International Township TV & Film Festival (ITTFF) 2025

2025 Stakeholder & Public Impact Report

In Strategic Partnership with Clermont / KwaDabeka Tourism

Theme: *Echoes of Fear – Celebrating Township & Rural Horror Stories*
Dates: 27–30 May 2025
Venue: Clermont Community Hall, KwaZulu-Natal
Presented by: ITTFF Programme, Panaview Film Institute & DUT Video Technology Department
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FPB Certificate Number: FPB8/2025/294377ITTFF

International Township TV & Film Festival

1. Executive Summary

The **International Township TV & Film Festival (ITTFF)** is a South African registered Non-Profit Company and a pioneering cultural development initiative rooted in **township and rural empowerment through film and television**. Founded in Clermont Township, KwaZulu-Natal, ITTFF exists to **identify, train, showcase, and commercialise the work of emerging and disadvantaged filmmakers**, with a strong focus on **youth and women**.



Following the successful launch of our **inaugural festival in 2025**, ITTFF is entering **2026 with a bold, focused, and scalable vision**: to become **South Africa's first specialised Horror Film & TV Festival**, while continuing our year-round skills development and industry pipeline programmes.

With over 240 attendees registered and 4 days of screenings, workshops, and masterclasses, ITTFF 2025 successfully launched a bold new vision for township and rural film empowerment.

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2. Festival Objectives

- Provide training in technical fields like VFX, SFX, FSX, directing, and post-production.
- Celebrate horror as a genre to foster innovation and storytelling in underrepresented communities.
- Promote township and rural filmmakers through screenings, competitions, and networking.
- Inspire youth, empower women, and bridge grassroots talent with professional opportunities.

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3. Programme Highlights - 2025: A Proven Foundation

In **May 2025**, ITTFF hosted its **first-ever four-day film festival** in Clermont Township. What began as a bold vision quickly became a **demonstrated success**.

Highlights of ITTFF 2025:

- A **4-day live festival programme** featuring:
  - Horror and non-horror film screenings
  - Masterclasses and industry panels
  - Hands-on training workshops
  - Youth, women, and student-focused development sessions

- A genre-focused theme:
  "Echoes of Fear – Celebrating Township & Rural Horror Stories", using horror as a gateway into **high-demand technical skills** such as:
  - VFX & SFX
  - Production Design



  - Sound Design & Film Scoring
  - Makeup & Creature Effects

- **Strong institutional and industry participation**, including:
  - Durban Film Office (DFO)
  - Durban University of Technology (DUT)
  - CIPC (IP & Copyright education)
  - Community Tourism Organisations (CTOs)
  - Independent producers, directors, and broadcasters

- A **Gala Awards Dinner** on the final evening, recognising excellence across multiple categories

Historic Milestone:
The **Honourable Mayor of eThekwini, Cllr Cyril Xaba**, attended the awards ceremony in person, remained throughout the evening, and **personally presented awards and certificates to winners**, a powerful endorsement of ITTFF's credibility, governance, and community value.
This moment firmly positioned ITTFF as a **trusted cultural institution** with both **community legitimacy and government support**.







4. Awards & Recognitions

Main Competition – Horror Genre:

- *Best Horror Film* – Trophy and Certificate
- *Best Director, Cinematography, SFX, Production Design*
- *Best Actor & Actress in a Horror Film*

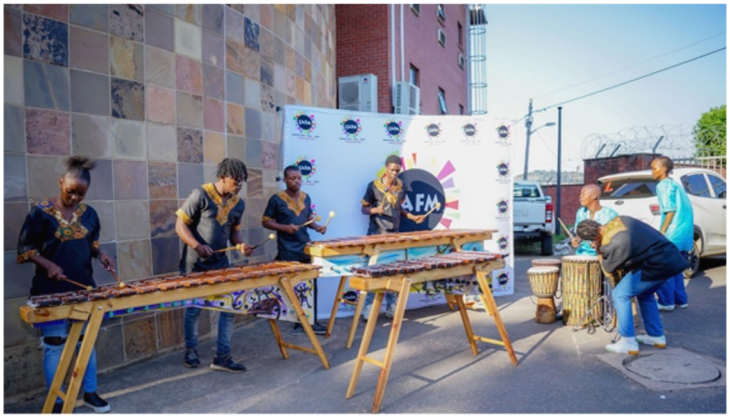
Special Recognition Awards (Non-Horror):

