

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Introduction

Filmmakers from around the world can now give the internet viewer an intimate look at their neighborhoods and the people who live there. 3-4 minute weekly (or bi-weekly) episodes illustrate your unique vision of storytelling.

neighborhood films.com began as a vehicle to show "The Valet Chronicles," my installment, about a corner in North Beach, San Francisco. The most crucial aspect of creating a neighborhood film is knowing your respective neighborhood well enough and limiting all of your episodes to that specific geographical location.

Basic Guidelines

Filmmakers are encouraged to uphold the integrity of their neighborhood. Unlike narrative films, your episodes should not include staged events or filmmakers directing people what to say or do. Our purpose is to capture the truth of the ongoing reality of a neighborhood.

You must produce a minimum of 10 episodes within 5 months. You are allowed to post a maximum of 1 episode a week, and as long as you stay within the parameters put forth below you can continue to put up episodes after your initial 5 months has elapsed.

Episodes cannot exceed a running time of 4 1/2 minutes. You are the sole filmmaker of your specific neighborhood films, unless upon submission you specify (only) one other person who will collaborate with you.

You will be responsible for maintaining your sub-site. This includes: uploading each new episode to neighborhoodfilms.com server, archiving past episodes, and creating photo stills of each episode.

Episode Parameters

- You are always the camera operator (occasional exceptions are permitted), and the sole editor.
- No additional equipment besides your camera is permitted. (ie: tripod, dolly, etc.)
- No additional light sources are allowed, except for practical high wattage bulbs (ie: 200 watts) that can be put into already existing light fixtures.
- Only sound that has been captured from your neighborhood is acceptable. (including music)

Each additional sub-site design will conform aesthetically to the neighborhoodfilms.com site. The idea is that the episodes (films) will be the focal point of the entire site, as opposed to distracting the viewer with personal web design

Creation Tools

- A fast computer (ie. Apple Macintosh G3/G4 or Pentium III)
- A Non-linear editing application: Final Cut Pro, Premiere, etc.
- A Compression Application: Media Cleaner Pro/Cleaner 5, etc.
- All episodes should be compressed for playback with the Quicktime Player.
- All episodes should be flattened for progressive download and/or playback.
- Your films will only be compressed for high bandwidth.
- You may shoot and edit in the 16:9 format.

Disclaimer: neighborhoodfilms.com has the exclusive right to discontinue your episodes on our site if you do not abide by the restrictions put forth.

How to Apply

Submissions will be accepted by you first emailing us for specific instructions. We will send you a response email with the URL to our internal submission form. There, you will be able to fill out your personal information, select the files to upload, and send them off. We require the first two episodes of your prospective series. Due to the file sizes of most clips, it usually takes awhile to upload even on a high speed connection so be aware of this when getting ready to submit.

If accepted you will have server space to upload your additional episodes, an email address for your specific sub-site at neighborhoodfilms.com, a stat page charting your unique hits, referral sites, etc, and access to an already existing (and growing) international audience that has been established by "The Valet Chronicles". Send us an email and join our growing neighborhoodfilms community. drabinowitz@neighborhoodfilms.com