

# FAQ's

## **HOW DO I GET STARTED?**

Decide if you want to make the entry alone or with friends. Choose an entry category carefully and start planning the kind of entry you would like to make. Work on a script / screenplay / storyboard. Read all the information in the TISD-TV Film Festival Handbook.

## **IS THERE A TIME LIMIT FOR THE ENTRIES?**

Eligible entries may not exceed 10 minutes in length. It is encouraged that most entries should be between 2 and 10 minutes (including opening and/or closing credits). PSAs generally run 30 or 60 seconds in length. Animation entries may be as short as 10 seconds.

## **HOW DO I TURN IN MY COMPLETED ENTRY?**

The entire entry process is completely online.

1. Upload your finished ENTRY to YouTube or any video-hosting website (Vimeo, SchoolTube, etc), your personal website, or an online file hosting service.
2. Fill out the online entry form available at [www.tylerisd.org](http://www.tylerisd.org) and click Submit.

The last day to submit entries is Monday, March 31, 2017.

## **WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A STUDENT – PRODUCED AND A CLASS – PRODUCED MOVIE?**

For a “student produced” entry, students do all the writing, directing, camera work and editing in their own time and with their own resources. In a “class produced” entry, the teacher will initiate and oversee the project with the whole class taking different roles in the process.

## **HOW MANY ENTRANTS CAN BE INCLUDED ON A STUDENT-PRODUCED ENTRY?**

You can make your entry with as many friends as you like; however, only a total of six (6) students can be officially recognized and included in the entry submission.

## **HOW MUCH PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IS ALLOWED?**

Let the Rising Star Film Festival be a learning experience for the student. By all means offer physical and technical support, particularly to younger entrants, but encourage the student to make the decisions and guide the vision of the film. Entries which have been guided and directed by the parent are apparent, and will be judged accordingly.

## **WHAT IF MY VIDEO CONTAINS COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL?**

Your entry must not infringe any third party copyright or trademark, or violate the rights of any person or entity. Make sure you use content in your entry that you are authorized to use, including, without limitation, music, images, video/film clips, and other intellectual property.

The Rising Star Film Festival, TISD-TV and Tyler ISD shall not be responsible for any claim involving copyright, trademark, credits, or any royalty infringement related to the submitted video.

## **HOW WILL I KNOW IF I AM SELECTED AS A FINALIST?**

Finalists will be notified April 17. All entrants will be notified by email if they have been named finalists. A complete list of all finalists will also be available online at the Film Festival website [www.tylerisd.org](http://www.tylerisd.org) on that day.

## **HOW CAN I IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF MY ENTRY?**

Resources are available from the Film Festival website with hints and tips to improve the look and quality of any entry. Additionally, here are four main technical areas which can help drastically improve the quality of any entry:

- Use a tripod where possible!
- If you use a cell phone to record your video, hold the phone horizontally, not vertically
- Make sure you have good lighting - as much light as possible is better. Make sure the light is behind the camera, not in front of it.
- Get the best audio you can - use headphones to monitor sound if your camera has a headphone jack, get close to the sound source so that it can be heard clearly, and if possible, use an external microphone.

## **HOW CAN I GET HELP UPLOADING MY ENTRY?**

The easiest way to upload your entry is through YouTube at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) . For more information on creating a free YouTube account and uploading videos please visit:

[www.google.com/support/youtube](http://www.google.com/support/youtube)

## **HOW CAN I GET OTHER QUESTIONS ANSWERED?**

If you have any further questions not answered in this handbook, please do not hesitate to contact [Angela Duitch](#), Tyler ISD Coordinator of TV Operations & Digital Media.