



Frequently Asked Questions

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1. What is the purpose of the film contest?

The purpose of this film contest is to break down the barriers associated with mental health stigma and inspire individuals to seek support. These films will not only educate and inform but also serve as a catalyst for change, encouraging empathy, compassion, and a community-wide commitment to mental well-being.

2. Who is eligible to participate in the contest?

The contest is open to high school students or individuals that are high school age to age 25.

3. How long should the films/animations be?

Films should be approximately 60 seconds in length - no less than 50 seconds and no more than 60 seconds (Including the end slate), while animations should be around 30 seconds long.

4. What are the guidelines and criteria for film submission?

There are many [mental health topics](#) you can create a film on but it is important that our guidelines are followed. The guidelines and criteria for film submission include details regarding the format and filesize, content and disqualifying content. This information can be found [here](#).

5. Are there any prizes for the winners?

The winning film's participants choose a single mental health 501(c)(3) organization which will receive \$500 from the CICF (Central Indiana Community Foundation).

6. How do I submit my film?

All films are submitted via filmfreeway.com. Detailed submission guidelines are outlined [here](#).

7. Is there an entry fee for the contest?

There is no fee for participation.

8. Will the films be judged? How will the winners be selected?

Yes, the films will be judged by a panel from the Hamilton County Community Foundation (Stigma working group) and folks from the field of mental health and filmmaking. The winners will be selected based on criteria such as creativity, storytelling, production quality, and the ability to effectively address mental health topics.

See the official judging form for suicide prevention [here](#).

See the official judging form for mental health matters [here](#).

9. When will the winners be announced?

The exact date for announcing the winners will be communicated via email to all participants.

10. Can I submit multiple entries to the contest?

You can submit more than one film or animation.

11. Can I work with a team to create a film?

Collaborative projects are welcomed and encouraged. A maximum of 10 members can be on the team.

12. Will my film be used for public screenings or other purposes?

Winning and selected films may be used for public screenings, educational purposes, or raising awareness about mental health. We will inform participants about the intended use of the films via email and at that time, request that a release form is signed.

13. Can I submit a film that has already been released or publicly screened?

We allow this as long as all the guidelines are met and you meet the qualifying age both at the time of making the film and at the time of submitting the film.

14. Are there any restrictions on the content of the films?

Content that promotes violence, hatred, or violates any laws or regulations is not allowed. There are details on all other disqualifying content found [here](#).

15. How will my personal information be used?

This information is used solely for the purposes of the contest and related communications.

16. Can I withdraw my film from the contest after submission?

Once a film has been submitted, it becomes part of the contest's entry pool. Please email us if you have concerns.

Email: info@directyourhearts.com

17. Can I use copyrighted material in my film?

Avoid using copyrighted material without proper authorization. Unless you have obtained necessary permissions or your usage falls under fair use, create original content or use copyright-free material for your film.

18. How can I contact someone for further inquiries?

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact us:

Email: info@directyourhearts.com

Phone: 123-456-7890

19. Are there any legal documents that need signed?

If we choose your film for a public campaign, we will reach back out to you for signature on a release form. If you will be filming at a public location, please have a location contract signed. This contract can be found [here](#).