

GUIDELINES

1. Objective

Tabaca Film Fest announces the Beca Farrera, an initiative designed to support the creation of short film scripts inspired by mythology. The scholarship offers the winner(s) a 5-day artistic residency at the Centre d'Art i Natura (CAN) in Farrera (Catalan Pyrenees), two personalized mentoring sessions with industry professionals, and project follow-up.

The aim is to help the selected creator(s) develop their script in a creative environment with expert guidance.

2. Theme

In this call, we bring the concept of “mythology” into the audiovisual context, and we understand it broadly:

“When we speak of mythology, we don’t limit ourselves to ancient gods or supernatural creatures. Mythology is much more than a legacy of the past: it’s a way of explaining the world, giving meaning to existence, and reflecting human conflict. It includes myths, legends, fables, superstitions, premonitions, tales, traditions, and family stories that shape the identity of a culture, a territory, or a community.

But mythology is not stuck in time. It evolves, is reinterpreted, and reshaped to speak to the present. The classical hero coexists with the modern superhero, ancient oracles with artificial intelligence, the journey of initiation with new cinematic narratives. Universal archetypes endure, adapting to today’s audiovisual languages. The mystery to be solved, the inescapable labyrinth, the quest for truth, the inevitable fate... narrative structures that are repeated and reimagined with each era’s lens.

Mythological cinema is not a closed genre—it’s a crossroads between fantasy, horror, folk-horror, sci-fi, mystery, historical drama, epic drama, road movies, westerns, nature films, ethnographic films, spiritual cinema, dance films... Mythology is not just found in visible magic, but in hidden symbols, in stories passed down unconsciously, in tales we continue to tell without knowing their origin.

You might not have thought of “Indiana Jones”, “The Matrix”, or the stunning “Portrait of a Lady on Fire” and “Border” as mythological films. And yet they are—because they draw from timeless archetypes: the hero’s journey, the battle between good and evil, the quest for knowledge, the return home after a great trial, the impossible love...

Ultimately, myth is everywhere—manifesting in unexpected ways. And cinema is the perfect tool to keep reinventing it.”



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3. Participants

- Participants must submit an original short film script in development.
- Applications may be individual or in teams of up to two people.
- Each participant or team may submit only one project.
- Minimum age to apply is 18 years.
- The call is open to people of any nationality.

4. Project Requirements

- Estimated length of the short film must not exceed 15 minutes.
- The project must be unpublished and original, and the rights must belong to the applicant(s).
- Scripts must be inspired by mythological themes.
- Preference will be given to proposals inspired by Pyrenean mythology.
- Scripts must be written in either Catalan or Spanish.

5. Required Documentation

To apply, you must:

- Fill out and submit the application form: **[Link to application form](#)**
- Send the following documents by email to **info@tabacafilmfest.com**, with the subject line: "Beca Farrera + candidate's name":
 - a) A brief synopsis of the plot
 - b) The script (in standard screenplay format and PDF)
 - c) A document of no more than 700 words explaining how the project aligns with the evaluation criteria listed in section 6
 - d) A short CV detailing the training and/or professional experience of the applicant(s) (maximum 2 pages per person)
- Optionally, applicants may include additional materials that help clarify or enrich the proposal.



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6. Evaluation Criteria

The following rubric is a guide to evaluate applications in a fair and transparent way. The total score will determine the winner(s). The maximum score is 100 points:

- **Artistic Quality (up to 50 points):**

The writing, narrative structure, character development, use of audiovisual language, and tone will be assessed. Scripts with a strong voice and coherent dramaturgy will be rated higher.

- **Originality and Creativity (up to 10 points):**

We'll value the ability to bring a new, suggestive, or bold perspective to mythology, along with the originality of concept and execution.

- **Project Feasibility (up to 10 points):**

The clarity of the structure, logistical intelligence, and adaptability to a small or medium-scale production will be taken into account. Creative ambition will not be penalized, but realistic execution and awareness of resources will be appreciated.

- **Connection to Pyrenean Mythology (up to 20 points):**

Not mandatory, but a valuable plus. Proposals that incorporate Pyrenean myths, legends, language, or symbolic imagery, are created by people from the Pyrenees, or foresee filming in the Pyrenees—will be positively considered.

- **Alignment with Tabaca Film Fest values (up to 10 points):**

The project's connection with the spirit of the festival will be assessed: respect for popular culture, critical or poetic reflection on tradition, sensitivity to the territory, gender equality, sustainability, and narrative innovation.

7. Selection Process and Award

- A jury of industry professionals will evaluate the projects based on their quality, originality, and production feasibility.
- The jury reserves the right to declare the scholarship void if no project meets the required standards.



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8. Award

- The scholarship includes a residency at the Centre d'Art i Natura in Farrera (CAN de Farrera) to support the script development and mentorship by two professionals in the field.
- CAN hosts artists and researchers from around the world in the heart of the Alt Pirineu. Situated at over 1,300 meters above sea level, it's an ideal space for focused work and creative retreat in a unique natural setting.
- The residency will last between 3 and 5 nights, to be determined based on availability of the winner(s) and the centre, between 2026 and 2027.
- Dates will be agreed upon by the winner(s) and the centre.
- The scholarship covers all accommodation and meal expenses.
- Travel expenses to and from Farrera will be the responsibility of the winner(s).
- The award includes two personalized mentoring sessions and ongoing support from professionals to help finalize the script.

9. Registration and Deadlines

- Submission deadline: August 12, 2026
- Winners announcement: during the 2nd edition of Tabaca Film Fest, between September 18–27, 2026, in Gerri de la Sal
- Participation in the competition implies full acceptance of these guidelines. Failure to meet any requirement may result in disqualification.

10. Confidentiality and Copyright

The organization is committed to treating all submitted materials with the utmost confidentiality. Scripts and proposals remain the exclusive property of their authors and will never be used, reproduced, or distributed without prior and explicit consent.

The reading and selection team will access the projects solely for evaluation within the framework of this call. No other public or internal use will be made.

By submitting a project, the authors guarantee that the material is original and that they hold the corresponding rights.

