

“CHRISTMAS CARNAGE: 48 HOUR FILM CHALLENGE” 2025 RULES & GUIDELINES

OFFICIAL SIGN UP EVENT:

Friday, November 7, 2025 from 6-8pm. Location TBA

FILM DEADLINE TO SUBMIT:

Sunday, November 9, 2025 by 8pm

CHRISTMAS CARNAGE SHOWCASE (SCREENING EVENT):

Blood Over Texas Film Fest at the Horror For The Holidays Expo

Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 5pm

These rules/guidelines apply to each participating team, both collectively and as individual participants. Blood Over Texas maintains the right to add to or amend these rules at any time prior to the beginning of the Official 48-hour Period.

PARTICIPATION

Blood Over Texas does not acknowledge any teams or individuals participating in the “Christmas Carnage: 48 Film Challenge” that have not fully met the following requirements:

- Completed Registration by filling out the Registration Form and completing the registration fee of \$30.
- The Team Leader being present at the Official Sign Up Event and providing an in-person signature of the Blood Over Texas “Christmas Carnage: 48 Hour Film Challenge” Team Leader Agreement’ [READ AHEAD OF TIME]. Agreement available on our website.
- Team Leader being present at the Official Sign Up Event and providing a list of all team members (representing their acknowledgement of the Agreement, Rules and Guidelines) and any required release forms — including Talent, Location, Music. All forms available on our website.
- Submissions that do not adhere to the Rules & Guidelines set forth herein.

CHALLENGE TIMES & WORK PARAMETERS

- The Official 48-hour Period begins on Nov. 7, 2025 at 8pm (central time) and ends on Sunday, Nov. 9, 2025 at 8pm (central time).
- All Creative Process for the Film must take place within the Official 48-hour Period (writing, rehearsing, costume/ set design, filming, editing, sound design and submission).
- Preparation work is of course allowed (organizing crew and cast, securing equipment, scouting/securing locations and preparing all release forms).
- Only films that meet the submission deadline will be part of the awards competition.
- Late film submissions may still be screened at the committee’s discretion, but will not qualify for the awards competition.

FILM CONTENT & SUBMISSION ELIGIBILITY

- All scripts, footage and content must be original work(s) of the Entrants and created/filmed within the Official 48-hour Period of the event.
- All music must be the original work of the Entrant or come with a signed release from the Original Artist. This includes song parodies or variations/spoofs of original works.
- Prerecorded sound effects are allowed, but you must have rights to use them.
- No stock footage or footage filmed before this official time period may be used.
- No Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used to author scripts or create footage or imagery used in the Film Submission.
- Animation and special effects are permitted but must be created during the Official 48-hour Period.
- Still photographs are permitted, provided that the team has right to them, but should be created during the Official Time Period.
- Film content must not infringe third party's rights; must not contain obscene or pornographic material (must meet/may not exceed MPAA R guidelines); may not contain defamatory or racist statements about any person, company, organization or entity; May not contain any copyrighted elements (other than as owned by the Entrant and/or Blood Over Texas).
- AI Tools may be allowed to enhance, re-stylize or manipulate original footage created within the Official 48-hour Period. (i.e. Special VFX may also incorporate AI Tools to enhance, re-stylize or manipulate); however, Entrants must list all AI Apps/Software used in your film.
- ALL FILMS MUST match the Christmas horror theme and MUST MATCH THE REQUIRED CHALLENGES:
1) Challenge DIALOG (verbatim). 2) Challenge PROP (visible onscreen). 3) Challenge horror SUB-GENRE.

TOTAL RUNNING TIME

- Completed Films submitted must be a minimum of 6 minutes but no longer than 8 minutes in duration (with an allotment of 60 seconds during the run time for credits).
- For example, you can have a minimum of 5-minute-long film with 60 seconds of credits and up to a 7-minute-long film with 60 seconds of credits.

CAMERAS & EQUIPMENT

- Blood Over Texas will not provide any cameras, equipment, personnel, funding or resources for creating or completing Film submissions.
- You may use any type of video or film camera except for drone (UAV) cameras. Due to liability and privacy reasons the use of drones (UAVs) are prohibited for this competition.

