entries must have submitted an online entry form designating the team leader and all participants on the film team, including crew and talent. The form must include a completed payment of the non-refundable Entry Fee of \$50.00. All teams must have read, signed submitted one copy of THE BOWLUS FINE ARTS CENTER KEATON CELEBRATION FILM COMPETITION 2022 RULES AND PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT. Participants must be at least sixteen (16) years of age or have parent/guardian signature to participate.

2. Agreement to Rules

By entering this contest, all participants in a film making team agree to abide by the Terms and Conditions herein. Entries that do not include all required information and/or do not adhere to the foregoing and following requirements will be considered void and will not be considered. The Selection Committee reserves the right to refuse, withdraw, or disqualify entries at its sole discretion. Participants agree to accept the decision of the Selection Committee as final and binding. All Participants in a film making team are required to sign this agreement, including all cast and crew. If under the legal age, your parent or legal guardian must sign it on your behalf.

3. Filmmaking and Submission Period

The Bowlus Fine Arts Center Buster Keaton Celebration Film Competition 2022, hereafter referred to as the "BKFC", will occur between Friday, August 12 at 7pm central standard time and Friday, September 16 at 7pm central standard time. This is the Official Time Period.

The participating team must complete its film/video work in time to submit it on September 16, at 5pm central standard time.

Only works that meet the deadline will be officially part of the competition. All films received the evening of the submission deadline but after the cutoff time may be considered for screening, but ineligible for awards.

4. Creative Process

All creativity must take place during the Official Time Period. Any creative work in advance of the Official Time Period is prohibited. Creative work includes, but is not limited to:

- A. Writing the script
- B. Rehearsing
- C. Costume/Set Design
- D. Shooting
- E. Editing
- F. Sound Design
- G. Rendering
- H. Outputting to USB drive, other media, or uploading

5. Preparation

The only work to begin prior to the Official Time Period is:

- A. Organizing Crew
- B. Organizing Cast
- C. Securing Equipment
- D. Scouting/Securing Locations with permissions and releases

6. Footage

All footage must be shot within the Official Time Period of the project.

Animation and special effects are permitted but must be created during the Official Time Period.

No stock footage or footage shot or created at another time may be used unless the footage is part of a post-production effect or on a background monitor, i.e., a television, as long as the team has rights to the stock footage and the stock footage is placed over or under footage that is shot within the Official Time Period. Allowable stock footage includes bullets, fires, explosions, chromakeyed backgrounds, etc., but stock footage of people or other performers is not allowed.

Pre-made sequences or compositions that are available to all via purchase or download are permitted if a majority of frames contain content (e.g., text or images) created within the Official Time Period. The pre-made portion of the sequence may not include people or other performers.

Still photographs are permitted, provided that the team has the rights to them. The photos do not need to be created during the Official Time Period; however, stills created outside of the Official Time Period may not be used in sequence to create the illusion of motion.

Permissible stock footage within effects, permissible pre-made sequences, and still photographs must all be accompanied by a Materials Release demonstrating that the team has rights to use them.

7. Kickoff Event

Kickoff event to be held at the Bowlus Fine Arts Center on August 12, 2022 at 7:00pm.

Each participant team must have at least one representative present at the Kickoff event in person or via the Zoom link provided in the registration email to the event. Each participant team must have paid the registration fee in full and must have all participant signatures on the one agreement submitted. A team may not participate without submitting this agreement. The Zoom session recording will be available to registered participants.

8. Filmmaking Criteria

Each participating group will choose either the Silent Film or Music & Dance category for their film and must:

- A. Be an original work created by the participant, emphasizing a character based storyline.
- B. Have a runtime between 3 and 6 minutes, with an extra 30 seconds for credits at either the beginning or end of the film, but not both, for a total runtime of between 3:30 and 6:30.
- C. Contain a title and some sort of credits for the cast and crew, not to exceed :30 as stated above.
- D. Be family friendly, with content equivalent to an MPAA rating no higher than G, which contains nothing in theme, language, nudity, sex, violence or other matters that, in the view of the Selection Committee, would offend parents whose younger children view the motion picture. Snippets of language may go beyond polite conversation, but they are common everyday

expressions. No stronger words are present in G-rated motion pictures. Depictions of violence are minimal and comical and/or non-explicit or only implied. No nudity, sex scenes or drug use are permitted.

- E. A submission in the **Silent Film** category must contain no audible dialogue but can have title cards and/or subtitles and can include music.
- F. A submission in the **Music & Dance** category must contain large elements of dance, but is not a music video.

9. Volunteers

All cast and crew must be volunteers, no payment or hiring of professional services is permitted.

10. Safety and permissions, permits, and releases

Cast and crew safety, including that of animals, bystanders, property owners, and all other living beings and property is of paramount importance. The participants signed to this agreement are responsible for acquiring all permissions, permits, and releases for filming on private or public property with a recording policy in place, including releases for any bystanders caught on film whose face would be deemed readable in the film. Participants are solely liable for defending or settling against any and all claims at participant's own expense and are directly responsible for any damage or harm in the making of their film submission.

- A. No use of real or simulated firearms are permitted.
- B. Participants must adhere to all laws and guidance of government officials including but not limited to law enforcement, fire department, and code enforcement.
- C. At No time should a cast or crew member be subjected to an unsafe situation.

11. Music Rights

Participating teams are encouraged to work with a composer and/or musicians to write and record music for the films. It is permissible for a participating group to use pre-recorded music; however, the participating group is responsible for acquiring the rights to any music used in its film and must be able to provide a record when asked. As with music, pre-recorded sound effects are allowed, but you must have rights to use them.

