

# 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Wesley Chapel Independent Film Festival

## School-Wide Filmmaking Contest (2021) - Official Rules

### Objective

Create a 3 to 6-minute short subject film. This time limit includes all credits. This contest is open to all Wesley Chapel High School students.

### Entry Fee

There is no entry fee.

### The Countdown

The Top 10 Films made this year will be published in a ten-day daily countdown on our WCHSDrama YouTube channel and promoted through social media. Each day, we'll release one new film until we reach this year's Best Picture!

All finalists will receive a popcorn bucket filled with movie-watching candy and snacks to watch the Festival with.

### Registration Deadline

Online registration into the contest is due no later than **March 24, 2021**.

Register at: <https://forms.gle/ZNA9TxUno7Tmzf927>

After registering, you'll receive instructions about how and where you should upload your film.

### Final Submission Deadline

You must upload your finished film by **March 29, 2021**.

### COVID-19 Safety Challenge

For this year:

- You may make a solo film.
- You may include family members as characters.
- If you make a film with another student, **only one student may be in any one camera shot** at any time. This is to encourage and promote social distancing. Multiple family members **may** be in the same shot.
- In response to some students wanting to document the unique nature of our 2020-21 experience, you may include **brief shots** of socially distanced, **mask-wearing** actors.
- Animation is allowed.

It should go without saying that if you **choose** to work with another student, you must be safe and follow every single health guideline there is. Your parents should know where you are and what you are doing. Your health and your family's health is more important than a film.

### Actors

This Festival is intended to show how WCHS students can build something. As such, the lead actor or designer of this film must be a Wesley Chapel High School student.

### Crew

Everyone helping you make this film behind the scenes should be a high school student. Please don't have a professional service, or adult, or college student do this work for a high school student film contest. That would just be lame. And you'd be disqualified.

Please give credit to everyone who helped you in the credits.

### **It's a Movie, not a Music Video**

This project is about using film to tell a story. As such, yours should have: a beginning, middle, and an end; characters, dialogue, and a story. Improv or "raw documentary" or unplanned "reality" plots are not permitted. Your challenge is to be intentionally entertaining to your audience.

### **Community Standards**

Your film must be appropriate for school. Your film may be disqualified for use of: explicit language, graphic violence, sexually inappropriate scenes, or for glorification of alcohol, vaping, tobacco or drug use. As a high school student, the film you make should be able to be rated G, PG, or PG-13. If you have any questions, show or describe the scene in question to Mr. Gaudet no later than one week before the submission deadline.

### **Multiple Entries**

Your work may appear in up to three different film entries. This includes crew, lead role, and extra parts.

**Please don't overextend yourself!** If you decide to help another student with your movie, help with something small like a voice-over or a quick shot. Take care of your mental health as well as your physical health.

### **Judging Criteria**

All films will be reviewed by a small faculty committee with Acting and TV Production experience. Films will be judged on :

#### **Writing Quality**

Story has a clear beginning, middle, and end. There is a clear theme (your movie is 'about' something). Dialogue is written believably and/or consistently depending on the overall nature of the film.

#### **Acting Quality**

Actors are believable in their roles. Lines are delivered clearly, and at an appropriate volume. Actors seem to be the characters they are portraying. All performers interact with each other in a consistently believable manner. In the event of an animated submission, the voice acting and/or narration is appropriate and effective.

#### **Creativity & Originality**

The script and filming either breaks new ground, or covers old film territory in a new way. Films which are satires or spoofs are clever, thought-provoking, and on-target.

#### **Technical Quality**

Camera shots are varied and effective. Scenes transition well. Sound effects, soundtrack, and special effects (if used) are used well. Any animation or artistic effects are effective.

### **Rights Disclaimer Thing**

All films submitted become the property of the WCHS Drama Department. By entering the contest, you agree to allow Wesley Chapel High School to show your movie in public and to retain any proceeds generated from its showing. Films submitted may also be used in WCHS educational units on Filmmaking. This agreement is made "in perpetuity" which basically means, forever.

This is a non-exclusive agreement. You also hold rights to show or sell the movie you made, to submit it to other film contests, etc. In fact, if you become a finalist or win, this might be a great portfolio builder for a Film School application.

### **Questions?**

Ask Mr. Gaudet in Room 229, or write to him at [sgaudet@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:sgaudet@pasco.k12.fl.us).