- Audience Choice, Best Women's in Film, Best Rural Film, Rising Star (Under 25), Best Student Film ITTFF

International
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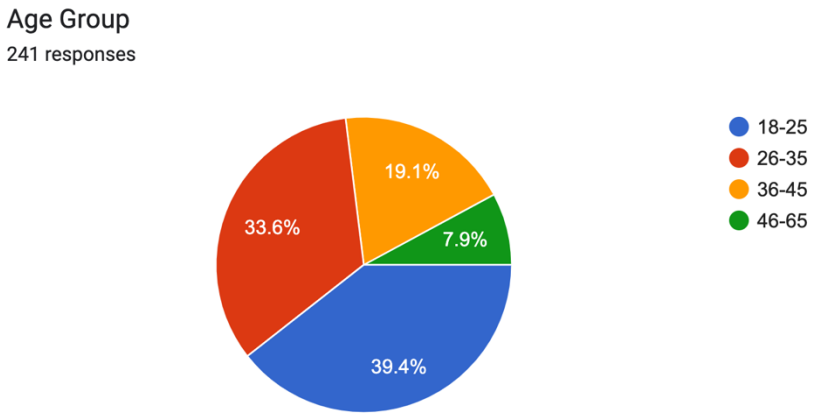


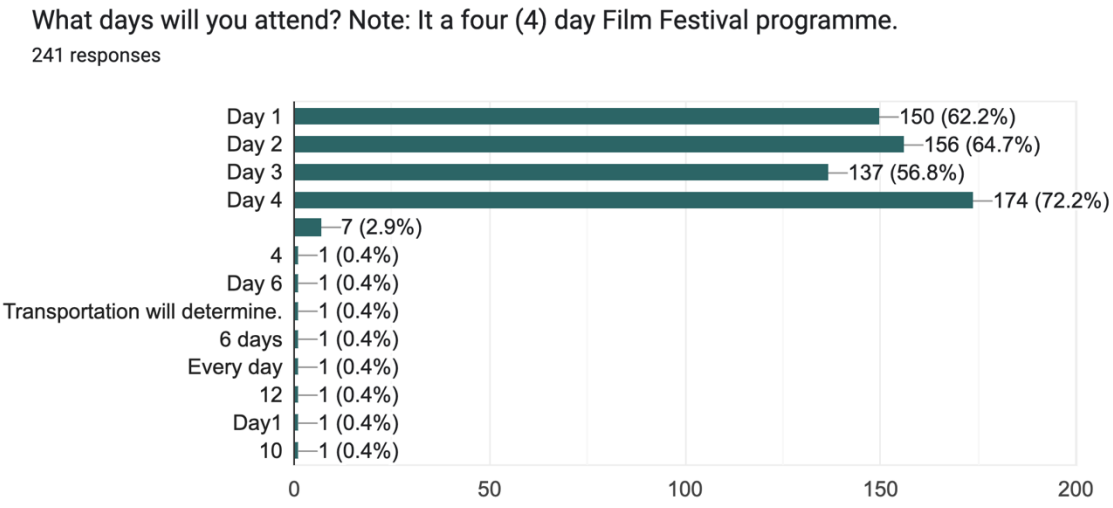


