



**CASCADIA**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL**  
*www.cascadiafilmfest.org*

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**CASCADIA INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL OPENS FOR SHORT FILM SUBMISSIONS**

BELLINGHAM, WA, August 8, 2018—[CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival](http://www.cascadiafilmfest.org) is [now accepting submissions via FilmFreeway](#) for exceptional short films directed by women. Those selected will be presented at a multi-day festival April 11-14, 2019 at [Pickford Film Center](#) in Bellingham, WA.

Submissions of short films under 25 minutes are being [accepted via FilmFreeway](#) now through November 15, 2018. Films must be directed or co-directed by women and have been released no later than 2017. Films can be of any genre. Feature films for the festival are curated. Those considering submission are strongly encouraged to first review our [2017 and 2018 Official Selection](#) on the CASCADIA website [www.cascadiafilmfest.org](http://www.cascadiafilmfest.org) as an indicator of the level of quality the festival is seeking.

CASCADIA is one of only two film festivals in the United States dedicated to exclusively showcasing the work of women directors. The festival debuted in April 2017 at Pickford Film Center, presenting 24 exceptional films directed by women.

Important Dates & Deadlines:

- **August 8, 2018** Opening Date
- **September 5, 2018** Early Bird Deadline
- **October 15, 2018** Regular Deadline
- **November 15, 2018** Late Deadline
- **April 11 – 14, 2019** CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival

In addition to the festival, CASCADIA works year-round to provide film production, exhibition and distribution education.

## **CASCADIA's History**

CASCADIA was founded in 2015:

- to promote Bellingham, Whatcom County and the Pacific Northwest as a destination for filmmakers and film enthusiasts,
- to present an annual film festival showcasing exceptional films by women directors, and
- to provide educational opportunities relating to the viewing, making and distribution of films.

[A 2017 study](#) conducted by the Media, Diversity & Social Change Initiative at the University of Southern California's Annenberg Communications and Journalism School showed that of the 1000 top grossing films from 2007 to 2016, only 4% were directed by women, and that "there was no meaningful change in the prevalence of female directors across the top films from 2007 to 2016."

"The impact of film empowers women, supports local and global ideas and creates opportunities for community members, as well as filmmakers, to participate in the collaboration that is film," explains CASCADIA's Executive Director Cheryl Crooks. "CASCADIA is part of a larger movement to allow women's voices to be heard."

More information may be found on the CASCADIA website: [www.cascadiafilmfest.org](http://www.cascadiafilmfest.org).

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***CASCADIA International Women's Film Festival***, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and showcasing the work of women directors, was formed in Bellingham, Washington, in 2015. CASCADIA will host its third annual independent film festival in Bellingham April 11-14, 2019. The organization also works year-round to provide film production, exhibition and distribution education. More information about CASCADIA may be found on their website at [www.cascadiafilmfest.org](http://www.cascadiafilmfest.org).