

SkillsUSA DIGITAL CINEMA COMPETITION GUIDELINES

CONTEST REQUIREMENTS

1. **Film:** Produce a 4½ to 5½ minute short film using the following criteria:
Genre: Mystery
Dialogue: "NO, Don't go in there!"
2. **Presentation:** Teams must present their films to the judges as though they are pitching their film to a production company.
3. **Written Test:** Contestants will complete a 25 to 50 question test that covers basic camera features & settings, and cinematic techniques.

FILM REQUIREMENTS

- Video output to H.264 (.mp4)
- Films must be shot in 24fps (or 23.98)
- Aspect Ratio: Your choice (16:9 or 2.35)
- Resolution of 720, 1080 or 4k acceptable
- 2 second leader of black video
- 5 second title slide using white font with with contestant number ONLY on black video
- PG Rated. No showing of physical violence (implied violence ok), No sexual content, No foul language, No use of illegal drugs or alcohol. Ultimately follow your school's policy and do NOT get your instructor in hot water!!!
- All content must be original and created within the given time frame. The use of copyright material, stock footage or template effects in NOT allowed.
- Film/Video instructors are prohibited from assisting or acting in your production in ANY way.
- No end film credits

PRESENTATION / INTERVIEW: The contestants should be prepared to introduce their film to the judges and use the following as a guide:

- Logline
- Concept of the film (inspiration)
- Technical Knowledge: Cameras & settings, lighting, audio, etc...
- Explain any visual or sound effects used

WRITTEN TEST: Subjects include, but not limited to:

- Basic camera settings (i.e. White Balance, ISO, Shutter speeds, Apertures, etc...)
- Frame Rates
- Resolution & Compression
- Audio settings & equipment
- Stabilizers and camera movements
- Types of Shots
- Basic editing techniques (i.e. cuts, color grading, output)

SUBMISSIONS:

- Use a thumb drive or SD card to submit all of your required contest materials. Please have a backup in case of lost or corrupted data!
- Create a folder named "Digital-Cinema-(your *contestant* #) (i.e. "**Digital-Cinema-001**")

- Items in your folder MUST include:
 1. Your final video (.mp4). **Named:** Digital-Cinema-(*contestant #*)
 2. Your storyboard (.pdf) **Named:** Storyboard-(*contestant #*)
 3. Your script (.pdf) **Named:** Script--(*contestant #*)
 4. Your resume (.pdf) **Named:** Resume-(*contestant #*)
 5. Permissions folder **Named:** Permissions - this should contain any questionable content in your film including music, sound effects, or visual effects that may “look” to have a copyright. Documentation must explain content origination or permissions from the maker to use in your film. All documentation should also be in (.pdf) form.

NOTES:

- In the event of a tie, the SkillsUSA test will be used as a tie breaker.
- All questions regarding this state test can be sent to:

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