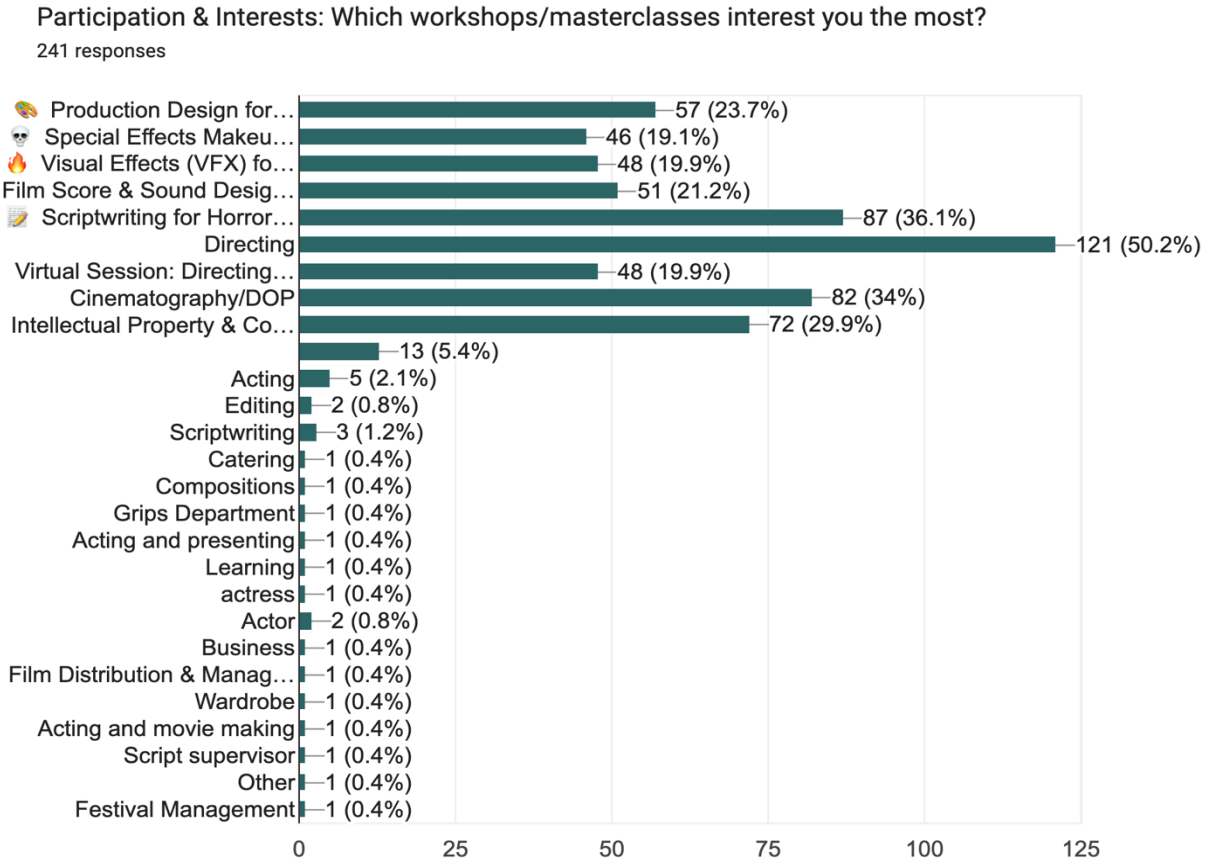
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5. Attendance & Demographics

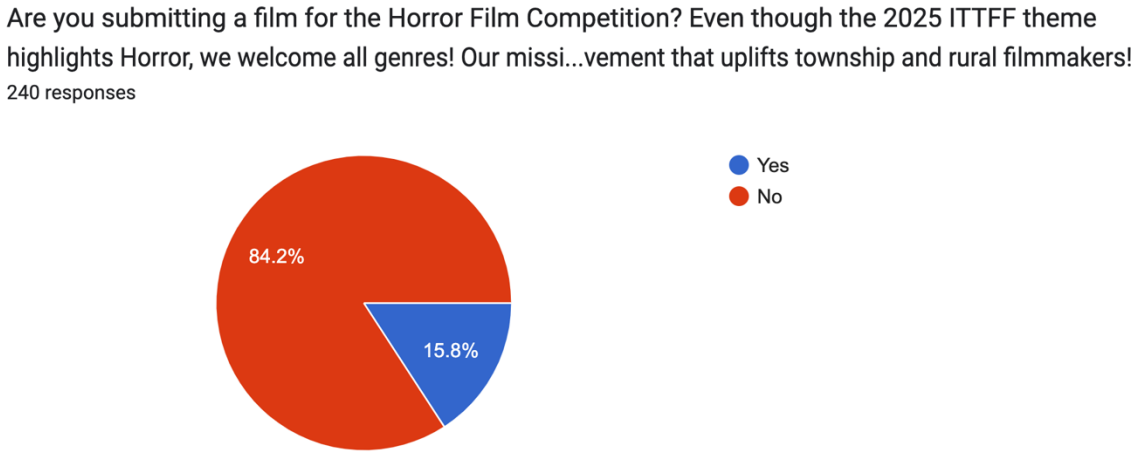
- **Total Registrants**: 241
- **Age Breakdown**:
  - 18–25: 95
  - 26–35: 81
  - 36–45: 46
  - 46–65: 19







