

Envision Film Festival **High School** Film Competition

Rules & Guidelines

Submission **Deadline** – Jan 31st, 2023

Mission Statement

The high school competition is part of Taylor's Envision Film Festival and as such honors aspiring filmmakers whose visual storytelling explores the range of human experience with hopeful vision, artistry, truthfulness and integrity.

Competition Goals

- To solicit entries from talented high school filmmakers and encourage their development as artists.
- To highlight the significance of film as a medium that can express beauty, truth and goodness, prompting meaningful dialogue, engaging culture and ultimately giving glory to God.
- To provide scholarship dollars for winning, incoming Taylor freshmen.

High School Eligibility

- Any full-time high school student who played a major role in the creation of an original film (producer, director, writer, cinematographer, editor, sound designer) is eligible to enter.
- Film must have been completed within two years prior to the festival date.
- No industry professionals or faculty can play a major role--producer, director, writer, cinematographer, editor, sound designer--in the production of the film—although they can have an advisory role. The film must be considered a student production.
- A single student may contribute a **maximum of two films** in which he/she played one of these roles: producer, director, writer, cinematographer, editor, sound designer.
- Projects developed by teams are encouraged. For team projects the entry form can list:
 - Up to five team members, their addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses, and the specific responsibilities of each team member on the project.
- A single film may only be submitted only once. No repeat entries in subsequent years are allowed.

Film Content & Length

- The competition encourages creativity and originality, and the judges encourage filmmakers to explore the human experience in all its dimensions. However, judges will likely exclude films that do not uphold the values generally shared by a broad Taylor University community audience. For instance, the judges will likely exclude films with gratuitous swearing, gratuitous violence, or whose

subjects are macabre, in poor taste or risqué. Content matters, as do audience considerations.

- Films may be narrative/fiction, non-fiction/documentary, music video or experimental in nature.
- Submissions may be no more than **ten minutes** in length *including* credits, but you should know that the judges believe that *much shorter than that is almost always better*.

Entry Form

Fill out the entry form here: <https://tinyurl.com/2023competition>

Judges & Judging Criteria

All films will be judged by a panel of judges including:

- Taylor faculty/students who understand filmmaking. The judges will evaluate the films on the merits of:
 - story (originality/creativity/emotional drama)
 - production values (quality of lighting, sound, camera work, editing, pacing)
 - acting (quality of performance)
 - capacity of the film to meet the festival goals – “exploring the range of human experience with hopeful vision, artistry, truthfulness and integrity”
- Judges may decline to give an award in a particular category if no entry meets the festival’s standards of quality.
- All films accepted by the judges for screening either as the top film or as the winner of another award will be notified approximately two weeks prior to the festival.

Award Categories

All films accepted for screening in the high school category are eligible for awards. The top three films will qualify for one-time scholarship dollars from Taylor if they enroll and spend their freshman year at Taylor as film majors.

1st place - \$1000

2nd place - \$600

3rd place - \$400

All award-winners will be notified by Feb 23rd.

Submission guidelines

- Films should be exported as ProRes 4:2:2m, 1920x1080, .mov file.
- Films **must** be submitted in one of two ways:
 - (Preferred) As a link in Vimeo or YouTube that we can download.
 - E-mailed via WeTransfer.com to jstaylor@taylor.edu.
- Note: projects that cannot be viewed by the judges can be disqualified from competition.
- Films not in English must be clearly subtitled or dubbed into English.
- Entries without online entry forms can be disqualified.

Entry forms must be submitted and projects uploaded by January 31st at midnight. If you require a 24 hr extension, please notify stbailey@taylor.edu.

Rights

- Even though this is a student competition, and “fair use” guidelines can allow copyrighted material in student educational projects, those rights do not extend to public performance of that material. Consequently, all copyrights must be cleared by festival submission deadline for films that wish to be considered for Best Picture (\$1000 prize) consideration. All materials (images, music, etc.) must be 1) original work, 2) work used with the copyright holder’s permission, or 3) work that is in the public domain. Films that violate copyright law are not eligible for the top award but may compete for other awards where the project will not be screened publicly.
- By entering the work, you give Taylor University permission to use your film or images from your film in promotional materials.

If you have questions about these guidelines, feel free to e-mail Kathy Bruner at kathy.bruner@taylor.edu.