

How It Works: 48 Hour Filmmaker Challenge

In the fast-paced world of filmmaking, imagine the excitement of writing, shooting, and editing a short film—all within just **48 hours**. This is the heart of the **48 Hour Filmmaker Challenge**, hosted by the **Ripley County Tourism Bureau**. It's a whirlwind creative experience that will push your filmmaking skills, collaboration, and energy to the limit—and reward you with the unforgettable experience of seeing your work on the big screen.

FRIDAY Friday is kickoff day! You will receive your required elements and immediately launch into writing, prepping, filming, and editing—all within the next 48 Hours.

KICKOFF EVENT (6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.) At least one representative from each team must attend the Kickoff Event, although you're encouraged to bring your entire team to celebrate and kick things off together. Here's what happens:

- **Receive Information** — Organizers will go over the rules, answer questions, and provide important event details.
- **Draw Required Elements** — Each team will draw a required **line of dialogue** and a required **prop**. You must include both in your film.

Important: There is **no genre assignment** for this challenge.

HOT TIP: Bring your whole team to share in the kickoff excitement! Right after, head back to your "base" and immediately start brainstorming and preparing.

WRITE AND PREP After kickoff, the clock is ticking. You'll want to start writing your script right away. Most teams brainstorm as a group, while some leave it to the designated writer.

Meanwhile, the rest of the team can:

- Secure or prepare the required prop
- Gather costumes, props, and equipment
- Build or decorate sets
- Arrange for actors and extras

HOT TIP: Since you only have 48 hours, **keep writing sessions efficient**. Start prepping gear and locations alongside script writing if possible—speed is key!

READY? ACTION!

FILMING Begin filming as soon as your script is ready. Directors direct, actors perform, and the energy stays high.

HOT TIP: Minimize location changes. Every move costs precious time!

EDITING AND POST-PRODUCTION As soon as you have footage, you can start editing. Some teams have editors working while filming continues, while others finish shooting first before diving into post-production.

- Sync footage
- Start building a rough cut
- Begin color correction and sound design
- Compose or select music

HOT TIP: Back up your footage often. You don't want to lose hours of work because of a technical issue.

PAPERWORK Along with your film, you must submit completed paperwork including:

- Waiver and Release Forms (for all cast and crew)
- Location Release Forms
- Music Release Forms
- Materials Release Forms
- Certification Statement

HOT TIP: Assign one person to be responsible for handling all paperwork and upload submissions. This helps avoid last-minute chaos.

DROP-OFF DEADLINE (Sunday by 7:00 p.m.) All films and required paperwork must be fully uploaded by Sunday at 7:00 p.m. to be eligible for screening.

SCREENING If you meet the deadline and submit all required materials, **your film will be screened on the big screen!** Invite your friends, family, and supporters to come celebrate your incredible 48 hour achievement!

*Please note: All submitted films will be screened by judges and the internal team to ensure they are appropriate for all audiences. Entry into the 48 Hour Filmmaker Challenge does **not** automatically guarantee final acceptance into the Ripley County Film Fest screening lineup.*

Get ready for a high-energy, unforgettable weekend—we can't wait to see what you create!