Out of the people who attend how many submitted their films for screening



- **Popular Workshop Interests**:
  - Directing, Scriptwriting, DOP, Cinematography, IP Rights, SFX Makeup.
- **Horror Film Submissions**: 38

6. Training & Skill Development

Facilitators Included:

- Talent Dube (VFX, SFX),
- Noxolo Lushozi (Camera and Lighting)
- Brian Khawula & Godfrey Dlamini (Acting & Directing),
- Bonie Sithebe (Scriptwriting),
- CIPC (Mr Khoza – IP Law),
- DUT Lecturers (Sound & Drama)

Workshops equipped attendees with practical skills in:

- Directing, Cinematography, VFX/SFX/FSX
- Makeup & Wardrobe for Horror
- Sound Design & Scoring
- Copyright/IP Rights

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7. Community & Institutional Partnerships

- **Panaview Film Institute**
- **Durban University of Technology – Video Tech Department**
- **CIPC – Mr. Khoza IP Law**
- **Clermont/Kwa-Dabeka Tourism** with **All 9 CTOs in eThekwini**
- Support from local leaders including Ward 21 Councillor Clermont & the Mayor's Office - Mayor Cyril Xaba

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8. Beyond the Festival: Skills That Lead to Employment

ITTFF is not a once-off event. It is a **continuous development ecosystem**. Following the festival week, ITTFF launched a **6-month intensive training programme** titled:

Clermont Filmmakers Academy
"Limelight Programme"

This programme:

- Targets **emerging township filmmakers**
- Focuses on **practical, industry-ready skills**
- Ends with **each participant producing a fully completed short film**

Key Outcomes:

- Films are **festival-ready**
- Projects are suitable for:
  - Local and international film festivals
  - TV broadcast licensing
  - Online distribution platforms

This ensures participants leave with **real intellectual property**, not just certificates enabling them to:

- Start their own production companies
- Freelance professionally
- Pitch to broadcasters and funders





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ZAZI RD
KKHOTEL
Clermont Kwa-Dabeka
Tourism Development















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2026 Vision: Becoming South Africa's Home of Horror

In **2026**, ITTFF will **intentionally specialise in the Horror genre**, positioning the festival as:

The leading horror-focused film & TV development platform in South Africa, rooted in township and rural storytelling.

Why Horror?

Horror is:

- One of the **most commercially viable genres globally**
- A gateway into **high-end technical skills**
- Ideal for:
  - VFX & SFX
  - Sound design and scoring
  - Production design
  - Makeup and creature effects

By specialising, ITTFF will:

- Differentiate itself from all other local festivals
- Build deep expertise rather than shallow programming
- Attract **international collaborators, buyers, and genre audiences**

2026 Programme Expansion

The 2026 edition will grow in:

- **Scale** – more screenings, more delegates, more industry partners
- **Depth** – advanced masterclasses and longer training tracks
- **Reach** – stronger digital presence and national visibility

The programme will include:

- Horror feature films, short films, series, and long-form TV concepts
- Screenings, panels, exhibitions, and pitching sessions
- Expanded masterclasses in:
  - Horror directing
  - Sound & music for suspense
  - Practical & digital effects
- A refined **Gala Awards Ceremony** recognising excellence in horror storytelling

Social Impact & Economic Value

ITTFF directly addresses:

- Youth unemployment
- Gender inequality in technical film roles
- Lack of access to industry networks
- Limited ownership of intellectual property by township creators

Our Impact Model:

- Skills → Content → IP Ownership → Income Opportunities

The festival and academy:

- Create **short-term jobs** (events, production, logistics)
- Develop **long-term careers** (filmmakers, technicians, creatives)
- Stimulate **film tourism and township economies**
- Align with national priorities in:
  - Creative industries
  - Youth development
  - Inclusive economic growth

Why Invest in ITTFF?

