

Creative Digital Awards

Rules & Policies for Entry

Call for Entries | Celebrating Outstanding Creative Work

The Creative Digital Excellence Awards recognize exceptional talent, innovation, and impact across the digital creative industries. Creators, agencies, production companies, freelancers, in-house teams, and emerging professionals are invited to submit their best work from the eligibility period.

Whether the work tells stories through video, photography, design, technology, marketing, or immersive experiences, these awards celebrate creative projects that inspire audiences and advance the profession.

Entry Snapshot

Key Detail	Information
Eligibility period	January 1, 2024–August 30, 2026
Entry deadline	EOD August 15, 2026
Geographic eligibility	Work must be created locally within Colorado's Front Range.
Awards event	October 19, 2026 at the Limelight Hotel in Boulder
Entry fees	\$45 Film Commission members \$65 non-members \$25 student category
Additional event tickets	\$35 Film Commission members \$50 non-members

Award Categories

Entries may be submitted in one or more categories when the project meets the criteria for each category.

Category	Description
Best Video Production	Outstanding video content demonstrating excellence in storytelling, creativity, production quality, and audience engagement.
Best Cinematographer / DP / Videographer	Exceptional visual craftsmanship, camera work, lighting, composition, and visual storytelling.
Best Editing & Post-Production	Excellence in editing, color grading, motion graphics, visual effects, finishing, and post-production execution.
Best Audio & Sound Design	Outstanding sound recording, mixing, music integration, voice work, and overall audio experience.
Best Still Photographer	Exceptional photography that demonstrates creativity, technical skill, and compelling visual storytelling.
Best Design & Digital Experience	Excellence in digital design, user experience, websites, apps, interactive content, and creative digital products.
Best Marketing Campaign	Integrated campaigns that effectively engage audiences and achieve measurable results.
Best Impact / Purpose-Driven Content	Work created to inform, educate, inspire, advocate, or drive positive social, environmental, or community impact.
Innovation in Creative Technology	Groundbreaking use of emerging technologies, creative tools, AI, immersive experiences, or technical innovation.
Emerging Creator	Open to creators early in their professional careers who demonstrate exceptional promise, creativity, and potential.

Eligibility & Entry Details

Who Can Enter

Entries are welcome from:

- Individual creators
- Freelancers
- Agencies
- Production companies
- In-house creative teams
- Nonprofit organizations
- Educational institutions
- Students in the applicable student category

Eligibility Period

Submitted work must have been completed, published, launched, or substantially produced between January 1, 2024 and August 30, 2026.

Geographic Region

All entries must have been created within Colorado's Front Range. Clients may be located anywhere in the world, but submitted work must have been created locally within the Rocky Mountain Front Range area. This competition is intended for local creative digital professionals and is not intended for artists outside the region.

Entry Deadline

All entries must be received through the online submission form by EOD August 15, 2026.

Entry Fees

Each entry submission includes one ticket to the live awards event on October 19, 2026 at the Limelight Hotel in Boulder.

\$45	\$65	\$25
Film Commission members	Non-members	Student category only

There is no limit to the number of entries a person, team, or organization may submit. Each entry must be submitted separately.

Event Attendance Pricing

Additional colleagues, clients, family members, and guests may purchase tickets separately to attend the live awards event on October 19, 2026, at the Limelight Hotel in Boulder.

- \$35 for Film Commission members
- \$50 for non-members

Multiple Categories

The same project may be entered into multiple categories if it meets the criteria for each category.

Submission Requirements

Entrants must provide the following materials through the submission form:

- Project title
- Category selection
- Brief project description
- Credits for key contributors

- Supporting media or links
- Contact information

Additional materials such as behind-the-scenes content, case studies, analytics, or supporting documentation may be submitted where relevant.

Judging Criteria

Entries will be evaluated by an independent panel of industry professionals. Judges may consider:

- Creativity and originality
- Technical excellence
- Storytelling and communication
- Audience engagement
- Strategic effectiveness
- Innovation
- Overall impact
- Category-specific achievement

Not every criterion will apply equally to every category. The decisions of the judges are final.

Rules & Policies

Intellectual Property

Entrants retain ownership of all intellectual property rights in their work. By submitting an entry, you confirm that:

- You own the work or have permission to submit it.
- You have obtained all necessary licenses, permissions, and releases.
- The work does not knowingly infringe upon the rights of others.

The organizers do not claim ownership of submitted work.

Permission to Promote Entries

By entering the competition, you grant the organizers a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to:

- Display submitted materials for judging purposes.
- Feature selected entries for promotional, educational, and awards-related activities.
- Use excerpts, still images, project descriptions, and creator credits in event materials, websites, social media, and press coverage.

Whenever practical, creators will be credited.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Emerging Technologies

The Creative Digital Awards recognize that AI and other emerging technologies are increasingly part of creative workflows.

- Use of AI tools is permitted unless otherwise restricted by category requirements.
- Entrants must disclose significant use of AI-generated content, AI-assisted production, or AI-powered creative processes when relevant to the submitted work.
- Judges will evaluate the final creative outcome rather than rewarding or penalizing the use of specific tools.

Ethics and Professional Conduct

Entries must not:

- Contain unlawful content.
- Violate copyright, trademark, privacy, or publicity rights.
- Include misleading or fraudulent claims.
- Promote hate, discrimination, harassment, or violence.

The organizers reserve the right to disqualify entries that violate these standards.

Fair Competition

To ensure fairness:

- Judges may not evaluate work in which they have a direct involvement.

- Conflicts of interest will be disclosed and managed.
- All entries will be reviewed according to the same judging standards.

Awards

Winners and finalists may be recognized at the awards event and through related promotional activities.

The organizers reserve the right not to present an award in a category if entries do not meet the expected standard of excellence. The organizers may also combine categories if there are not enough entries in a specific category.

Entry Verification

The organizers may request additional information to verify eligibility, authorship, credits, or project details. Failure to provide requested information may result in disqualification.

Disqualification

An entry may be disqualified if:

- Eligibility requirements are not met.
- False or misleading information is submitted.
- Required permissions have not been obtained.
- The entry violates these rules or applicable laws.

Limitation of Liability

While reasonable care will be taken with all submitted materials, the organizers are not responsible for technical issues, lost submissions, inaccessible links, or circumstances beyond their control.

Acceptance of Rules

Submission of an entry constitutes acceptance of these rules and policies. The organizers reserve the right to update or clarify these rules when necessary to ensure the integrity and fairness of the competition.

Questions?

Creators are encouraged to reach out with questions before submitting. The goal is to make participation straightforward, transparent, and welcoming for creative professionals at every stage of their careers.

Email: filmcommission@boulderchamber.com