



AMERICAN
YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL

June 12th-14th

2015
COLUMBUS | GEORGIA



Call for Entry

It is with great pleasure that we announce the launch of *The American Youth Film Festival (AYFF)*, the premiere youth film festival that “*Inspires Positive Youth Expression Through Film & Photography!*” This festival creates a platform for young America to discover and explore their talents as filmmakers or photographers through positive expression. Filmmaking offers an excellent opportunity to utilize a broad spectrum of skills like storytelling, organization, and cinematography to develop their strengths as well as fostering an interest in cinematic arts among youth, encouraging them to use whatever filmmaking tools available (*cell phone, digital camera or video camera*) to tell their story. This year’s theme is “**LIGHTS. CAMERA. ACTION! - For the Love of Film!**” Entry deadline is **MIDNIGHT SUNDAY MAY 17, 2015.**

The festival launch weekend will showcase the best short films, *3 to 7 minutes (including title and credits)*, of middle school, high school and college filmmakers to champion their creativity, originality, vision and imagination based on a common theme and must reflect *the love of film and/or filmmaking* through the eyes of the filmmaker. Films can be short documentaries, narratives, comedies, or dramas. This is a family-friendly event, films containing *nudity, profanity or violence* are prohibited.

The festival will host film competitions, screenings, workshops, the National *American Youth Film Festival (AYFF)* Spirit Day for schools, and the *American Youth Film Festival Gala Awards Ceremony*.

This is an exciting time in America for the TV and film industry, especially in the south. The southern region, led by the state of Georgia, is poised for so much growth that you don’t have to be a celebrity to have a career in the entertainment industry and behind-the-scenes is the next growth area. Figures from the *Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA)* show that over 24,000 people are directly employed by the motion picture and television industry in the south, generating over *\$5.1 billion* for the economy in fiscal year 2014. With over 158 productions shooting in the region, the demand for talent is so great that many behind-the-scenes jobs go unfilled, causing producers to seek qualified personnel from California, but executive producers prefer qualified local talent because it can reduce the bottom line. To support this growth, *The American Youth Film Festival* provides a platform for talented students and free-lance movie enthusiasts to showcase their creativity as actors, writers, directors, producers or in other areas of Media, Film, Communications, or Public Relations/Marketing. *The American Youth Film Festival* is the ideal opportunity for your students to explore their filmmaking skills and get in on the ground floor of the TV and film industry.

The *American Youth Film Festival (AYFF)* is the premiere youth film festival based in the southern United States targeting young America.

WHO: *The American Youth Filmmakers Foundation (AYFF)*
WHAT: *American Youth Film Festival*
THEME: “**LIGHTS. CAMERA. ACTION! – For the Love of Film!**”
WHEN: **June 12 - 14, 2015**
WHERE: Columbus State University - Cunningham Center, Columbus, GA
Website: www.AmericanYouthFilmFest.org



Theme: **Lights. Camera. Action! *For the Love of Film***

Overview

The American Youth Film Festival™ is an opportunity for the youth to showcase their moviemaking skills. Many young people regularly produce films that are then posted on websites such as *YouTube*. We want to capture that interest and channel it to understand the “*love of film or filmmaking*” through the eyes of youth filmmakers.

Who Can Participate?

The American Youth Film Festival™ is open to **ALL YOUTH** regardless of *race, creed, or national origin* that are currently enrolled in middle school, high school or college. Suggested submissions and entry fees will be in one of three categories, middle school-aged 11-14 years old (**\$25.00**), high school-aged 14-18 years old (**\$30.00**), or college-aged 19-22 years old, (**\$35.00**). Films must be works *directed and/or produced* by middle school, high school or college students. Adult supervision must be limited to an *advisory capacity only*.

Film Eligibility Requirements

Suggested very short films, three to seven minutes long including credits, no more than a year old. Subject matter must reflect *the love of film and/or filmmaking* through the eyes of the filmmaker. Films can be documentaries, comedies, or dramas. Absolutely no *nudity, violence, or profanity*

To submit your film and application:

1. Go to: www.FilmFreeway.com/festival/AmericanYouthFilmFestival
2. Upload your high-resolution movie:
 - a. Maximum video bitrate: 2200 Kbps, H.264 Codec, Mp4
 - b. Audio bitrate: 128 Kbps, AAC
 - c. Aspect ratio preserved: maximum video width of 1280 pixels
3. **Deadline Registration: Sunday May 17th, 2015.**

Film Festival Prizes

Suggested prizes:

Middle School Category

1st place

2nd place

3rd place

High School Category:

1st Place

2nd Place

3rd Place

College Category:

1st place

2nd place

3rd place

People's Choice

Best Soundtrack

Remember...

Filmmaking is (and always should be) fun! It's your chance to show us what you're thinking! Use filmmaking as an excuse for you and your friends to get together and have a great time!

Good Luck!

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