ITTFF is:

- **Proven** (successful first edition)
- **Specialised** (clear horror genre positioning)
- **Scalable** (training, festivals, digital platforms)
- **Credible** (government support, FPB registered)
- **Impact-driven** (youth, women, township economies)

Investment partners gain:

- Brand visibility and cultural alignment
- Access to emerging talent and original IP
- Association with transformation and innovation
- Long-term participation in a growing creative economy platform

9. Marketing & Social Media

Platforms:

- Instagram: @ittffprogramme
- Facebook: ITTFF Facebook
- TikTok: @ittffprogramme
- YouTube: ITTFF Channel ITTFF Social media hand…

Campaigns showcased artist profiles, training highlights, film trailers, and live updates during the festival.

10. Budget Summary

Estimated Cost: R1,150,000 However the film festival failed to secure funding
Key Needs: Equipment, Venue, Guest Logistics, Awards, Marketing ITTFF - DBS Presentation

Note: Festival was largely self-funded by the organizing team and community sponsors huge support from Clermont/Kwadabeka Tourism. We thank you

- Mr. Chris Phili R3820 Donation and Accommodation + Valued Support
- Zuko Nodada R5000 Donation + Valued Support
- Bonie Sithebe R3000 Donation + Valued Support
- Nyachengos Films R3500 Donation + Valued Support
- Portia Ncwane R500 Donation + Valued Support

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11. Key Learnings & Future Goals

- Strong demand exists for genre-specific (especially horror) training.
- Township youth are eager for mentorship and creative access.
- IP and business skills must be integrated into film education.

12. Special Thanks/Sponsorship

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to:

• **All participants, All ITTFF Members, Clermont/Kwadabeka Tourism, panellists, and All community members,**
• **Durban Film Office (DFO) for Gala Dinner Awards Ceremony sponsorship**
• **The Music Imbizo – Sphe Mbhele panellist sponsorship + Valued Support**
• **Sabelo Zulu for LCD screens sponsorship**
• **Mayor Cyril Xaba and the Municipality + Valued Support**
• **Vuyasa Empire Decor and Furniture for furniture sponsorship**
• **UMngeni Uthukela Water for Water Sponsorship**
• **All creatives and youth who brought their stories and dreams to ITTFF.**

• **KZN Tourism & Film Authority - panel discussion participation represented by Zama Msibi + Valued Support**
• **Mr. Mqondisi MQ Ngubane - Valued Support**
• **Ayanda Madonsela – Printing branding sponsorship**
• **Mr. Sithembiso Ntuli Bus Shuttle/Transport for Transport sponsorship**
• **Sandile Khanyile Website – Website Sponsorship**
• **Zendo Sounds – Mr. Miyelani Myakayaka for Sound sponsorship**
• **Nduleko Group – Mr. Ndu Hlongwane**
• **Kasi to Kasi – Dr. Lwazi Nqetho - Valued Support**
• **Simo Nzama – SeeMorePossibilities for Programme director sponsorship**
• **Artist – Thanduxolo Xaba "aka Mabhie", Mike Makhosini, Qiqa Makholose aka BhudaQ for Music performance sponsorship**
• **St. Clement Catholic Church – Fr. Zaca - Valued Support**
• **Mr Langalakhe Zwane - Valued Support**

Conclusion

The **International Township TV & Film Festival** is no longer just an idea.
It is a **living institution**, a **development pipeline**, and a **cultural movement**.
With the right partners and investors, ITTFF 2026 will:

- Cement South Africa's place in global horror storytelling
- Unlock township talent at scale
- Build sustainable creative businesses
- Create a legacy that lives far beyond the festival week

ITTFF invites partners, funders, and visionaries to grow this movement with us.

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