

Digital Cinema Production – DISTRICT 7 - 2023

This document is to provide details for the District 7 contest.

Contest Length:

- Approx. 55 working hours

Contest Start Time:

- There will be a virtual orientation meeting Friday, February 10th at 4:30pm
- Google Meet joining info
 - o Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ufm-gmub-trq>
- Teams do not need to be in official dress.
- There is no need to bring equipment to the orientation meeting.

Contest End Time:

- Sunday, February 12th - 11:59pm
- All films and pre-production must be turned in at this time. Penalties for late submissions (see PENALTIES section)
- All contest materials will be turned in via Google Drive to each team's designated folder.

Format of Finished Product:

- All finished products must be turned in on Google Drive in the group's assigned folder. All files must include the Team Letter
- Files must be Quicktime .MOV or .MP4 format, compressed to H.264
- File must be named as such: **DCP 2023 - CONTESTANT NUMBER - TEAM (LETTER)**

Shooting Locations:

- Teams will be allowed to utilize a total of three filming locations at the district DCP contest. These locations are limited to a residence (house/apartment/etc), the team's school campus, and one other property of their choice.

Production Times:

- After the virtual orientation on Friday, teams can utilize the entirety of the contest (until Sunday at midnight) to write, shoot, edit, or complete any other tasks related to the DCP contest. It is recommended that teams take time to sleep, eat, and rest.

Cast & Crew:

- Teams may recruit cast members to act in their short films as desired.
- Teams may recruit crew members to assist with the production, but crew members not on the official DCP team must only serve in assisting roles, not in any major creative roles such as writing, camera operating, editing, etc.

Acceptable crew roles include things like boom operation, helping with setting up lights, etc.

Technical Assistance:

- Teams may **not** interact with their instructor for technical assistance or seek technical help from an outside source. Instructors should not be featured as an actor in the finished product.

Pre-Production:

- Teams are required to turn in three forms of preproduction at the district contest. These three documents include:
 - o Log Line
 - o Synopsis
 - o Formal written script (official screenplay format encouraged, but not required until State)

Equipment:

- Teams may use up to 2 different cameras, but not simultaneously (no multi-cam filming)
- The only video production equipment that teams may not use are drones. Lights, dollies, Steadicams, gimbals, sliders, jibs/cranes, audio equipment, etc. are all acceptable.
- Students may provide any props and costumes they may want to use for their productions (no weapons). All actors must be within the school dress code in the film.
- Software on computers may be used however teams see fit, with the exception that pre-rendered/prepared elements (such as graphics, credits, stock footage, etc.) may not be used.
- Use of templates provided within software by default is permitted. Teams may not download or purchase templates for this contest. No add-ons or Plugins may be used in tandem with the base software.
- Teams will follow all safety protocols for equipment usage.
- Per SkillsUSA recommendations, use of drones/robotic cameras will NOT be allowed.

Music:

- Music must be from the public domain or from a music library for which you have proof of licensing.
- Purchased music libraries are allowed with documentation of license/ownership.
- **Documentation of music licenses must be submitted with your finished product. A screenshot of YouTube will not be accepted as proof of licensing.**
- Students may compose their own music. Please submit a written statement of copyright/licensing if you do this.
- If required by license, music credit must be given in your finished product.

Production Content:

- Finished products should contain the following elements, in order:
 - o 5 seconds of black
 - o 5 second slate with Team Letter, Contestant Number, SkillsUSA District 7, Digital Cinema Production 2023
 - o 5 seconds of black
 - o 1:30 - 3:00 short film. Runtime will include any opening/closing credits, but does **NOT** include the slate
- Do NOT include any color bars/tone, countdowns, etc.
- All content must be original (except licensed music) and created within the given time frame.
- Content must be 'PG', adhere to common standards of good taste and school appropriateness, must not contain any nudity, weapons of any kind (real or fake/toy), excessive or graphic violence, profanity, culturally unacceptable material such as gang references, gang signs, drug/alcohol use, 'bleeped out' language, misuse of the names of religious figures, etc.

Clothing Requirement:

- Teams are not required to be in official dress at orientation or during the DCP contest.
- Teams must be in official dress if attending the in-person Awards Ceremony in Beaumont.

Resumes:

- A typed, one-page resume for each contestant will be submitted at the contest orientation.

Penalties:

- Clothing penalty -25 or -50
- Resume penalty -50
- Incorrect file name -25
- Incorrect file format -50
- Incorrect slate/slug -25
- Film not 1:30-3:00 in length -200
- Music copyright violation -200
- Late submission -50 every minute late, up to 10 minutes
- Late submissions 10+ minutes late will not be accepted

CHECKLIST OF TURNED IN MATERIALS:

- Completed film in .mp4 format, 1920x1080 size
- PreProduction - Log Line, Synopsis, Written Script
- Resume for each team member
- Talent Release Forms for all on screen talent (photos of signed documents are fine)
- Proof of music licensing or written statement confirming that music is original