**District 4 DCP Contest Prompt**

**ATTENTION: DCP is a team skill competition. Students are not allowed to be scheduled in two teamed skill competitions. If students are signed up for two teamed skill competitions, they will be asked to make a choice and will not be accommodated. This applies even if the discrepancy is not noticed until the day of competition.**

***Below are the specifics concerning the contest rules and how the students should submit their work.***

Significant changes were made several years ago to the Digital Cinema Production contest. Many of these changes have been implemented at the District and State contest. These changes at the District and State level will allow Texas participants to get a better sense of how the National contest is run. For District, videos will be filmed and edited ahead of time using the assigned theme/prompt. **(Theme/Prompt will be released Thursday, February 8th at 8:00am on the SkillsUSA district site.) The films are due Monday, February, 12th by 8:00 pm.**

| DIGITAL CINEMA PRODUCTION | |
| --- | --- |
| PURPOSE | To evaluate each contestants’ preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of cinematography/short film production. |
| SCOPE | * Team of Two Students (**Up to 2 teams per chapter**) * Logline, Synopsis, Screenplay, Storyboards or shotlist, and Thumbnail(1920x1080 with the title of the film) * A 3 minute up to 5-minute video that will be filmed and edited off-site according to the prompt. There will be no on site editing available. * **Video must be H.264** * **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 or simulated drugs/alcohol). 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. |
| REQUIREMENTS | **The contest will be from February 8th to February 12th. They will work in 2 person teams with no help from their advisors. Students can use other students to act in their film.**  **All students will participate in the interview/pitch meeting on February 16th in addition to a content exam on that day.**  **Students must be in SkillsUSA attire. White Polo or button down long sleeve shirt, black pants, black belt, black socks, black shoes. If wearing a skirt with hose, the skirt must be black and hose must be black or skin tone with no patterns/seamless.**  **A resume, Log line, Synopsis, Screenplay, Storyboards or shotlist, and a thumbnail (1920x1080 with the title of the film) must be submitted along with their film on February 12th.**  **On February 16th, students will participate in an interview/pitch along with taking a content exam. Cellphones and smartwatches are prohibited during the exam.**  **For the content exam study these cyber college modules**   * **Module 10: Lenses, The basics** * **Module 12: F stops and Creative focusing techniques** * **Module 32: The Fill, Back, and Background lights.** * **Module 17-2: Cameras: The Basics part 2**      * **Module 13-1: Filters and lens attachments.**   **If you cannot find these on the district 4 site or don’t have them, please email me at john.woods@fwisd.org** |
| PROMPT | **Prompt to be released February 8th at 8:00 AM on the District 4 website.**  **The prompt will now include a genre, theme, and prop.**  This is not a PSA or music video |
| Shooting | All video/graphics must be shot and created during contest time by the two registered SkillsUSA contestants. All audio and video represented in the film must be student produced between February 8th and the 12th.  -This is with the exception of royalty free production music with the proper documentation to be provided if questions or concerns arise.  **Students must adhere to the rules set by the SkillsUSA Code of Conduct and each school district’s policy.** |
|  | All videos need to be uploaded by **Monday, Feb. 12th by 8PM**  Along with the below items. |
|  | **A Log Line, Synopsis, Screenplay, storyboard or shotlist, and thumbnail image(1920x1080 with the title of the film) for their film will be turned in at the same time as the short film, as well as resumes for each team member.** |
| Submissions | **Submissions will be made by uploading your short film, resumes, production paperwork, and thumbnail/poster to a google folder and then sharing that folder to** skillsusadcpcontest@gmail.com**.** |

**All teams are to follow the SkillsUSA Technical Standards 2023-24 contest guidelines.**

**Video must be uploaded to Google Drive Monday, Feb. 12th by 8pm.**

The video should be 3 minutes and up to 5 minutes in length. **The length of the film includes your credits but does not include the slate.** Finished video must be uploaded to your google drive in a folder that will be shared with **skillsusadcpcontest@gmail.com**.

**Each video must have a slate that is ten seconds long followed by 5 seconds of black. This will not count towards your film’s length.**: See **Example** Below:

Team: A **(Each adviser should assign contestants Team Letter while registering for the contest. Please keep track of the team letter; it gets very confusing for the judges if you do not keep track of these)**Chapter Number: 3849 (your chapter number is unique to your chapter)  
Total Run Time: 3:45  
Title of Short Film: “Film Name”

**Video should be exported as a H.264 and titled the following way: TeamA\_Dist4\_2024**

**Your google folder should be saved as:**

**Team A** (or whatever you team letter is) **DCP 2024 Dist4**

**Your google folder should include your film, resume for each contestant, and all production materials.**

**Role of the Adviser and Important Safety Notes:**

SkillsUSA advisers and/or any audio video production instructor(s) are not permitted to critique or advise students on any aspect of this contest once the prompt is released on Feb. 8th. They are also not permitted to advise students on the Pitch/Interview once the prompt is released. It is SkillsUSA policy that advisers/instructors are not permitted to interact with their students once a contest has started.

This video is to be completely produced by the two registered SkillsUSA members, there is not to be assistance given to them by anyone.

The team of two may ask others to be “actors” in their piece.

SAFETY OF THE STUDENT IS OF UTMOST CONCERN DURING THIS CONTEST. ALL DISTRICT POLICIES AND GUIDELINES AND THE SKILLSUSA CODE OF CONDUCT MUST BE ADHERED TO AT ALL TIMES.

It is recommended that all shooting and editing for contestants end at 10:30 PM during the contest. Students are expected to attend all classes during the contest.

*1. Writer: Pre-Prod Elements (Storyboards)*

*2 Writer: Screenplay*

*3 Director: Overall*

*4 Director: Adhearance to the Prompt*

*5 Director: Design (sets, locations, wardrobe)*

*6 Director: Blocking*

*7 Director: Audio Quality*

*9 Editor: Editing (pacing, emotion, overall)*

*10 Editor: Sound Design*

*11 DP: Lighting (use of practical & motivate)*

*12 DP: Color (White balance, color)*

*13 DP: Camera Movement*

*14 DP: Depth of Field*

*15 Team Presentation*

*16 PD Test*

*Penalty*

*201 Clothing Penalty (10 per person)*

*210 Resume Penalty (10 per person)*

*Penalty Points 2 items*

*Tie Breaker*

*402 Team Presentation*

*403 Editing*

**District 4 Contest Chair:**

**John Woods**

Southwest High School

Fort Worth ISD

john.woods@fwisd.org

Contest chairs will be available to answer questions regarding this contest between the hours of 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM