

Entry Rules of 2024 (16th) Xiamen International Animation Festival (XIAF) Cyber Sousa Award Competition

I. Objective

The Cyber Sousa Award of the Xiamen International Animation Festival is designed to explore outstanding domestic ACG works and talents, encourage the application of animation technology in various industries and fields and promote the development of the ACG industry through the exchange and the works competition events.

II. Schedule

June - August 15th, 2024 Soliciting entries

September 2024 Pre-selection, initial evaluation and initial shortlist announcement

October 2024 Final evaluation

November 2024 Announcement of winning entries , Award Ceremony

III. Categories of Entries

1. Animated Feature Film: Entries should be animated films produced for theatre screening with a duration of at least 60 minutes that have been filed by the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film, and Television.

2. Animated Series: Entries of the work are produced for TV or online platforms, and the relevant content is supposed to be divided into episodic production with a duration of no less than 3 minutes. The domestic animation series must have been registered and approved by the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film, and TV.

3. Animated Short Film: Entries should be animated short story films (including online animations) between 30 seconds to 60 minutes of the time range.

4. Student Animated Film: Entries should be created by current students at school and submitted by students individually or collectively selected by the school (excluding training institutions).

5. Strait Star Special Animation Award: Entries should be all types of animated works with complete plots, regardless of genre. This category is only open for submission by companies and studios registered in Fujian or Taiwan with independent legal status.

6. Short Video Animation: Entries should be internet video animations with the content of more than 5 seconds but under 3 minutes.

7. Commercial Animation: Entries should be industry application or market-oriented animations, including demo animations, advertisements, and engaging transition sequences.

8. Best Comic: Entries should be narrative comics (with at least eight pictures) in all forms of drawing, well-structured, and at least one full chapter of a complete story plot. The form and type of the work are not limited.

9. Student Comic: Entries should be narrative comics created by current students at school and submitted by students individually or collectively selected by the school (excluding training institutions).

10. Strait Star Special Comic Award: Entries should be narrative comics in all forms of drawing. This category is only open for submission by companies and studios registered in Fujian or Taiwan with independent legal status.

IV. Awards & Prizes

In 2024, the 16th Xiamen International Animation Festival (XIAF) Cyber Sousa Awards Animation Competition has 11 general awards with a total prize of 1.3 million RMB. The specific settings are as tabled below.

Animation awards	Gold Prize (One)	Silver Prizes (Two)	Nomination Prizes (Three)
Best Animated Feature Film (China Mainland)	50,000	30,000	10,000
Best Animated Series (Worldwide)	50,000	30,000	10,000

Strait Star Special Animation Award (Fujian & Taiwan)	30,000	20,000	10,000
Best Animated Short Film (China Mainland)	40,000	30,000	10,000
Best Animated Short Film (Overseas)	40,000	30,000	10,000
Best Student Animated Film (China Mainland)	30,000	20,000	10,000
Best Short Video Animation (Worldwide)	40,000	30,000	10,000
Best Commercial Animation (Worldwide)	40,000	30,000	10,000
Total prizes	1,000,000		
Comic Awards	Gold Prize (One)	Silver Prizes (Two)	Nomination Prizes (Three)
Best Comic (Worldwide)	30,000	20,000	10,000
Best Student Comic (China Mainland)	30,000	20,000	10,000
Strait Star Special Comic Award (Fujian and Taiwan)	30,000	20,000	10,000
Total prizes	300,000		

Special Notes:

1. The prizes are all tax-inclusive, and the personal income tax related to the prize will be withheld and paid by the Xiamen International Animation Festival Organizing Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Organizing Committee).

2. If there are less than 12 works received for a category, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to leave the award vacant.

V. Submission Requirements

1. Entries must be the works completed after January 1st, 2022. Please submit the work in accordance with the requirements of the awards settings. Each work can only be submitted once (for one award).

