**Young Filmmakers Contest Rules**

Young Filmmakers Contest submissions, **from students in grade 4 up through grade 12**, are due by 11:59 p.m., June 10, 2022. All winning films will premiere at the Millbrae Community Television in Summer 2022. Questions? Please contact Marian Kong at millbraeculture@gmail.com.

**Eligibility**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Entry Levels** | **Prizes** |
| Elementary (4, 5) | $100 |
| Middle School (6, 7, 8) | $250 |
| High School (9, 10, 11) | $400 |
| High School Senior (12) | $1000 |

**Contest Timeline**

May 1, 2022 Submissions Open

June 10, 2022 Entry Deadline

July 10, 2022 Finalists Announcement

July 16, 2022 Award Ceremony/Premier

**Eligible Grade Levels**

To enter the contest, entrants must be in one of the following grade level categories at the time of submission. There will be one winner in each of the following four (4) categories. Occasionally, there will be a tie, allowing for two winners in a category.

* **Elementary (grades 4, 5)**
* **Middle School (grades 6, 7, 8)**
* **High School (grades 9, 10, 11)**
* **High School Senior (grade 12)**

Note: students’ grade is based on grade entering on September 1, 2022 with exception of 12 grade students who are graduated in June 2022. Entrants must attend either public schools or private school in Millbrae.

Contest entries may be submitted by an individual, or by a group of any size (ex: a group of friends, an after-school program, or an entire class). In the case of group submission, one prize will be awarded to the entire group as a whole.

## ****Topic Categories****

Topics differ based on age. **Students in grade 11 and younger** should choose one or several of the following topics on which to focus the theme of the film.

* **Millbrae Landscape/landmark**
* **Climate**
* **Energy**
* **Food**
* **Transportation**
* **Waste**
* **Water**
* **Wildlife and Ecosystems**

Entrants will then be judged on their ability to address the topic(s) of choice by being engaging, informative, inspiring, and creative through their film. All submissions must show a strong (research-supported) understanding of the topics and related issues. **Submissions must share and highlight solutions to the issues discussed in the chosen sustainability topic(s). The film entry’s theme must be solution-based. The film should talk about an environmental/sustainability problem and then discuss what could be a potential solution to this problem.** For example, consider a film that discusses over-logging and deforestation and then elaborates on how paper-based product industries can change their methods to harvest sustainably. We look forward to viewing your entries that talk about a current problem and how you propose we solve this problem as a community with the goal of sustainability. For entrants who choose topic of Millbrae Landscape/Landmark must relate to any of sustainability topic(s) or a history of the landmark.

**Students in grade 12** have more freedom with content/topics. Their submissions should be environmental films that motivate viewers towards behavior change or activism.

**Film Length**

Entrants may submit a standard film of no shorter than 3 minutes and no longer than 8 minutes.

Sponsor will accept and consider short animated films. The minimum length for animated submissions is 60 seconds. **Animation/stop-motion films can present a solution or motivate viewers towards awareness or behavior change for one of the six topics. In other words, animations from those in grades 11 and younger are not required to show a problem and solution within this shortened time frame, as they are required to do with live action films.**

## ****Prizes****

Winners in each category will receive the following prizes:

1)    Screening of their film at the Mid-Autumn Festival and at other related and subsequent educational and non-profit events hosted (or co-hosted) by Sponsor. These screenings may occur in person and/or online (recorded or streamed).

2)    Posting of their film at the Millbrae Cultural Committee website. (Note: Sponsor reserves the right to utilize submitted films for any promotional materials and online media, at its sole discretion.)

3)    Cash prize or scholarship: Each winner will receive a cash prize pertaining to the grade level category:

* Elementary (grades 4, 5) live action or animation: **$100 cash prize**
* Middle School (grades 6, 7, 8) live action or animation: **$250 cash prize**
* High School (grades 9, 10, 11) live action or animation: **$400 cash prize**
* High School Senior (grade 12) **$1000 college scholarship**

As a reminder, while a group of people (ex: a class or a group of friends) may submit an entry together, only one prize will be awarded to the group as a whole. Prizes are subject to change without notice.