FILM SUBMISSION & MEDIA FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

- All completed Films must be encoded to h.264/mov or MP4 file formats.
- Maximum file size 6GB (suggested 1920x1080 @23.98 or 29.97 frame rate).
- Audio Volume Guidelines Suggested volume between -12db to -6db
- A Google Drive, DropBox or other secure share drive location for submission uploads will be provided at the Official Sign Up Event.

PRE-SCREENING, CONTENT OWNERSHIP & LICENSING

- Submissions should not be shown or shared in any way prior to the Screening Event on Saturday, Dec 6th at Horror for the Holidays Expo. This includes uploading the video to any public website, social media platform, or screening the film for groups of anyone other than the team.
- Once the screening is over you can share your work in any way you see fit and maintain full ownership.
- Blood Over Texas maintains the right to promote the work, likeness, titles, imagery of the original work for Promotional purposes for future events and challenges as outlined in the License Agreement.
- Blood Over Texas reserves the right, but is not responsible for, maintaining a copy or backup copies of your original work created from the "Christmas Carnage: 48-hour Film Challenge."

RESPONSIBILITY & LIABILITY SUMMARY

• The Team Leader must be present at the Official Sign Up Event and provide an in-person signature of the “Blood Over Texas ‘Christmas Carnage: 48 Hour Film Challenge Team Leader Agreement” [READ AHEAD OF TIME], which shall represent all team members’ and individuals’ acknowledgement of the Agreement. This includes:

- All Entrants (teams and individuals) participate of their own freewill and assume all responsibility, risks, damages and or costs incurred during their participation.
- All Entrants (teams and individuals) acknowledge all Rules and Guidelines.
- All Entrants (teams and individuals) acknowledge and agree to indemnify and hold harmless Blood Over Texas (operating within the company: DarkWcked Collective, LLC), the Blood Over Texas Film Fest “Christmas Carnage: 48 Hour Film Challenge” Committee, Judges, Horror For the Holidays Expo, Employees, volunteers and its sponsors for and from all claims of copyright infringement related to their entry/entries, including its display at the film festival, and the Entrants are responsible for all costs, expenses and damages associated with any such claim.
- All Entrants (teams and individuals) agree to the Non-Exclusive Distribution and Public Performance License Agreement.
- Any deviation from the previously listed guidelines will result in disqualification of the film.
- The Blood Over Texas “Christmas Carnage: 48 Hour Film Challenge” reserves the right not to display any video it feels does not sufficiently meet guidelines.

NON-EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTION & PUBLIC PERFORMANCE LICENSE

By agreeing to this license, you (the creator(s) or copyright owner(s)) grant to Blood Over Texas the non-exclusive right to reproduce, translate (as defined below), and/or distribute your submission worldwide in print and electronic format and in any medium, currently available or created in the future. You also grant Blood Over Texas non-exclusive public performance rights to the submission.

- You agree that Blood Over Texas may, without changing the content, translate the submission to any medium or format, currently available or created in the future, for the purpose of preservation.
- You agree that Blood Over Texas may use any, or all, parts of the submission for promotional purposes.
- You agree that Blood Over Texas may keep more than one copy of this submission for purposes of security, back-up and preservation.
- You represent that the submission is your original work, and that you have the right to grant the rights contained in this license. You also represent that your submission does not, to the best of your knowledge, infringe upon anyone’s copyright.
- If the submission contains material for which you do not hold copyright, you represent that you have obtained the unrestricted permission of the copyright owner to grant Blood Over Texas the rights required by this license, and that such third-party owned material is clearly identified and acknowledged within the text or content of the submission.
- Blood Over Texas will not make any alteration, other than as allowed by this license, to your submission.

THE JUDGES

We are currently assembling a group of industry professionals and will announce them at or before the Official Sign Up Event. The judges will not be affiliated with Blood Over Texas.

AWARDS & PRIZES

BEST SHORT: Winning team receives \$100 Cash Prize and a \$100 credit to be used towards Blood Over Texas merch.

BEST USE OF PROP: Winning team receives a one-of-a-kind trophy specifically made for this year’s challenge.

PASSES TO THE EVENT

We will give each team up to 3 Saturday passes to Horror For The Holidays Expo once they have submitted their film so they can come see the Showcase. The passes are good for 11am-7pm on Saturday the 6th.