

HEAPS GOOD HORROR

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Short Film Festival 2025

The Mercury and West Torrens Library are pleased to present a special **Heaps Good Horror** program of short films and are now inviting submissions from local filmmakers.

The screening event will take place on Halloween, of course, Friday 31 October at the Mercury and feature up to 8 short films. All films selected will be in contention for prizes, see below.

SUBMISSION DATES:

Open: Friday 8 August

Close: Friday 12 September

Notification: Early October

Screening date: Friday 31st October

Screening Time: TBD

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All submissions must be made online via the submission link provided [HERE](#).

To arrange alternative submission method please contact heapsgood@themercury.org.au

- All short films must be under 10(ten) minutes in duration including credits.
 - Please do not submit cut down or shortened versions of the same film, these will unfortunately not be considered.
- All genres of horror, thriller and suspense (and all sub-genres of these) will be considered.
- All entries with dialogue must be in English or contain English subtitles
- All films submitted must have at least two South Australian key creatives, this can include writer, director or producer
 - The submission must be made by a key creative, who is over 18 years.
Please reach out to the Mercury to discuss if you don't meet these criteria.
- All films submitted must be made and completed in the last 3 (three) years and no earlier than 31 October 2022.

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- We do NOT require premiere status for the films to be part of this program and considered, and the films may have screened in other films or other public screenings in Adelaide to be considered eligible.
- The submitting creative (producer, director) has full rights to the film and acknowledge they are the rights holder.
- Any content that is deemed to breach Australian classification guidelines and contains highly violent, inappropriate and offensive content will not be considered.
- All films must be received **by the deadline of Friday 12 September** to be considered. No extensions will be granted
- There is NO fee to submit, however one filmmaker can only submit up to 3 (three) short films.
- All films must be completed (not work in progress) and finished by the screening date.
- All films selected in the final program will be in contention for prizes, see below
- No screening fee will be paid to filmmakers for this event.

AFTER SUBMITTING – Some FAQ's

You will be emailed a receipt confirming we have received your short film

You will be notified of the status of selection by early October.

- If selected, the filmmaker grants The Mercury non-exclusive access to screen the film at and event on 31 October 2025
- If selected, the filmmaker agrees to supply the content 5 (five) days in advance on either MP4, DCP or please get in contact with The Mercury to discuss.
- If selected, please provide, hi res image, short synopsis (max 100 words), run time, title, director.
- OTHER DETAILS and FINE PRINT:
- You certify that you have all the relevant rights to submit your short film, including the use of any and all music, sound and performances and can provide written evidence if requested by the Festival;
 - You certify that there are no current or imminent litigation with respect to the use, validity or ownership of the copyright;
 - You certify that the use of the work in the short film won't infringe any intellectual property rights or any other rights of any third person;



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PRIZES & AWARDS (MORE DETAILS SOON)

BEST FILM

BEST DIRECTOR

BEST SCREENPLAY

BEST PERFORMANCE

BEST AUDIENCE AWARD*

(* All Awards except Best Audience will be judged by an independent panel)