**Judging Rubric**

All video submissions will be assessed by the criteria defined in the following rubric. Each judge will individually complete one rubric per submission. A judging panel will be selected by MCC and MCTV following the close deadline for submissions and will not discuss their rubrics with other judges during the evaluation period. During the evaluation process, judges will see the titles of each film and the grade levels of the entrants but NOT the entrants’ names.\*

 Points awarded each film will be totaled following the completion of the evaluation period. Winners will be determined based on the highest point totals per grade level category and announced in the Fall.

|  |
| --- |
| **CONTENT EVALUATION** |
| Film clearly states an environmental/sustainability issue to address |  **/10** |
| Film presents a compelling introduction and conclusion  |  **/10** |
| Thorough presentation of research and/or understanding of the topic |  **/10** |
| Film takes a creative narrative approach to engage audience |  **/10** |
| Filmmaker clearly presents their solution to the audience |  **/10** |
| Work is an original film created for this contest (yes = 10; no = 5) |  **/10** |
| A strong emotional and/or call-to-action response is invoked  |  **/5** |
| **TECHNICAL EVALUATION** |
| Spoken words are clear and audible - not drowned out or overpowered by music, wind or other incidental noise |  **/10** |
| Subjects are framed with intention, using purposeful camera angles, movements and creative techniques |  **/10** |
| Quality of picture is consistent throughout |  **/5** |
| Quality of audio is consistent throughout  |  **/5** |
| Transitions are smooth and logically-placed |  **/3** |
| Film is shot in LANDSCAPE/HORIZONTAL orientation |  **/1** |
| Film is shot in 16:9 aspect ratio OR has artistic justification for deviation from this guideline |  **/1** |
| **TOTAL POINTS AWARDED** |  **/100** |

Judges will check for adherence to these Rules, including eligibility, compliance with all terms (legality, conduct, etc.), film length, format, etc. Films will be judged by GCC volunteers based upon quality and content of the film and its ability to educate, inspire, and raise awareness of the film’s chosen topic.

**We also stress that films from students in grade 11 and under will be judged on their ability to address a problem and propose a solution to that problem. Films should state a current environmental/sustainability/equity/culture problem regarding one or more of the topics listed above and propose a solution that can help solve/lessen that problem.**

**Films from students in grade 12 will be judged on their ability to educate, inspire, and raise awareness of the film’s chosen topic.**

## ****Submission Rules/Guidelines****

* Entrants are required to submit (1) .mp4 video file of the film (2) video summary/title and (3) entry form (attached) with guardian signature, primary contact email address, name(s) of entrant and film title.
* You may submit your entry into the contest one of two ways: via email OR physical delivery:
	+ EMAIL ENTRY: Entries may be EMAILED to video@mctv.tv via Google Drive or as a downloadable Cloud Link. Include in your email: Title & Summary (body of email or attachments are fine) and entry form (as attachment). You will receive a confirmation email upon receipt of the entry.
	+ PHYSICAL ENTRY: Entries may be delivered PHYSICALLY to the MCTV office **by appointment only** on a USB thumb drive. Due to COVID protocols, staff may be working from home so please do not attempt to drop-in. For physical delivery, bring video file and required documents (entry form/video title & summary). Staff will intake your video file in person and return the USB thumb drive during this time. Note: MCTV operates a Mac-only office so please make sure your USB thumb drive is Mac-compatible.
* PLEASE NOTE: Whether submission is delivered via email or physically, you will receive a confirmation email to the primary contact email address listed on the entry form. **If you have not received confirmation email, your submission is not complete**; if you fail to receive confirmation within 48 hours of submission, please follow up with anne@mctv.tv
* NO SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA TEXT MESSAGE
* NO SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED AS YOUTUBE/VIMEO/SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS. FILE SUBMISSIONS ONLY.

## ****Technical Guidelines****

All films should adhere to the following formatting specifications. Films that do not comply with technical guidelines may receive point reductions in the judging rubric:

* ORIENTATION: shoot in LANDSCAPE/HORIZONTAL orientation
* ASPECT RATIO: video should be shot in standard 16:9 aspect ratio
* RESOLUTION: video should be a minimum resolution of 1280x720 and maximum resolution of 1920x1080. **Films submitted at a resolution below the minimum may be disqualified from the contest.** Films submitted at a resolution above the maximum will be re-sized for viewing by judges and for the public showcase, which may alter the filmmaker’s original intended visual impact.
* FORMAT: video should be submitted as a .mp4 video file. Please NO .mov, .wmv, .avi, mpeg or other video formats. No DVDs will be accepted. Entrants submitting these non-.mp4 video formats will be asked to transcode the video before submission is accepted into the contest.
* TITLE: video **must** have a unique title that displays on screen before, during or after the video. This is for identifying purposes, and may be included graphically as part of the film, as closing credits, or as a slate on video prior to the beginning of the film. Filmmaker name(s) may also be displayed, but are not mandatory. *For the evaluation process only, entries with filmmaker names on-screen will be altered to black out names to preserve anonymity/objectivity. No other aspect of your film will be altered for judges.*
* SUMMARY: include with your video submission a summary of the film not to exceed 100 words. This summary will be displayed along with your film during the public showcase. Summaries in excess of 100 words will be edited down.
* ENTRY FORM: entrants and/or guardians (for entrants under 18 years of age) are required to submit attached entry form which includes identifying information, age category and permission release.
* ORIGINAL WORK: entries to the contest must be original works by the entrants listed on the submission form. You must disclose on the entry form if repurposing a classroom project. Classroom projects will receive a small point deduction in the judging rubric, but are still acceptable submissions. This disclosure is also made to prevent a teacher from judging his/her own students’ prior work.
* COPYRIGHTED CONTENT: films that include copyrighted material, particularly music, will be judged with no punitive marks on the rubric. However, for legal purposes, these films may be excluded from public exhibition on MCTV & online.
* AGE-APPROPRIATE CONTENT: all video content (including audio content) should be acceptable for viewing/listening by all ages. Inappropriate content may result in disqualification at the discretion of the judging panel and will be identified on a case-by-case basis. Inappropriate content may include but is not limited to profanity, violence or implied violence, and/or inappropriate song lyrics. There is a zero tolerance policy for hate speech and discrimination which will result in immediate disqualification.

## ****Technical Consultation****

As a contest co-sponsor, Millbrae Community Television can lend support to entrants in the capacity of up to **two** technical consultations PER FILM (not per person, in the case of a group entry). If you have questions and/or need assistance ensuring that your film is compliant with the technical guidelines for submission, MCTV staff or volunteers will provide guidance **by appointment only**.

MCTV staff/volunteers are NOT available to teach/train entrants on the use of video cameras, audio recording equipment or editing software, though they **can answer clarifying questions** related to techniques, operational methods and workflows.

MCTV staff and volunteers are NOT able to provide assistance with the artistic direction of your film, nor with the content, storytelling or research aspects of your film.

MCTV cannot lend equipment to entrants for filmmaking purposes.

## ****Entry Form****

This form is to be submitted with the final version of the entry film/video. You may fill this form out digitally or print it and send back a scanned copy or photograph. Submit this form digitally to MCTV at ***video@mctv.tv*** when emailing the completed .mp4 video file for submission into the contest, or as a hard copy OR digital file if delivering the .mp4 video submission physically.

Entrants are also required to submit a summary of the film in 100 words or less. Please submit the film summary *separately* from this form in the body of your submission email, or as a separate word document.

FILM TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This is a (select 1) ⃞ INDIVIDUAL ENTRY ⃞ GROUP ENTRY

ENTRANT/FILMMAKER NAME(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ENTRANT/FILMMAKER GRADE\*: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\*This field is to determine category eligibility. Please fill out field with grade level the entrant will be in at the START OF FALL SEMESTER 2021*

ENTRANT/FILMMAKER ALTERNATIVE NAME(s)\*\*:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*Complete this field if you prefer to use only your last initial and/or a nickname for public identification purposes*

PRIMARY CONTACT EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CELL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

SECONDARY CONTACT EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_CELL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*One of the email addresses should belong to the entrant’s guardian*

Was this video originally created as a classroom project? ⃞ NO ⃞ YES

*If yes, please list school, class and teacher name:*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby submit my entry to the 2022 Millbrae Young Filmmakers Contest and declare that the submitted video is an original work created by the filmmaker(s) listed above. Judges will evaluate my submission as it is received, with no modifications to the original work. I grant permission to Millbrae Cultural Committee and Millbrae Community Television to showcase this work as part of a collection of entries and understand that for the purposes of the showcase, my work may be edited into a larger compilation of works or repurposed in part for promotional non-profit use by these two organizations. I further acknowledge that my name will appear publicly as written above as part of these showcases/promotions. I understand that failure to comply with technical guidelines outlined in contest rules may result in a disqualification at the discretion of the judges.

Legal Guardian Signature (or entrant signature if 18+) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Legal Guardian Printed Name (or entrant if 18+)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_