

SHOWCASE 2026

EXPERIMENTAL ANIMATION PROGRAM

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

The Experimental Animation Showcase 2026 screening will be held at the Directors Guild of America theater on **Wednesday, May 6, 2026**. Works from Experimental Animation for this year-end student showcase will be selected by a jury composed of animators and experts external to CalArts, and alumni of the Experimental Animation program. The screening is designed to present work that best highlights the varied filmmaking and creative practices within Experimental Animation.

Carefully read the instructions below and use the online entry form.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Monday, April 6, 2026 at 9:00AM

[Click here for entry form](#)

1. Any work that was completed after May 10, 2024 is eligible for consideration. You may only submit one piece. It must be picture locked with sound design and edit finished. Experimental Animation will only accept work created by students (or alumni) within their program, or work made by a student from another program in the School of Film/Video within an Experimental Animation course. Work previously screened in Showcase in any form will not be considered. If your work is accepted into Showcase, it will not be able to also screen in the Character Animation Producers' Show.
2. The deadline to complete the online entry form and submit the link to your work (e.g. Vimeo or YouTube) is **Monday, April 6, 2026 at 9:00am**.
3. The file of your work is to be uploaded to an external site such as YouTube or Vimeo and you will need to include the link and password (if applicable) on the online entry form. If you need technical assistance uploading your file, submit a ticket at: 2popsupport@calarts.edu.
4. Your submission should be as finished as possible, with locked picture, mixed sound, color grading and titles. At the very least, you should have a mix scheduled that will happen prior to the **final delivery deadline of noon on Friday, April 17, 2026**. A limited number of basic sound mixes, designed to make the work presentable, may be available for selected films. Films must be finished by the final delivery date, or will not be included in Showcase.
5. There is a 15-minute maximum length limit on each work submitted.

6. Acceptable final delivery formats are:

Video/Sound Requirements: Quicktime Movie (.mov) file; 1.78 or 1.90 Aspect Ratio, HD 1920 X 1080 or 2K 2048 X 1080, ProRes 422 HQ, 24p frame rate; Stereo Sound (or 5.1 if you had a layback through FVSound), 48kHz, 24bit, PCM (Little Endian) .wav.

Film: 16mm or 35mm answer prints are acceptable (no workprints for the screening).

7. To prepare your final video file for delivery, you can get assistance by visiting the E104 (9am - 4pm M-F) or E46 Helpdesk (4pm - 8pm M-F), by submitting a ticket at 2pop.calarts.edu or by sending an email to 2popsupport@calarts.edu.

8. If your work is selected, you will have a meeting with the Associate Director of Operations to finalize your selection and to schedule your final image/sound check. If a sound mix is needed it will be scheduled at your final image/sound check.

FINAL VIDEO FILE DELIVERY DEADLINE: April 17, 2026 at 12:00PM (Noon)

Prior to submitting your final video file, you must have a final image/sound check. If your final video file does not meet the required technical specifications, your work will not be included in Showcase 2026.

9. San Sebastian Film Festival Nest Program.

The School of Film/Video will consider EA MFA thesis projects under 30 minutes for nomination and submission to the 25th edition of the [Nest Film Students program](#), a part of the San Sebastian Film Festival (Spain) in September 2026. If you would like your film to be considered for this opportunity, please indicate this in the application.