



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

GENERAL

1) What is ABFF?

The American Black Film Festival (ABFF), founded in 1997, is an annual event that empowers Black artists and showcases a wide range of entertainment content made by and about people of African descent. This year, the 30th annual Festival will take place in Miami Beach, May 27-31.

2) What is the ABFF's mission?

Dedicated to the belief that diverse artists deserve the same opportunities as their mainstream counterparts, ABFF Founder Jeff Friday conceived the festival as a vehicle to strengthen the Black entertainment community by fostering resource sharing, education, and artistic collaboration.

3) Who runs the American Black Film Festival?

Festival leadership is composed of its producers, Jeff and Nicole Friday. ABFF is a property of NICE CROWD, a Los Angeles-based live events company that develops and produces properties in the arts, entertainment, lifestyle, and wellness industries that showcase BIPOC culture and talent.

4) Who attends the festival?

Each year, more than 7000 people, including artists, executives, and film fans, attend the ABFF.

5) Must you be Black to attend the festival?

No, the festival is open to people of all ethnic backgrounds. ABFF was founded to foster diversity and inclusion in the film and television industry, and we encourage everyone to attend.

6) Will a contact list of attendees be available?

No, due to our privacy policy, attendees' names are not shared.

7) Can children attend the festival?

While the festival is not specifically programmed for children, many of our events are suitable for younger audiences, unless otherwise specified. However, we trust parents and guardians to use their discretion in determining which events are appropriate for their children to attend. Please note that for events where alcohol is served, attendees must be 21 years or older, in accordance with legal requirements.

VOLUNTEERING

1) How can I volunteer for the ABFF?

Volunteer applications are typically open from November 1 until January. For more information, please visit: <https://www.abff.com/miami/volunteer/>

TRAVEL & ATTIRE

1) Where are festival events held?

Most festival events are held in the tourism district of Miami Beach near Lincoln Road. The primary venues are the Miami Beach Convention Center and the New World Center.

2) What should I wear during the festival?

Festival attire is resort casual, except for our opening and closing night events, where Miami chic is recommended. The attire for the closing night party is all white.

3) What is the host hotel?

There is no one official host hotel this year. A list of partner hotels offering ABFF attendees a discounted rate can be found on the festival website.

4) Is parking available for attendees?

There is no designated attendee parking at festival venues, but public parking lots are available.

5) Should I rent a car?

We don't recommend that you rent a vehicle. Most events are within walking distance. For others, a rideshare is most convenient.

FESTIVAL REGISTRATION

1) How do I register for ABFF 2026?

Passes are available for sale via the ABFF website. To register, visit: <https://www.abff.com/miami/festival-passes/>. Registration typically begins on October 1 and runs through May 1. Early registration is encouraged. The earlier you purchase, the more you save.

2) I've purchased a pass, what should I expect now?

After your purchase, you will receive an order confirmation email.

3) I haven't received my order confirmation email.

Please check your spam and junk mail. If the confirmation email is not in either folder, email info@nicecrowd.com to request confirmation to be resent.

4) Can I register in person?

Yes, a limited number of passes will be available for purchase on-site while supplies last.

5) Can I purchase a single event or screening ticket?

Yes, individual tickets for select events and screenings will be available in limited quantities via Eventbrite.

6) Can I get a refund?

No, all sales are final. [See registration policies.](#)

7) Are passes transferable?

Yes, subject to limitations. [See registration policies.](#)

EVENT ENTRY & ACCESS

1) Does my festival pass entitle me to all events?

Visit our website at <https://www.abff.com/miami/festival-passes/> for a chart of benefits each pass type provides. While your pass may give you access to an event, entry is granted on a first-come, first-served basis and subject to each venue's legal capacity. Early arrival is strongly encouraged.

2) Does my pass allow me to bring a guest?

No, each attendee must have their own purchased pass and present it for event entry.

3) Are there separate lines for different pass types?

Yes. There are two designated lines: one for Sponsor and Industry Passholders and another for DECO and Movie Passholders. On-site signage will clearly direct all attendees to the appropriate line.

4) Can I reserve seats for a screening or event?

No. Reserved seating is not available. All seating is general admission, and entry is on a first-come, first-served basis. Exceptions may be applicable for [Sponsors and Industry passholders](#).

5) How early can I arrive for a screening or panel?

Lines typically begin forming at the venue approximately one hour before the event start time. Doors open 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start. For film screenings specifically, lines generally begin forming 45 minutes before showtime.

6) Can I arrive after the screening starts?

Late arrivals are discouraged but will be allowed if space is available.

FILM SUBMISSIONS

1) How do I submit my project?

Film submissions for ABFF 2026 are currently closed. Submissions for 2027 will open in Fall 2026. For film submissions, please visit: <https://www.abff.com/miami/submissions/>

2) Does the festival offer entry fee waivers?

ABFF does not offer entry fee waivers.

3) How do I know if my film qualifies?

For a complete list of guidelines and requirements, please visit: <https://www.abff.com/miami/submissions/>

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