

The Military Child Education Coalition

CALL FOR THE ARTS

The Art of Being a Military Child



FILM

CALL FOR FILM & VIDEO

The Military Child Education Coalition is looking for children's films and videos. Selected submissions will be featured in whole or in part in the Military Child Education Coalition's "Reel Military" Youth Film and Video Festival at the MCEC's 2010 Annual Conference. Though there is no guarantee, selected entries may also be screened on future dates in Washington, D.C., at schools and military bases domestically and abroad, on local PBS stations around the country, and on Web sites such as www.MilitaryChild.org.

**To ensure the child and school receives proper recognition, make sure all the guidelines are met.
The entries will be jury selected. Entries will not be returned.**

FILM ENTRY GUIDELINES:

- The MCEC's "Reel Military" Youth Film Festival is an independent festival organized by the Military Child Education Coalition.
- The festival seeks to educate the general public about the unique experiences of U.S. military family life as seen through the eyes of children.
- The festival is open to any student enrolled in the first grade through college.
- All entries must address a topic related to the U.S. military experience.
- All entries must be between three and six minutes long.
- Completed Official Film and Video Entry Forms A & B must accompany all entries. Forms [pages 8 & 9 of this packet] may be downloaded at www.MilitaryChild.org.
- There are no specific entry categories. We welcome animation, claymation, narrative, documentary, music video, experimental, etc. to showcase your creativity.
- **Gratuitous violence, profanity, and tobacco/substance abuse are grounds for disqualification from the festival.**
- All dialogue and narration must be in English or subtitled in English.
- Please do not use anyone's last names in films or videos.
- No entry fee is required.
- Works may have originated on any film or video format, but must be submitted for preview on DVD (NTSC). DVDs must be labeled with the title, running time and contact information (name and phone number). Do not send a master copy until you are notified.
- Entry forms are to be received no later than **February 26, 2010** and are to be accompanied by a filmmaker's biography, cast and crew list, and one DVD copy for screening purposes. DVDs will not be returned unless requested.
- All entrants will be notified by May 2010 or when judging is complete.
- If your video is selected for the festival, you will be asked to provide a DVCAM or mini-DV tape of the video, two stills from the video, and a photograph of yourself.

(continued)

MAIL SUBMISSIONS TO:

**Reel Military Film Festival
c/o Military Child Education Coalition
909 Mountain Lion Circle
Harker Heights, TX 76548**

DON'T FORGET THE DEADLINE!

**All submissions are to be postmarked
no later than February 26, 2010.**

... for the sake of the child

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FILM ENTRY GUIDELINES, CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE:

- Selected entries will be awarded with certificates of participation.
- Entrants must have primary creative control of their submission, and all audio and visual material must be original.
- Entrants must obtain appropriate permissions from all persons appearing in film.
- The MCEC has permission to exhibit, broadcast, cable cast, or World Wide Web broadcast all entries. Additionally, the MCEC has permission to use photographs and images from entries in publicity materials and on its Web site.
- Entrants agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the MCEC from all damages and liabilities incurred arising out of the content and matter contained in their film/video.
- The submission of an entry implies acceptance of these regulations.

TIPS FOR FILMMAKERS

FILMING TECHNIQUES:

- Shoot a variety of angles and shots: Wide angles are important, but they are very hard to edit together. So, whenever you film a scene, get lots and lots of close-ups and cool angles. The video will look much better if you film high angles, low angles, close-ups, medium close-ups, extreme wide shots, etc. Be creative, and get some interesting shots, angles, and sounds.
- Motion (zooms, pans, tilts) is okay, but please hold the camera very steady.

INTERVIEWS:

- Use a tripod.
- Never film interviews flat against a wall. Interviews look best if there is a lot of space (depth) behind the interviewee. For example, film interviews down a long hallway, in a gym or in an outdoor courtyard so the background blurs out in the distance.
- Every interviewee should have a different background. The video will look better with a variety of backgrounds and locations.
- Think about how news interviews are framed (head and shoulders shot), and use that framing when filming interviews.
- Film your interviews in a very quiet place.

AUDIO:

- Original music is always welcome as we cannot distribute videos with licensed recordings. Some ideas: your school band or choir, a friend's garage band, original beats, or little kids singing.

For more information or a complete set of rules, please visit the MCEC web site at www.MilitaryChild.org/child-student/arts, or call Denise Montana-Graham at (254) 953-1923.

For questions regarding the judging criteria, filming tips, or any other technical question, please contact the "Reel Military" Youth Film & Video Festival's coordinator at lori@firehorsepictures.com.

JUDGES WILL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

- Subject-matter relevance to festival theme
- Originality and creativity of filmmakers
- Authenticity of work as student-produced
- Complexity and effort of production
- Depth of expression

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OFFICIAL FILM & VIDEO ENTRY FORM (A)

Please print clearly. If we can't read it, we can't contact you!

Use one entry form for each film or video you send us.

RELEASE & AGREEMENT:

By signing below, you agree that:

- All information you provided on this entry form is true and accurate.
- All audio and visual material produced is original.
- You are the owner of the film/video entered, and you made this film/video with little/no adult input.
- The MCEC can exhibit, broadcast, cable cast, or World Wide Web broadcast your film/video. Additionally, the MCEC can use photographs and images from your film/video in its publicity materials and on its Web site.
- You will indemnify, defend and hold harmless the MCEC from all damages and liabilities incurred arising out of the content and matter contained in the film/video.
- You have read the rules and regulations of the festival.

After reading, please check the boxes below:

- I have read the Entry Guidelines for submitting film or video to the festival
- I have read, understand, and agree to the above release and agreement.

Filmmaker Signature (required): _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature (required): _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE PRINT FILMMAKER'S NAME AND COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS

Name of filmmaker: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/state/country: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address _____

Please check: Army Navy Marines Air Force
 Coast Guard National Guard & Reserve Other

How old were you when you made this film or video? _____ How old are you now? _____

PLEASE PRINT FILMMAKER'S SCHOOL INFORMATION

School name: _____ Grade: _____

School address: _____



OFFICIAL
ENTRY
FORM A



FILM
(DON'T FORGET
FORM B!)

Please include forms A&B with each submission. Each submission must have the entry forms A&B attached to be considered.

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OFFICIAL FILM & VIDEO ENTRY FORM (B)

Name of Filmmaker: _____

Please include a short biography - tell us about yourself!



FILM OR VIDEO INFORMATION

Title: _____

How long is the film or video (in minutes)? _____

Where did you make the film (city, state, country)? _____

What kind of film or video is it? (please check one):

- Animation
- Documentary
- Music Video
- Other _____
- Claymation
- Experimental
- Narrative (fiction/drama)

Give a short synopsis of your film or video. What is it about?

Provide a list of names, ages, and roles of all persons involved in making the film/video.

If your film or video is selected for the festival, you will need to send us a copy of your movie on one of the following formats. Which one can you send us?* DVCAM mini-DV

***Note:** You must be able to send us your movie in one of these formats if selected. If you cannot, your movie is not eligible for consideration.

What is your movie's original format (what kind of film or videotape did you shoot on)? _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Mailing address: _____

Country: _____ Telephone: _____

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