Note: Song parodies (i.e., use of identifiable pre-existing compositions with new or altered lyrics or music) may not be included in the film without a signed release from the composition's rights holder. This rule applies without regard to whether the song parody arguably constitutes fair use under US or international copyright law.

12. Cameras

Any type of digital, video, smart phone, or film camera may be used. There is no limit to the number of cameras. All submissions must be in a digital format; actual film cannot be screened.

13. Total Running Time

The finished film must be a minimum of 3 minutes in duration, and a maximum of 6 minutes in duration—not including credits. In other words, the official running time begins after the required BKFC slate and ends prior to the end credits. The required slates and the end/opening credits do not count towards the minimum time of 3 minutes. The film story may not be longer than 6 minutes. Bowlus Fine Arts Center reserves the right to shorten any film that exceeds the maximum length for screening purposes.

14. Credits

A. Pre-film Required Slates

Before the finished film begins, the media should have:

- a. 5 seconds of black
- b. A title card with: This film was made for the Bowlus Fine Arts Center Buster Keaton Film Competition 2022 www.Facebook.com/lolaKeaton
- c. A title card with: team name, title, Silent Film or Music & Dance, and date
- d. 2 seconds of black

B. Opening Credits

After the 2 seconds of black, some films start with opening credits. You may use opening credits in lieu of end credits and this will be counted as the additional :30 credit time.

C. End Credits

Credits at the end of each film are limited to a maximum of 30 seconds. The 30 seconds is considered additional to the length of the film, as stated above. (That is, a film may be 6 minutes long, with an additional 30 seconds of credits, for a total running time of 6:30 minutes.) Bowlus Fine Arts Center reserves the right to shorten any end credits that exceed the maximum length for screening purposes.

The credits must include the words: This film was made for the 2022 Bowlus Fine Arts Center Buster Keaton Celebration Film Competition
Slates and Credits After The Competition

For any future screenings, online or otherwise, films should retain the pre-film title card that says: This film was made for the 2022 Bowlus Fine Arts Center Buster Keaton Celebration Film Competition

15. Required Media Formats

Submission format will be an unlisted YouTube video with the url emailed to Keaton@BowlusCenter.org with the subject line "(Team Name) final submission". Participants must abide by YouTube specific policies and guidelines, visit the link provided below:

<https://www.youtube.com/about/policies/#community-guidelines>

16. Submission Notes

We recommend that you make sound levels relatively even throughout your film. (If your film has uneven sound or sound that peaks, it may be modified to protect the playback equipment.)

All films received on the evening of the deadline (on-time and late) will be screened, presuming they meet the eligibility requirements.

17. Warranties

Participants agrees and warrants any entry into this competition is original work; does not infringe third-party right's, is suitable for publication; does not contain obscene or pornographic material; does not contain defamatory statements about any person, company, organization or entity; does not invade privacy or other rights of any person, company or entity; does not in any other way violate applicable laws and regulations; and does not contain any copyrighted elements (other than as owned by the Participant and/or Bowlus Fine Arts Center).

Entries containing prohibited or inappropriate content as determined by the Bowlus Fine Arts Center, in its sole discretion, to be inappropriate will be disqualified. Bowlus Fine Arts Center reserves the right to make the final determination as to which Entries are eligible. The Bowlus Fine Arts Center reserves the right to refuse to screen a film or to make an announcement at the screening regarding the content of the film. The Bowlus Fine Arts Center reserves the right to alter a film to remove or delete offensive or defamatory content.

18. No Pre-Screening Distribution

The Participant should not distribute their entry/video in any way prior to it receiving its official BKFC premiere screening. This includes uploading the video to any website or screening the film for groups of anyone other than the team. The Participant is encouraged to make a trailer of their film and distribute that instead. This trailer should be no longer than 30 seconds.

19. Entries Not Returned

No Entries (media or documents) will be returned.

20. Production Costs

All costs associated with the production of the Entry are solely the responsibility of the Participant.

21. Judging of Entries

Entries will be judged by a process in which qualified panels of judges will evaluate the eligible entries based on the following judging criteria:

- A. Artistic Merit (e.g., Story, Creativity, Entertainment Value) (45%)
- B. Technical Merit (30%)
- C. Adherence to the Assignment (25%)

22. Selection and Notification of the BKFC Winner

Films will be viewed and judged at the Keaton Celebration, the weekend of September 24 and 25, 2022. The Selection Committee will announce the winning participant on the evening of Saturday, September 24th, 2022, during the Keaton Festival. The Selection Committee and Bowlus Fine Arts Center are not liable for the winning participant's failure to receive notification of winning if he or she provided a wrong email address or incorrect phone number or if their email security settings caused your prize notification to go into the spam or junk folder. Receipt of the prize is upon the condition of compliance with federal, state, and local laws. In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken based on the highest score in the first Judging Criteria, continuing thereafter to each Judging Criteria in order, as needed to break the tie. Participants agree that the BKFC has the sole right to decide all matters and disputes and that all decisions of the BKFC are final and binding. Winners will be posted online at www.Facebook.com/lolaKeaton and www.BowlusCenter.org/lolaKeaton after the awards ceremony.

23. Prizes

The Selection Committee will name a winning participant for first and second prize in each category, totaling four (4) prizes. Prizes are not transferable, and the Selection Committee may substitute prizes at its sole discretion. Acceptance of a prize grants the Selection Committee permission to use the winning participants' entry, name, and likeness for advertising, promotion, and trade without further compensation or remuneration unless prohibited by law.

If a prize is worth more than \$600 the Bowlus Fine Arts Center will need to collect the winner's social security number and issue a 1099 for tax purposes.

Participant Name (Signature)

Date

Participant Name (Signature)

Date

Participant Name (Signature)

Date

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Date

Participant Name (Signature)

Date

Participant Name (Signature)

Date