2. The region of the work is determined by the agreement of the copyright holder or the region of the creative team.

3. The following materials should be submitted together with the work:

(1) Registration form: Fill in the entry information through the online registration system of Cyber Sousa Award here (www.cybersousa.com.cn) an entry number will be generated after the online submission. Print off the registration form to sign or stamp on it. Only a complete and fully signed (or stamped) registration form can be effectively registered, and the deadline for registration is 23:59 on August 15th, 2024.

(2) Format Requirements

① Animation: MP4, AVI, WMV, AFS, or MOV. For feature-length and short animations, the complete works must be submitted for evaluation. For animated series, only one episode needs to be submitted; for short video animations, two episodes are required for entry.

② Comics: Works should be submitted in the format of JPG or PNG with a resolution of no less than 300DPI. Pictures should remain the original size and be named in reading sequence. Scroll comics are required to have a width of no less than 800px with no height restriction.

③ No company watermarking or the word "sample" shall appear in the works.

④ Language requirements: Chinese or English. If the original work is in a language other than Chinese or English, please attach a Chinese or English translation.

(3) Posters of the work: All entries must provide one poster or three screenshots (in JPG or PNG format) that contain the main scene(s) or character(s) of the work.

(4) Trailers of the work: Trailers of animation entries should be provided, and the duration should be no more than one minute.

(5) Other Supporting Materials: Entries for Best Animated Feature Film (China Mainland) and Best Animated Series (Chinese Mainland) should have been filed by the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio and TV. The relevant documents should be stamped officially and submitted along with the entries.

All works apply for the Strait Star Special Animation Award and the Strait Star Special Comic Award, the studios/enterprises are required to submit a copy of business licenses or equivalent licenses. Otherwise, it will be deemed ineligible.

4. The Organizing Committee has the right to disqualify the following works: the content violates or attacks the political system and legal system of the people's Republic of China; the content involves the excessive depiction of pornography, violence, blood, etc.; the content is suspected of copying, plagiarizing and infringing others' copyright; or the content violates other provisions of Cyber Sousa Award Competition of Xiamen International Animation Festival.

VI. Submission

1. Upload via the online system

Online registration system: <https://cybersousa.net/?lang=en>

Mini Program: Search "Xiamen International Animation Festival" on WeChat Mini Programs

2. Mail submission

(1) Save all the materials (entry works, posters, trailers, etc.) on a USB drive or CD and name the folder with the corresponding entry number generated after online submission before it is mailed out with the original registration form and other paper supporting materials to the Organizing Committee.

(2) Mails to the Organizing Committee should be paid off in advance. The following declarations may be included if necessary: No Commercial Value! Cultural Use Only! Competition Entry Use Only!

(3) All USB drives and CDs sent with entries will not be returned unless there is a special request and pre-payment of the postage fee. The Organizing Committee does not assume any responsibility for the loss of the entries during the mailing process.

VII. The Judging Committee

1. The Judging Committee members are selected and determined by the Organizing Committee and will be responsible for selecting qualified entries for the Cyber Sousa Award Competition through the evaluation of the entries.

2. No member shall participate in the selection of any entry works with any form of connection.

3. The Judging Committee shall judge the submitted works upon their production and aesthetic quality, especially on the creativity and innovation of the works.

VIII. The Jury

1. The judging team of the official competition consists of no less than 12 people.

2. No member shall participate in the selection of any entry works in which he or she has any form of connection.

3. The selection procedures and criteria of the awards are specified by the judging committee. In case of exceptional circumstances, the jury may recommend the awards of vacancy in writing to the Organizing Committee who will decide whether to leave the awards vacant.

4. The jury committee will select the winning entries for each award and determine the winners.

IX. Copyright

1. Each entrant must be the original author or legal owner of their entry. If the work is created collectively, the entrant must provide a written guarantee of legal ownership of the work; if this is not possible, the work must be entered in the name of all authors.

2. The copyright of the entries belongs to the entrant, and the Organizing Committee may digitally save the selected entries. All entrants will be deemed as having agreed to authorize Organizing Committee the right to use the entries in the following circumstances (without further notice or payment):

(1) Entries and related materials are to be used for the promotion of events related to the official media, cooperative media, and cooperation platforms of the Organizing Committee.

