# 2023-2024 UIL Young Filmmakers Festival

Mel Edwards, State Theatre & Film Consultant



## **Topics to Discuss**

- Participants
- Divisions
- Time Limits and Entries
- Eligible Material
- Entry Procedures
- Evaluation



## Participants

### Who can participate in the contest?

- Only HS students eligible under UIL rules can submit a film.
  - Students producing the film must be currently enrolled and attending a UIL member HS. The entire production team must be enrolled full-time at the participating school during the 2023-2024 school year.
  - Eligibility is checked at the time of submission deadline. If you have questions email Paula.
  - There is no entry fee.

## Who can participate in the contest?

- Only the students producing the film (non-performers)
  need to be listed on the official entry form.
  - No limit on number of contestants.
  - Performers are not considered contestants if that is their only roles in the project.
  - No amateur rules for this contest.\*
  - Sponsors must be full-time employees of the district they represent. Their involvement in producing the film shall be in an advisory capacity only.

### **Amateur Rule**

Unlike athletic events in UIL, on-screen talent in the film contest can have professional film, TV or commercial credits.

## Divisions

## What is my division?

- Conference 3A = Combined 1A, 2A and 3A
- Conference 4A = Conference 4A
- Conference 5A = Conference 5A
- Conference 6A = Conference 6A

## Time Limits and Entries

## How many entries are allowed?

Each school can have 3 films in each of the 4 categories.

#### Narrative

Tells a cohesive, often fictional story with cause and effect events.

Mockumentaries are considered Narrative

3-7 minutes max

#### Documentary

Deals with actual and factual issues, people, institutions.
Purpose is to educate and inform.

No Broadcast News or PSAs.

3-7 minutes max

#### Digital Animation

Imagery that is created using a computer program.

Adobe Animate, Blender, Maya, CGI

30 sec-3 mins max

#### **Traditional Animation**

Imagery that is created by hand, such as hand drawn, stop motion, or materials manipulated by filmmaker.

Can be drawn on a pad or tablet.

30 sec-3 mins max

Times include any credits

Detailed descriptions of film categories can be found on the UIL Film page.

## Sample Timeframe

#### **<u>August - September: Development and Pre-production</u>**

- Includes brainstorming, screenwriting, table reads, rewrites, mood boards, casting, finding locations, storyboarding and shot list, rehearsals.

October - November: Filming and refilming

**November - December:** Post-production

- Includes reviewing and organizing footage, editing, music scoring, audio dubbing, visual effects, graphics and titles.

Intent to Participate due December 1, 2023 (form closes 10th)

January: Watch, revise, rewatch, re-revise, get feedback
Submission deadline is Saturday, January 20th, 2024

Don't wait until 11:50pm to start submitting. Exporting can take a long time.

## Eligible Material

## What is eligible material?

- Must be original works and are required to have clearance for music of other copyrighted material featured in the project.
- \* Batman/Character branded legos are considered copyright material. Any copyright material mays the properly licensed.
- Can't cut a long piece into multiple parts.
- Only those films produced for the current school year (2023-2024) will be considered for submission into the contest. Films from previous contest years *are not eligible* for competition. (Summer 2023 films can be entered.)

## Entry Procedure

### How do I enter the contest?

<u>Instructions</u> on portal registration and submission

- December 1st, 2023 Submit an Intent to Participate
  Not required but helps gather judges/plan the contest.
- January 1st, 2024 Portal to submit will become active.
   Portal can be found at <u>uiltexas.org/film</u>
- Sat, January 20th, 2024 Film submission deadline
- Wed, February 28th, 2024 State Awards at UT Austin LBJ Library

## Evaluation

### How are the films evaluated?

- Films submitted shall be previewed, critiqued and ranked by adjudicators.
- Originality, cinematic storytelling, and technical execution are the basis of the scoring.
- Advancing films will go through several rounds with State Semi-final round to determine State qualifiers.
- Schools shall receive a written evaluation via the Film Contest Portal for each level.

## Judging

If you have at least 3 entries or more, UIL has asked if you would consider judging or to find a judge to help us with the workload of the contest.

Judges Handbook coming soon.

### How are the films evaluated?

Medals and trophies will be awarded to first through third place.







Plaques will be awarded for fourth through sixth place.







## 2023 State Finalists

State Finalist Film Links and Results



### Resources

#### **UIL Film Handbook**

Film Technology for all Budgets by Heidi Whitus

Getting started with the UIL Film Festival by Heidi Whitus

Killer Camera Rigs That You Can Build by Dan Selakovich

Master Shots by Christopher Kenworthy

## Who to contact?

Paula Rodriguez <u>prodriguez@uiltexas.org</u> 512-471-9996

<u>UIL Film Website</u>
Join the UIL Film <u>Facebook group</u>

