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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES  
OCEAN CITY HISTORICAL FILMS CHALLENGE  
IN CELEBRATION OF RESORT'S 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

OCEAN CITY, MD — *Dec. 16, 2024* — The Ocean City Film Festival, a production of the Art League of Ocean City, announces the Ocean City Historical Films Challenge. This challenge is in celebration of the Town of Ocean City's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a premier beach resort.

Registration is due by Jan. 1, 2025 with films delivered by Feb. 1, 2025.

The 2025 Ocean City Historical Films Challenge is a one-time contest for filmmakers to create a short film about Ocean City history. Winning entries will receive prizes of OC swag, bragging rights, and the opportunity for their work to be featured in the Ocean City Film Festival showing March 6-9, 2025. First, second, and third-place winners will have their films archived at the Ocean City Life Saving Station Museum.

“Ocean City’s Tourism Team has been hard at work planning 150 days of celebrations during 2025 that honor our town’s rich 150-year heritage,” Fiona O’Brian, a member of the tourism team, said. “We are honoring Ocean City's evolution from a small fishing village into a premier seaside destination by seeking stories that highlight the town's unique history. The Historical Film Challenge encourages storytelling that captures the essence of Ocean City’s legacy, showcasing its unique landscape and community while encouraging creativity and local engagement.”

Films must be about Ocean City history, shot in a documentary format, and not exceed a run-time of 15 minutes. Films can be produced in Ocean City in a way that is visible within the film or shot outside of Ocean City, but the resort has to be central to the premise of the film. Filmmakers must secure documentation of clearance for any copyright protected materials in their submission.

Acceptable deliverables include MP4 or MOV files of the film, including a high-resolution poster image, still images from the film, and a text document including the title, run-time, synopsis, and credits.

Resources for filmmakers include the Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum archives, which will waive their archival fees for participating filmmakers. Online archives and YouTube videos are free for participants to use. Filmmakers may contact Cara Downey at [CDowney@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:CDowney@oceancitymd.gov) for use of any particular images or videos.

In addition, the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury University is available for source material. And officials from the Film Fest are available for consultation and critique prior to completion by contacting [OceanCityFilmFest@gmail.com](mailto:OceanCityFilmFest@gmail.com).

More information is available at [OCMDFilmFestival.com](http://OCMDFilmFestival.com).

Prizes are presented by the Art League of Ocean City and the Film Festival sponsors. All participating filmmakers will receive an admission pass to the screening of the Ocean City Historical Film Challenge block at the 2025 festival.

*The Art League of Ocean City is a non-profit organization dedicated to artistic expression and appreciation for the creative arts in our community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs, and community art projects. Funding is provided in part by the Worcester County Arts Council, Maryland State Arts Council, and the National Endowment of the Arts, organizations dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.*

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