(2) Entries and related materials are to be used in the award ceremony.

(3) Entries and related materials are to be displayed in the competition exhibitions (including touring exhibitions).

(4) The shortlisted works and related materials are to be collected and published.

(5) The winning works are to be displayed and screened at the Xiamen International Animation Festival ACG Carnival Screening Week. The Organizing Committee has the right to determine the order, classification, and schedule of the film screening.

X. Invitation

1. Representatives of all the shortlisted entries will be invited to attend the XIAF Cyber Sousa Award ceremony and other supporting activities, whereby limited accommodation and meals will be provided, subject to the final notification of the Organizing Committee.

2. All shortlisted entries will be recommended to the Organizing Committee partners on a priority basis.

XI. Awards Presentation

1. The awards presentation ceremony is currently scheduled to take place in November 2024 and shall be organized by the Organizing Committee.

2. The Organizing Committee will invite representatives of the finalists of the Cyber Sousa Award to attend the award ceremony. The invited representatives should be the main author (individual works) or the vice president or above of the enterprise (for enterprise works) to attend the award ceremony. Winners who are not available can authorize a substitute to receive the award on their behalf, and the recipient must submit a written power of attorney and corresponding identity proof to the Organizing Committee. In case of exceptional circumstances, please contact the Organizing Committee in advance. Failure to explain the

situation in advance and no-show will be considered as forfeiting the award.

3. The Gold and Silver Award winners will receive the Cyber Sousa Award trophies, certificates, and prize money. The nomination winners will receive the Cyber Sousa Award certificates and prize money.

4. With the winners' consent, the Organizing Committee may arrange exclusive media interviews.

XII: Legal Items

1. The entrants must ensure that information in the registration forms is authentic and valid, that they are the legal owners of the entries and the copyrights who should shoulder corresponding legal responsibilities. In the event that others claim rights for the entries, the entrant shall bear all losses incurred. In case of any considerable influence or losses to the Organizing Committee or the competition, the entrant shall assume the compensation liability.

2. Entrants are free to participate in other similar competitions or related commercial activities before or after the XIAF competition, however, any consequences caused from the conflicts with other competition regulations should be borne solely by the entrants.

3. Entries who have submitted complete registration forms will be deemed to have unconditionally accepted the rules and regulations established by the Organizing Committee. In the event of any disputes, they shall be referred to the Xiamen Municipal Arbitration Commission for arbitration. Only the Chinese version of these Rules has the force of law.

XIII: Supplementary Provisions

1. Other provisions together with these Entry Rules will be released by Organizing Committee on the official portal website of the XIAF (www.cybersousa.com.cn).

2. These Entry Rules will take effect since the day it is released.

3. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to final interpretation of the Entry Rules.

XIV: Contact Information

1. The Organizing Committee of the Cyber Sousa Award of Xiamen International Animation Festival

Address: C09 F4, No. 33 Guan Ri Rd., Xiamen Software Park II, Fujian Province, China.

Postcode: 361008

Telephone: +86-(0)592-5953932

Fax: +86-(0)592-5913901

Email: 5953932@xmigc.com

2. ASIFA-CHINA

Address: Room 908, MaoHua Building, NO.17 ShidaiHuayuanNan Rd., Shijingshan District, Beijing, China.

Postcode: 100043

Telephone: 010-62662716

Email: contact@asifa.cn

The Organizing Committee of the Cyber Sousa Award of
Xiamen International Animation Festival
May 30th, 2024

Selection & Evaluation Regulations of 2024 (16th) Xiamen International Animation Festival (XIAF) Cyber Sousa Award Competition

I. General Provisions

Article 1 In order to promote the development of the ACG industry and encourage the application of animation technology in various industries and fields, the XIAF Organizing Committee (hereinafter referred to as the “Organizing Committee”) will organize the “Cyber Sousa” Award contest. In order to ensure the openness, fairness, and justice of the competition, and the evaluation work is carried out in a standardized and orderly manner, the selection regulations are formulated.

