



2021 Hosting Overview

The *ZShorts International Film Festival* (ZSIFF) will present its 2021 Festival in September ... at cinemas and theatres in the USA, Canada, UK, Ireland, Australia & New Zealand.

It will be presented by host organizations as a community-branded event streamed online and, where permissible, as an in-person event.

This year's Festival is being offered to independent cinemas/theatres and film societies as a turnkey, revenue-sharing, fund-raising opportunity to help them recover financially from COVID and breathe life back into their communities' arts and entertainment sectors.

If this is a possibility for your organization, we hope you will continue reading and consider partnering with us this year.

ZSIFF 2021 Format

When:	September 2021	
Virtual Event:	Yes ... streamed on ZSIFF platform	
In-person Event:	Optional ... at community cinemas/theatres	
Festival Screenings:	Multiple 1-hour curated screening blocks	
Films per Screening:	Approx. 5-10 international short films per block	
Filmmaker Interviews:	Yes	
Fundraiser:	Optional	
Opening Night Event:	Optional (if guidelines permit)	
Ticket Pricing:	Host decision	
Revenue Share	<u>Host</u>	<u>ZSIFF</u>
- Ticketing:	75%	25%
- Local Sponsorships:	100%	--
- Local Advertising:	100%	--
- Local Fundraising:	100%	--

The Hosting Opportunity

Your level of involvement can be as simple as participating as a virtual host ... selling tickets (Festival Passes) to view the Festival on the ZSIFF streaming platform.

Additional involvement – offering the public an in-person event, providing the screening venue, selling some tickets, and doing some regional social media posting – is completely up to you. We will provide you with a profitable fundraising opportunity – a locally-branded film festival to screen at your location.

There is something very special about presenting a film festival. It is considered to be a glamorous and a prestigious event ... one that brings recognition to its community and its presenting organization. It generates a lot of “buzz” and attracts attention to everything else that you are presenting.

This year's Festival is provides an excellent opportunity to reach out to your community ... reminding everybody that there is life after COVID and that you are helping to bring it back.

NOTE: There is NO upfront financial commitment. We share the box office revenue. The host keeps 75% and shares 25% with ZSIFF. It's as simple as that.

In addition, we will promote your organization on <https://zshorts.com> as well as in the additional marketing and social media promotion that we will be doing.

Festival Growth

The *ZShorts International Film Festival* (ZSIFF) was launched at the historic Marjory Luke Theater in Santa Barbara, California in February, 2019. For a first-year festival it was judged to be extremely successful and was highly praised for the quality of short films screened and the attentive treatment given to filmmakers.

For reasons explained later – see “The Founder” -- the 2020 Festival was successfully hosted at the prestigious Macrobert Arts Centre in Stirling, Scotland.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted life as we knew it causing us to postpone the 2021 Festival until it was judged potentially safe and viable to do so. With vaccination programs now underway we are optimistic about September 2021.

Major enhancements have been made to this year's Festival:

1. **Multiple hosts in multiple countries.**
2. **In-person AND virtual** ticketing
3. Increased selection of **film channels**
4. "Official Selection" **filmmaker interviews**

Our Philosophy

We have a high level of admiration and respect for filmmakers, especially those making short films. The ability to tell a story, present passionately, or just plain entertain – usually with a limited budget and often in a limited amount of time – requires considerable talent and perseverance and deserves to be showcased. We are delighted to provide a forum in which to screen the best short film submissions.

The COVID-19 pandemic has decimated small businesses and nonprofit organizations, especially in our arts and entertainment communities. We want to help these organizations grow their way back into being the thriving entertainment providers they were a year ago.

It is with this in mind that we decided to present this year's ZSIFF in multiple countries ... offering independent community cinemas and theatres a turnkey, revenue-sharing and fund-raising opportunity to help breathe life back into their local community culture.

We are transitioning to a blended entertainment experience where the “customer” will expect the options of attending in person, online, or both ... hence the format of this year's Festival.

The Founder

Michael Flint grew up in Glasgow, Scotland. Since graduating from St. Andrews University in 1968 he has lived in southern Ontario; Grand Rapids, Michigan; and Santa Barbara, California. During those years he launched several successful businesses in technology, publishing, distribution, and entertainment.

In 2019 he returned to Scotland to look after his 98-year-old mother who died a few months ago. He has decided to remain in Scotland for the foreseeable future focusing on growing ZSIFF, developing host relationships, and streaming the very best, festival-quality, short films.

Let's Work Together

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