

2018 Walnut Lane Film Festival Rules & Guidelines

The Walnut Lane Film Festival is a project where the Princeton Education Foundation puts students in the spotlight by showcasing John Witherspoon Middle and Princeton High School students' short films.

Submissions will be accepted until Friday, March 24, 2018. All submissions must be hand delivered to the John Witherspoon Middle School or Princeton High School's Film Fest Drop Box by Friday, March 24, 2018 and received by the Walnut Lane Film Festival in order to be considered.

Eligibility to enter

- A full-time student that is enrolled in Princeton High School or John Witherspoon Middle School for the academic year 2017-2018 who played a major role in the creation of an original film (i.e., producer, director, writer, cinematographer or editor).
- The film must be entirely a student production. Adults (industry professional, faculty, parent, guardian, or adult over the age of 19) can only assist in an advisory capacity or play a role as an actor.
- A single student may contribute a maximum of two (2) films* in which he/she played one or more of the following roles: producer, director, writer, cinematographer or editor. *

Submission guidelines

Films maybe entered in one of the following categories:

- Fiction
 - Non-Fiction
 - Animation
- Go online and fill out a submission form for each film. Links are available on

www.walnutlanefilmfest.com

If any film has both a Middle School and High School student playing a major role in the creation of the film, the film must entered with all other High School submissions.

- Each film **must** be submitted on a separate flash drive or SD card in a full resolution Quicktime file (mandatory). You may also forward an online link to your project (optional)
- When submitting more than one film, submit each film on a separate flash drive or SD card, save the film using the film's title and fill out a separate submission application online for each film.
- Films not in English must be clearly subtitled or dubbed into English
- Flash drives or SD cards submitted will NOT be returned.

Film Content & Length

- The Walnut Lane Film Festival encourages creativity and originality, however all scenes should be suitable for family viewing and as such the content must be equivalent to a G or PG rated movie. The judges will exclude films with gratuitous obscenity, gratuitous violence, or whose subjects are in poor taste.
- The Walnut Lane Film Fest encourages and recommends that filmmakers should use original or copyright free music for their soundtracks. For copyright-free material, all appropriate credits must be given in the film. Films created for the Walnut Lane. Film Fest are seen as non-profit educational projects. No copyrighted material should be submitted, and use of any copyrighted material will disqualify your film entry.

Your film must be your own original work. Do not submit a re-edited version of any video that you didn't shoot. At least 90% of the footage in the film should be your original work and permission to use footage MUST accompany your submission if any portion in the film is from an outside source.

- Submissions may be no shorter than three (3) minutes and no more than seven (7) minutes in length.

Judges & Judging Criteria

A panel of at least four judges that will include a combination of Princeton Public Schools faculty/staff, film/theater/media industry professionals and/or Princeton residents will judge films. The Princeton Education Foundation, in its sole discretion, will appoint the judges. The judges will evaluate the films on the basis of:

- Story (originality/creativity)
- Production values (quality and complexity of lighting, sound, camera work, editing, pacing)

- Acting (quality of performance)

Winning Films

The panel of judges will use its best efforts to select the winning films. There will be a winner from each school, one (1) winner from John Witherspoon Middle School and Princeton High School respectively.

The judges are not required to select any winning films, and may select no winning films, if they decide, in their sole discretion, no films meet the Festivals criteria or objectives. If a winning film is disqualified, the Walnut Ln. Film Fest may, but is not required to, select an alternate winner. Winning films will be showcased at the Walnut Ln. Film Festival to be held in May 2018, or such other time as scheduled by the Walnut Ln. Film Festival. In the event that unforeseen circumstances reasonably require cancellation of the Film Fest for any reason, the Walnut Ln Film Festival will so advise the entrants and shall have no liability as a result thereof.

Rights

- All materials (images, music, etc.) used in the submitted film(s) should be either original work, work used with the copyright holder's permission, or work that is in the public domain. At least 90% of the footage in the film should be your original work. If a copyrighted work is used with the copyright holder's permission, verification of such permission should be included in the submission. In submitting your entry, you and your parent/guardian are assuming all copyright liability thereof. Written verification of copyrights for the submitted film(s) should be submitted to the Walnut Ln. Film Festival by the March 24, 2018 festival submission deadline.

- In addition, by submitting a film to the Walnut Ln. Film Festival, you and your parent/guardian give the Princeton Public Schools, the Princeton Education Foundation, and the Walnut Ln. Film Festival unlimited rights to use your Creative Works (i.e., film, videos, flash drives and DVDs; still photographs; artwork in any medium; voice recordings; written work; pictures in any medium; and any other original work), or any portion thereof, for screenings and in promotional materials at any time, and to publish in print, electronic or digital form in perpetuity. By submitting this film you further agree that the Princeton Public Schools, the Princeton Education Foundation, and the Walnut Lane Film Festival have the right to use your name and Creative Works for public relations, public information, student recognition or awards, instruction, distribution or sales where the proceeds benefit the Princeton Public Schools, the Princeton Education Foundation, or the Walnut Lane Film Festival.