

NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARDS

FINALISTS & WINNERS - FEBRUARY 2026

BEST SHORT FILM

Gathering the years Director Hungyi Chang (WINNER)
The School Photographer Director Hanna Fred Ekman
Late Night Letter Directors Lorenzo Patanè, Alessandra Rucco
Chengdu Office Director He Jia

BEST INDIE SHORT

Gathering the years Director Hungyi Chang (WINNER)
Self-Fulfilling Prophecy Director Luke Ashford
Bangkok Service Road Director Chanin Kittipong
Cordoba 214 Director Lucia Ferreyra
Trial Period Director Melissa Grant

BEST ANIMATION

Link Click Bridon Arc Director Haolin Li (WINNER)
Nightmare of Moloka Director Hsun-Chun Chuang
Enemy Heroes Submitter Mark Diamond
The Joy of Curiosity Director Kum-Kum Bhavnani

BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

ShellBound: An Anthology of Southern Oyster Culture Directors Daniel Mitchell, Logan Dial (WINNER)
Retirement Everest Director Kenneth Wilcox
What's Next for Jayden – A young boys journey as a level 3 autistic Director Sal DelGiudice

BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

My Silk Road Director Zhao Pu Yang (WINNER)
The Mediation Director Aaron Feldman
The Nicobar Pigeon Director Dr. Alongkot Chukeaw

BEST STUDENT FILM

The Nicobar Pigeon Director Dr. Alongkot Chukeaw (WINNER)
Silent Director Jiaqi Sun
Baker's Boy Director Tristan Schetzel
Amará Director Manuela Ocampo
My Silk Road Director Zhao Pu Yang
The Mediation Director Aaron Feldman

BEST AI FILM

The Last Eden Director Yu-kyung Kang (WINNER)
Conditor Director Sungkyu Moon
Awful Dreams Director Michael Hess
Monk Minchu Director Jiulin Lu

BEST MUSIC VIDEO

Flower: Vampire Geishas Must Die! Director Alexander Popov (WINNER)
Je T'aime Tout Simplement Directors Andre Schultz, Mauro Heitor Ferreira da Silva, Eduardo "Xocante"
Trip To The Stars Director Ben Yannette
Humbe – Morfina Director Emiliano Rodriguez

BEST COMMERCIAL

Riedel Construction – Company Movie Director Matthias Waigand (WINNER)

BEST COMEDY FILM

Crazy Cindy Director Eunjoon Lee (WINNER)

BEST ADVENTURE FILM

Enemy Heroes Submitter Mark Diamond (WINNER)

BEST HORROR FILM

Awful Dreams Director Michael Hess (WINNER)

BEST DRAMA FILM	BEST SPORT FILM
<p>Spiral Directors Adria Dawn, David Tarleton (WINNER) <i>Incheon Freight Director Kwon Min-seok</i> <i>Trial Period Director Melissa Grant</i></p>	<p>Karate Dreams - Empty Hand, A Sensei's Story Director James Mellor (WINNER) <i>He is Uconn - Big Red Director Zeljko Mirkovic</i></p>
BEST 1ST TIME DIRECTOR	BEST STUDENT DIRECTOR
<p>A Lasting Place Director Juwan Rashaad Howard (WINNER)</p>	<p>My Silk Road Director Zhao Pu Yang (WINNER) <i>Night Bus to Monterrey Director Raul Esquivel</i> <i>East Docklands Director Peter Hargreaves</i></p>
BEST CHILD ACTOR	BEST VISUAL EFFECTS
<p>(Carter Harris) Monkeyshine! Director Jared Youmans (WINNER)</p>	<p>(Wesley Trisnadi) Synesthesia - Chapter 3: VAL•R•E Director Wesley Trisnadi (WINNER)</p>
BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY	BEST SOUNDTRACK
<p>(Hungyi Chang) Gathering the years Director Hungyi Chang (WINNER)</p>	<p>(Teoni) Destiny Submitter Teoni (WINNER)</p>
BEST SONG	BEST SOUND DESIGN
<p>(Greg James Blount) The Tan Man Underground Groove Submitter Greg James Blount (WINNER)</p>	<p>(Jiaqi Sun) Silent Director Jiaqi Sun (WINNER) <i>(Wesley Trisnadi) Synesthesia - Chapter 3: VAL•R•E Director Wesley Trisnadi</i></p>
BEST FEATURE SCRIPT	BEST SERIES PILOT SCRIPT
<p>The Zircon Twins Writer Geoff McCue (WINNER) <i>The Sleeve Writer Geoff McCue</i> <i>Operation: Sudden Fall Writer Tyler Joseph Palmer Shumsky</i></p>	<p>The Women Who Don't Exist Writer Luna Wu (WINNER) <i>Tomorrow is Totally Screwed Writer Miachel Pruett</i></p>
BEST COMEDY SCRIPT	BEST DARK COMEDY SCRIPT
<p>Tomorrow is Totally Screwed Writer Miachel Pruett (WINNER)</p>	<p>My New Head Writer Giannina Tovar (WINNER)</p>
BEST ACTION SCRIPT	BEST DRAMA SCRIPT
<p>Angleterra Writer Robby Gadsby (WINNER)</p>	<p>The birth of a race Writer Robby Gadsby (WINNER) <i>San Jose Public Records Writer Tomas Aguilar</i></p>

BEST HISTORICAL SCRIPT	BEST BIOGRAPHICAL SCRIPT
<p>Episode II No Kings \ Sword of the Revolution Writer Madina Baggerman Joshi (WINNER)</p>	<p>The birth of a race Writer Robby Gadsby (WINNER)</p>
BEST 1ST TIME SCREENWRITER	BEST ORIGINAL SCRIPT
<p>Dudes & Bros Submitter William Sobel (WINNER) <i>San Jose Public Records</i> Writer Tomas Aguilar</p>	<p>Hidden Minds Writer Geoff McCue (WINNER) <i>The Manatee</i> Submitter Abi Perpall <i>Bristol Exchange</i> Writer Daniel Crowther</p>
HONORABLE MENTIONS	
<p>Nightmare of Moloka Director Hsun-Chun Chuang (Animation)</p> <p>Amará Director Manuela Ocampo (Student Film)</p> <p>Trip To The Stars Director Ben Yannette (Music Video)</p>	