

**THIMUN**  
**QATAR**  
NORTHWESTERN  
**FILM**  
**FESTIVAL**

**SUBMISSION RULES  
AND AWARDS**



**NORTHWESTERN**  
**UNIVERSITY**  
**IN QATAR**

## SUBMISSION RULES

The THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival is open to middle and high school students who have created *original* pieces of work that are issue and advocacy based as outlined in the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival Handbook. THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival organizers will require all films to meet basic requirements and quality levels in order to be shown during the community viewing portion of the festival. All films nominated for a prize will be shown in whole or in part at the QMUN Film Festival Gala Evening.

By submitting an entry, each Entrant agrees to the Official Rules and warrants that his or her entry complies with all requirements set out in the Official Rules.

1. Submitted films should be sent to the address below. To ensure that films reach our office, all international entries should send their films via a known courier. If entries are received after the closing date we will notify the entrant and hold them for next year's festival.

### Address

THIMUN Qatar c/o Qatar Academy  
PO Box 1129, Al Lugta Street  
Doha, Qatar

### Telephone

(+974) 4454-2014

### Online Submission

- All Films can now be submitted online using the following link <<https://gofiledrop.appspot.com/?email=thimunqatar@qasenior.org>>
- Please place film files together in a single folder and zip them before uploading. Ensure that Interview Waivers, Posters and Entry Forms are in the same zipped folder.

- Include the name of the film and your last name on the folder (Eg: SplitSeconds-AIMuftah)
- Uploaded files cannot exceed 1 GB

Films must be registered in either the Junior or Senior Category. To be eligible for the Junior category, the film director may not be older than fifteen on February 14, on year of submission.

2. Every film copy sent to the Festival must be sent with a *THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival Entry Form*.
3. By submitting a film, the Entrant(s) represents, acknowledges and warrants that the submitted film becomes the sole intellectual property of THIMUN Qatar. The Entrant(s) gives consent that the submitted film may be used, free of charge, by THIMUN Qatar and partners, and copies may be distributed worldwide, in perpetuity, in whole or in part, in any form of media, without compensation.
4. The THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to edit, composite, morph, scan, duplicate, alter, publish or otherwise use each film for any purpose which the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival deems necessary or desirable in its sole discretion, including without limitation posting on their Web sites, and each Entrant irrevocably waives any and all so-called moral rights they may have therein.
5. By participating in the contest, each entrant(s) irrevocably grants the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival and its respective successors, assigns and licensees the right to use personal data, including the Entrant's name, likeness, biographical information and photographs in any and all media for any purpose, including without limitation advertising and promotional purposes, as well as in, on or in connection with the contest and/or other promotions conducted by THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival, and each Entrant hereby releases the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival from any liability with respect thereto. The data may also be used by the THIMUN Qatar

Northwestern Film Festival in order to verify the participant's identity, age, school registration, postal address and telephone number or to otherwise verify the participant's eligibility to participate in the Festival.

6. THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival organizers reserve the right to accept or reject any entries, without offering any reasons or explanation. THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival shall have no obligation (express or implied) to use any film submitted with any entry, or to otherwise exploit any film, or if commenced to continue the distribution or exploitation thereof, and the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival may at any time abandon the use of any film for any reason, with or without legal justification or excuse, and Entrant shall not be entitled to any damages or other relief by reason thereof.

7. The film, in its entirety, must be a single work of original material that is generated by the Entrant(s). By submitting a film, the Entrant represents, acknowledges and warrants that the submitted film is an original work created solely by the Entrant, that the film does not infringe any copyrights, trademarks, moral rights, rights of privacy/publicity or other intellectual property rights of any person or entity, and that no other party has any right, title, claim or interest in the film. For further definition or in case of dispute, THIMUN Qatar organizers will use The Documentary Filmmakers' Statement of Best Practices in Fair Use and/or the professional judgment of designated faculty members at Northwestern University in Qatar.

This document can be found at  
[www.centerforsocialmedia.org/resources/fair\\_use/](http://www.centerforsocialmedia.org/resources/fair_use/)

8. By entering this contest, each Entrant agrees that the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival organizers are released from, will have no liability whatsoever and will be held harmless by Entrant against any liability, injury, loss, or damage of any kind to any person or property resulting from participation by the Entrant in this contest or any contest-related activities, including any related travel, or use of the entry in any manner.

9. The use of copyrighted materials may make the film ineligible for prize money. The use of all copyrighted materials (even with citation and legal permission) is strongly discouraged.

10. Films must be issue and advocacy based. Films should ideally have both an element of conflict or advocacy within the film. The conflict and/or the advocacy may be subtly presented.

11. All films must be between 3:00 and 8:00 minutes in length.

12. Participating films should be in English. If in another language, works should be translated, dubbed, or subtitled.

13. Participants should send a copy of the film in .mov or .wmv formats only. Films may not be submitted as authored DVDs. Films must be compressed with a file size of 1GB or less.

14. There must be a submitted THIMUN Qatar interview release form for all persons interviewed in the film.

15. Before films are sent all commercials, advertisements, trailers, and promotional material should be removed from the footage.

16. No films will be returned to owners. Films will be kept in the Festival film library for the sole purpose of research, documentation, public relations, and education.

**17. All Films need to include a cover poster in which to advertise the Film (see Appendix 1 in the TQNFF Handbook).** The preferred file format for posters is TIFF.

18. Costs of submitting the film to the Festival will be covered by the participant.

19. Any prizes awarded to the film will be given to the person listed under the title of *Director* on the *THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival Entry Form*. Any legal dispute regarding division of prize money or ownership of the film is the sole responsibility and liability of the person listed as Director.

# AWARDS

THIMUN Qatar strives to encourage students to create films of excellence. In order to show support for student work and provide incentive for young film makers, THIMUN Qatar offers educational opportunities and prize money for films of excellence.

## JUNIOR AND SENIOR AWARD CATEGORIES

### **Best Picture**

All elements in the movie bring a powerful emotional impact which convincingly conveys the message of the film. The film leaves a lasting impression.

### **Best Story**

The film has a developed coherent storyline. The characters enhance the message of the film and make a connection with the audience.

### **Best Cinematography**

The film has an overall visual impact with regard to lighting, photography, and framing. The visual elements help tell the story.

### **Best Sound**

The music, sound effects and sound levels helps convey the message of the film.

### **Best Editing**

All elements exhibit a high level of editing skills which helps convey the message of the film.

### **Best Poster**

The poster has an overall visual impact incorporating the title of the film and key elements of the story. The use of visual graphics, lighting and framing demonstrate a high level of skill.

### **People's Choice Award**

The film that receives the most votes as the best picture from on-line and audience voting.

*This award will not receive a cash prize.*

## SENIOR CATEGORY PRIZES

Films nominated for a prize may be awarded flight and accommodations during the three days March Film Festival in Doha. In addition, participants will take part in an extensive three day training workshop lead by renowned film makers and educators. The gala evening will see prizes and trophies granted to the winning films. The grand prize for *Best Picture* will be a 10,000 QR (2,000 Euro) cash prize. Winners in the other categories will receive a trophy and prize money of 2,000 QR (400 Euro).

## JUNIOR CATEGORY PRIZES

Participants will take part in an extensive three day training workshop lead by renowned film makers and educators. Films will be given a public screening at the community viewing night and posted on the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Youtube channel. Nominees will be given complementary tickets to the gala evening. Trophies will be granted to the winning films.