

ENTRY SCORING:

Submissions will be judged by independent industry experts based on the following criteria. The explanations of each criterion below are by no means exhaustive. They are examples of some of the questions readers and judges consider in each category.

Premise/Concept:

Is it unique/original? Is it a new spin on a familiar story? Does the concept have longer form potential for either film or TV? Is it commercial? Is it a festival-worthy indie? Can it be explained succinctly? Do the actions and obstacles advance the story?

Characters:

Are the characters well developed? Is their purpose or struggle clearly identifiable? Do they have a clear and complete arc? Are they multi-layered? Are the characters relatable and/or accessible to the reader?

Dialogue:

Does the dialogue elevate the scene? Does it heighten the overall story? Does it propel the story forward?

Story:

Is the story compelling? Does it serve to drive the characters and events forward in a meaningful way? Does it emphasize a deeper theme? Does the story explore new ideas? Is the story timely? Does it touch on things that are part of the zeitgeist?

Structure:

Does the story have a clear beginning, middle, and end? Does it have the appropriate structural beats? Is it formatted properly? Does it follow a traditional structure or play with conventions?

Voice/Style:

Does the writer use interesting word choice and sentence structure? Do they have a unique way to view and relay what's happening in the story? Does the writer present/have a unique perspective?