

20th URUGUAY INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

Life Experience

ATLANTIDOC / October 19 to November 5, 2026.

1. THE URUGUAY INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

This annual event aims to present an overview of new documentary productions, bringing the best and most diverse content of the genre to our country, as well as training talented filmmakers from the Ibero-American region, as we have been doing since the first edition of the festival. The programming criteria are based on the quality of the works, the virtues of form and content.

The experience over the years has been very positive and Atlantidoc now has a place of consideration among all documentary filmmakers around the world, who recognize it as the only festival of its kind in Uruguay and for the seriousness with which it pursues all its objectives. It promotes the works of young filmmakers while also giving an important space to established documentary filmmakers from around the world.

Registration for the Festival implies acceptance of these rules.

2. ATLANTIDOC 2026 will feature:

A) COMPETITION SCREENINGS.

Productions with the following characteristics will be accepted: international documentaries between 10 and 100 minutes in length, completed after July 2025.

For the works in competition, the following awards will be given to the documentaries that the different juries consider to be the best. Each award promotes a filmmaker who has made an important contribution, pioneers in some cases and fundamental references in others:

ATLANTIDOC AWARD for the best documentary of the Festival, Félix Oliver Award.

BEST URUGUAYAN DOCUMENTARY AWARD, Mario Handler Award.

BEST IBERO-AMERICAN DOCUMENTARY AWARD, Eduardo Coutinho Award.

BEST DEBUT FILM AWARD, Kristina Konrad Award.

BEST EXPERIMENTAL FILM AND SHORT FILM AWARD, Enrico Gras and Ferruccio Musitelli Awards.

BEST URUGUAYAN DOCUMENTARY IN PRODUCTION AWARD, Ronald Melzer Award.

SIGNIS AWARD for best documentary at the festival, María Blanca Pigola Award.

The awards will be granted by a three-member jury composed of renowned artists, film experts, and critics appointed by the organizers. Special awards will have their own juries composed of representatives from the institutions granting them. Individuals with interests in the production and/or exploitation of the films submitted to the competition may not serve on the jury.

The members of the jury undertake not to publicly express their opinions on the films submitted for consideration before the official announcement of the awards. The SIGNIS Jury (World Catholic Association for Communication) provides an international jury for its award.

The awards will be presented to the directors and producers of the winning films or their representatives at the Festival's Closing Ceremony, to which they are all invited.

The Festival Organization will select the works it considers most suitable for this purpose, in accordance with the guidelines followed by all international documentary film festivals, always based on quality. Documentaries will not be accepted for programming unless they are submitted with the corresponding completed and signed Registration Form.

Each jury will have to consider up to a maximum of 12 works for the decision and will view them well in advance of the festival. The composition of the juries will be announced well in advance of the closing date for registrations.

The selected documentaries will be screened in movie theaters, on streaming platforms, or on television channels, georeferenced to Uruguay only and in agreement with the producer or distributor of the work. The Festival Organization will decide on the programming schedule and the dates and times of each film's screening, taking into account the audiences of each screening venue.

The organizers reserve the right to reject, for the Competition, any documentaries that do not comply with the conditions set forth in these Rules. Propaganda films, as well as educational films intended exclusively for classroom use, or purely commercial films, will be excluded from the Festival.

B) THE INFORMATIVE EXHIBITION includes:

- Documentaries not previously released in Uruguay or prior to the production deadline, which justify their inclusion in the program due to their interest.

This Exhibition will provide specialists and the general public with a broad overview of the creative documentaries of filmmakers who have been fundamental to the history of cinema.

C) THE PARALLEL SECTIONS will feature material specially invited for screening at the Festival.

The works programmed will have in common their thematic unity, author, period of production, or origin.

3. REGISTRATION. Applications must be submitted by the producer or director, or, exceptionally, by film organizations or institutions that hold the distribution rights in the area. Producers who hold the rights to a film must, before the closing date of the call for entries, notify the Festival of their desire to participate by sending the duly completed registration form, which will serve as a sworn statement confirming that they are familiar with and accept these Rules. This is repeated on the distribution platforms to the festivals. If these are transferred after registration, the new owner shall not prevent participation in the Festival. The statements written on the registration form shall be considered valid and must be accompanied by:

- a. Complete technical specifications.
- b. Five-line informative synopsis of the documentary.
- c. Link to the documentary via Festhome or Filmfreeway for selection. Up to 30 minutes costs \$10, and over 30 minutes costs \$20.

Send applications by April 20, 2026, to the following address:
20 FESTIVAL ATLANTIDOC contacto.atlantidoc@gmail.com Registration will close at 8 p.m. Montevideo time. Participation in the Festival implies acceptance of these Rules. Any conflict (of organization or operation) not provided for herein will be resolved by the Festival Organization.

4. COPIES for screening must include:

Photos, posters, and informational material for the press.
Director's bio-filmography.
List of awards won.
Send everything by email if selected by the Festival.

About languages and subtitling: Selected documentaries will be screened in their original version, but all need to be subtitled in Spanish if their language is not Spanish. All Festival screenings will be digital. They will be used exclusively for the scheduled screenings, which will be duly publicized on the website: www.atlantidoc.com. For more information, please contact:

Ricardo Casas contacto.atlantidoc@gmail.com

5. COPIES OF AWARD-WINNING FILMS. The Festival organizers, with the approval of the producers, will retain a copy of the award-winning short and feature films. These copies will form part of the Festival Archive (Mediateca Atlantidoc) and will be used solely for Festival purposes. No copies will be permitted for commercial or other uses.

6. PARALLEL ACTIVITIES.

Seminars and workshops will be held by invited experts, both national and international, as well as meetings of documentary filmmakers from the region. All festival activities are open to the general public, without limitation, except for age recommendations for the works on display. The workshops are normally for filmmakers from South America, but students from other countries are also accepted upon presentation of their complete bio-filmography. The Screenplay Workshop, for example, has received more than 170 projects since its first year, most of which have already been completed and have a good track record, with top-level international teachers.

For the tenth consecutive year, a Work in Progress (Documentaries in Construction) will be held for Uruguayan documentaries in the final stages of completion. Six documentaries will be selected and a jury of three members, international experts in documentary filmmaking, will be formed to advise the team behind each of the works, in accordance with the rules that will be announced in due course.

7. ORGANIZATION AND SPONSORS. The FESTIVAL is organized by La Compañía del Cine and the Uruguayan Film and Audiovisual Agency - Ministry of Education and Culture, Municipality of Montevideo, Municipality of Canelones, Ministry of Tourism, and other public and private institutions.

8. EXCEPTIONS. The organizers will make decisions on matters not specifically covered by these rules. Signing the Registration Form implies acceptance of these rules.

The regulations for the **Screenwriting Workshop, Documentaries in the Making, Filmadoc** and other training spaces at the festival, which require registration, will be announced separately in due course.

All information about the Festival will be available on its website:

www.atlantidoc.com. It will also be available on Atlantidoc's social media accounts.

FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE CINE DOCUMENTAL DE URUGUAY
ATLANTIDOC

