

IDF 2026 | Industry and Media Registration Guidelines

I. About the West Lake International Documentary Festival

1. Festival Overview

The 8th West Lake International Documentary Festival (IDF 2026) is jointly hosted by the Zhejiang Provincial Department of Culture, Radio, Television and Tourism and the China Academy of Art. The festival will **open on the evening of 22 October 2026, with taking place in Hangzhou from 23 to 25 October.**

IDF stands for "I Documentary Fact". These three words express the festival's exploration of the relationship between the documentary filmmaker, the methods of image-making and the filmed subject.

2. Purpose of IDF

IDF values innovation, avant-garde, academia, and non-fiction as core principles. It aims to explore the endless possibilities of documentary filmmaking in today's technological landscape. We believe that documentaries are a medium grounded in the human process of "observation and selection," and society is the perfect setting for this medium. The creators, subjects, and audiences are its core components. We respect the time and space within images and emphasize the internal and unseen aspects of the human soul. Documentaries are not mere copies of reality but serve as a channel through which we approach reality. The key is whether this channel offers new insights and profound understanding. We strive to explore the relationship between fiction and non-fiction, highlighting their interplay to expand the understanding and imagination of reality from creators to audiences, contributing to the revival of China's documentary industry.

II. Industry and Media Participation

The 7th West Lake International Documentary Festival took place from 25 to 27 October 2024 at the China Academy of Art, beside Hangzhou's West Lake. Documentary filmmakers, scholars, leading cultural figures, industry investors and other professionals from China and abroad participated both online and in person.

Nearly 90 invited guests, more than 120 industry delegates registered through the official website and close to 100 media representatives gathered in Hangzhou to celebrate documentary. The screening reservation mini-programme received nearly 130,000 views, and more than 7,390 people

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我
纪录
事实

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of West Lake International
Documentary Festival

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successfully made reservations. The festival also shared updates through Tencent Video, Douban, Bilibili and international social media platforms including Facebook and Instagram, presenting its awards, screenings and academic programme to the public in a variety of formats. Major official media outlets, provincial television channels and online media provided coverage through features, special editions and interviews, publishing nearly 20 reports in total. The enthusiastic participation of industry delegates and the media greatly enhanced the festival's visibility, public impact and standing within the industry.

Registration for industry delegates and media representatives for this year's festival is now open.

III. Registration Guidelines

1. Registration Period

Industry and media registration for the 8th West Lake International Documentary Festival is open during the following period:

From now until **16:00 on 10 October 2026(Beijing time, UTC+8)**. Late applications will not be accepted. Application results will be sent to the email address provided within **seven working days** after the application deadline.

2. Registration Requirements

- 1) Applications are open to documentary professionals and relevant organisations, including, but not limited to, **universities offering related programmes, research institutes, film foundations, film festivals and related event organisations, sales agents and distributors, investors, market buyers, individual attendees, filmmakers who have submitted works to the festival, and media representatives.**
- 2) Applicants must visit the official West Lake International Documentary Festival website (www.westlakeidf.com), complete the online application form and upload the required materials before the deadline.
- 3) The IDF Organising Committee will assess applicants' eligibility based on the company, institution, organisation or personal information submitted. Successful applicants will be notified by email.
- 4) Each successfully registered industry delegate or media representative will receive one accreditation badge. The badge is the sole credential for admission to festival activities. It may not be transferred or lent to another person. Lost badges will not be replaced.
- 5) Each company, institution or organisation may receive a maximum of two badges.
- 6) Places for industry and media registration are limited. Please complete your application as soon as possible.

7) The IDF Organising Committee reserves the right to interpret the rules governing badge use.

3. Industry and Media Benefits

Each successfully registered industry delegate or media representative will receive an official badge, which provides the following benefits:

- 1) Screening tickets: each badge entitles its holder to collect up to 10 tickets in total during the festival. Tickets are limited and available while supplies last. If seats remain after a screening has started, badge holders may enter upon presentation of their badge.
- 2) Admission to the IDF Academic discussion programme.
- 3) Admission to the IDF Project Pitching programme.

For enquiries, please contact:

Festival email: idf@westlakeidf.com

Industry delegate contact (Gao): 13574930869

Media contact (Jiang): 13861138062

Organising Committee contact (Qiu): 13957997626

Thank you for your support. We look forward to welcoming you to Hangzhou this autumn!

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