II. Organizing Structure

Article 2 According to the actual situation of the XIAF, the Organizing Committee has formulated the "Selection Regulations of 2024 (16th) Xiamen International Animation Festival Cyber Sousa Award Competition (hereinafter referred to as Selection Regulations), " Entry Rules of 2024 (16th) Xiamen International Animation Festival Cyber Sousa Award Competition (hereinafter referred to as Entry Rules) and other regulations to guide the contest.

Article 3 The Organizing Committee invites domestic and overseas ACG experts, specialists, and academic scholars to serve as judges, who form the "Cyber Sousa” Award Selection Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Selection Committee") and the jury. The Selection Committee and the jury each have chairpersons and committee members responsible for the selection of works.

III. Schedule of the Contest

Article 4 The registration system is open since the publication day of the Selection Regulations, and submission will be closed on August 15th, 2024. The prize winners will be announced in November 2024.

IV. Contest Categories and Awards Setting

Article 5 According to the different characteristics of the entries, the competition has set several award categories. Awards and the number of award recipients are specified by the Entry Rules.

Article 6 The jury may, according to the actual situation, have the right to recommend the Organizing Committee to properly adjust some of the awards and the number of awards.

V. Registration and Participation

Article 7 Qualifications for Entry

1. Entries must comply with Chinese laws, regulations and ethics. Entries must not contain pornographic, violent, bloody or other undesirable content.

2. Entries must be works created or published after January 1st, 2022.

3. All entries must be original. Collective works require the consent of the main producer. The winning entries are publicized through online media. It is strictly prohibited to copy, plagiarize, or imitate others' works. In case of any violation, the entrant will be disqualified and held accountable in accordance with the law.

Article 8 No registration fee is required. After completing the entry form on the official website of the Xiamen International Animation Festival (www.cybersousa.org), please submit the entries and the related materials as required in the Entry Rules.

Article 9 After completing the registration form, the entrants will be deemed to accept the terms of the Selection Regulations and the Entry Rules.

VI. Appraisal and Selection

Article 10 The selection process and criteria of the contest awards are specified by the Entry Rules.

Article 11 The Organizing Committee and the jury will evaluate the works according to the Entry Rules and determine the winners.

Article 12 All entries that have passed the initial evaluation will be screened at the Xiamen International Animation Festival.

VII. Awards Presentation

Article 13 The Organizing Committee is responsible for preparing and presenting the award trophies, certificates and rewards to the winners of the "Cyber Sousa" Award Contest. The awards setting and reward methods are specified by the Selection Regulations.

VIII. Legal Items

Article 14 All entrants should be the legal owners of the entries and the copyrights who should shoulder corresponding legal responsibilities.

Article 15 The copyright of the entries belongs to the entrants themselves. The Organizing Committee may save the entries digitally. All entrants will be deemed as having agreed to authorize Organizing Committee the right to use the entries in the following circumstances (without further notice or payment):

(1) Entries and related materials are to be used for the promotion of events related to the official media, cooperative media, and cooperation platforms of the Organizing Committee.

(2) Entries and related materials are to be used in the award ceremony.

(3) Entries and related materials are to be displayed in the competition exhibitions (including touring exhibitions).

(4) The shortlisted works and related materials are to be collected and published.

(5) The winning works will be displayed and screened at the Xiamen International Animation Festival ACG Carnival Screening Week. The Organizing Committee has the right to determine the order, classification and schedule of the film screening.

Article 16 The Organizing Committee does not assume responsibility for any possible losses or damages of the entries during the mailing process.

Article 17 Entrants are free to participate in other similar contests or related commercial activities before or after the XIAF contest, however, any consequences caused by the conflicts with other contest regulations should be borne solely by the entrants.

IX. Supplementary Provisions

Article 18 The Selection Regulations will take effect since the day it is released.

Article 19 The Organizing Committee reserves the right of final interpretation for the Selection Regulations.

The Organizing Committee of the Cyber Sousa Award of Xiamen
International Animation Festival
May 30th, 2024