

2024 Sundance Film Festival Awards

Our competition film categories are below. In addition to these awards, every feature length film is eligible for the Festival Favorite award:

- U.S. Dramatic Competition
- U.S. Documentary Competition
- World Cinema Dramatic Competition
- World Cinema Documentary Competition
- NEXT
- Short Film Competition

Our competition juries select films to receive the below awards. Festival Goers decide the Audience Awards for each of the Festival's four feature competition categories, NEXT films, and the Festival Favorite Award (all feature length films are eligible).

Grand Jury Prizes

The ranking award is the Grand Jury Prize, which recognizes a film in both the U.S. Dramatic and U.S. Documentary Competitions as the best from the independent film community this year.

World Cinema Grand Jury Prizes

The highest award for international films, the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize, recognizes the best dramatic and documentary work in international independent filmmaking this year.

Directing Awards

This award honors directors in the U.S. Dramatic Competition, U.S. Documentary Competition, World Cinema Dramatic Competition, and World Cinema Documentary Competition.

Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award: U.S. Dramatic

The U.S. Dramatic Competition jury chooses a film to receive this specific award, which honors outstanding screenwriting.

Jonathan Oppenheim Editing Award: U.S. Documentary

The U.S. Documentary Competition jury chooses a film to receive this specific award, which honors outstanding editing.

NEXT Innovator Award

The NEXT Juror chooses one NEXT film that they believe to be 'most innovative.'

Alfred P. Sloan Feature Film Prize

The prize is given to a feature film that focuses on science or technology as a theme, or depicts a scientist, engineer, or mathematician as a major character.

Special Jury Awards

The U.S. Dramatic Competition, U.S. Documentary Competition, World Cinema Dramatic Competition, World Cinema Documentary Competition, and Shorts Competition juries may, at their discretion, select films from each of these categories to receive special recognition for their unique vision or excellence. These awards may be for Cinematography, Editing, Acting, Production Design, Music, Sound Design, Special Effects, Animation, etc.

Audience Awards

Audience Awards are bestowed upon films based on Festival Goers voting online. Audience Awards are presented to films in the Festival's U.S. Dramatic Competition, U.S. Documentary Competition, World Cinema Dramatic Competition, and World Cinema Documentary Competition. Festival audiences also vote to select the recipient of the Audience Award: NEXT and the Festival Favorite Award. *All feature length films are eligible for the Festival Favorite Award.

*All awards will be engraved and mailed out to the winners after the Festival.