



INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL IN THE PALACE

NEXTDOOR NETWORKING

film students training and international co-production project development program
is now

OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

PROGRAM REGULATIONS

NEXTDOOR NETWORKING initiative is part of FILMER FORGE industry program of IN THE PALACE and presents an intensive training, followed with the opportunity for international co-production project development and pitch.

The program runs parallel to the upcoming in 2025 festival edition of ITP and strives to develop productive networking environment and increase participants - as the newest generation of filmmakers - competitiveness and provide opportunities for better access to film industry.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Dates: **27-30 June 2025**

The program aims to **add partical value** and thus enhance the participants' academic training and skills in **Film Directing, Scriptwriting, Film Production, and Film Criticism** by organizing intensive labs and active networking.

Alongside trainings, participants, guided by their tutors, will be able to further **develop** their **international co-production film projects**. The program concludes with a **pitching session** where projects are presented to a **professional audience, accredited participants, and decision-makers** at the **22nd IN THE PALACE** in 2025.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

- **final-year university students**
- in **Film Directing, Scriptwriting, Film Production, or Film Criticism**
- from: **Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Turkey, and Ukraine**

Each national team or individual participant are provided the opportunity to engage with a **film project**, which must be **potential to develop as a co-production** with any of the **other countries** presented in the program.

Accommodation and subsistence for participants are covered by the project.

BENEFITS

To ALL PARTICIPANTS the program offers:

- practical valued intensive training
- networking and new professional contacts
- industry accreditation for 22nd IN THE PALACE in Pernik, Bulgaria (27 – 30 June 2025) and access to all festival programs and events

To 3 most promising FILM PROJECTS the program offers:

- € 1,000 for production expenses;
- a **premiere screening** of the completed work at the next edition of **Oscar® Qualifying IN THE PALACE**;
- **presentation and promotion** at the **Short Film Market** (Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival).

To ALL PARTICIPATING FILM PROJECTS the program offers:

- exposition in **IN THE PALACE's video library** for **professional access and viewing** by accredited professionals;
- **full accreditation** for the **23rd IN THE PALACE** in 2026, including **free access** and **invitations** to all **professional events** for all project team members.

To FILM CRITICS PARTICIPANTS the program offers:

to actively engage with the dynamics of international event and the opportunities to:

- **present and report** on films from the festival's **Official Selection; NEXT DOOR NETWORKING's student film projects** and the program itself;
- **moderate Q&A sessions** and discussions with **filmmakers**;
- **publish news, reviews, and critical essays** in **English** and their **native languages** in **local and international online media**;
- contribute to **IN THE PALACE's paper journal**, and thus **gaining exposure** at the **Clermont-Ferrand** and **Cannes** film markets;
- receive **full accreditation** for the **23rd IN THE PALACE** in **2026**, with **free access** to all **professional events**;
- **coordinate, create, and publish content** on **IN THE PALACE's blog** as a **paid** professional engagement for **one year** (for the most outstanding participants).

DEADLINE:

1st MAY 2025

WHO CAN SUBMIT APPLICATION/S

- Individual applicants, who complete program requirements
- Group application of a crew consisting of director, scriptwriter, producer or team of two of respected roles, who complete program requirements
- Institutional application by film educational institution or national film centers. Institutions organize internal selection process of students and projects and provide the selected ones to take part in NEXTDOOR NETWORKING.

To discussing possible collaborations with film schools, universities, companies, organizations, institutions and other private or public bodies, please contact us via email:

filmerforge@inthepalace.com

HOW TO APPLY:

Please, fill the project Application form and send it to us before the deadline to:

filmerforge@inthepalace.com

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For more information about NEXTDOOR NETWORKING`'s idea, context and objectives, please check here: <https://inthepalace.com/en/filmer-forge/nextdoor-networking/about>

For more information about FILMER FORGE industry program, please check here:

<https://www.inthepalace.com/en/industry/filmer-forge>

If you are still looking for more information, please do not hesitate to contact us by email:

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