

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 that inspire, educate and engage around issues, both global and local, and 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 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 uploaded to the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival online portal, which can be found at <http://tqnfilmfestival.com/>

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 by the close of the submission window.
2. Every film uploaded to the Festival portal must include required documentation necessary for final portal submission.
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 facility members at Northwestern University in Qatar.

This document can be found at
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 will make the film ineligible for nomination. The use of all copyrighted materials (even with citation and legal permission) is prohibited.

10. The film's focus should be one that inspires, educates and engages the audience around issues, both global and local. The use of reenactments and dramatizations, while not forbidden, should be used carefully and with discretion.

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. When submitting the film via the online submission portal, Participants will be required to submit the following documents:

- Film Synopsis
- Photograph of Director
- Passport scan
- Film

Participants should upload a copy of the film in 2GB wmv, mpeg, or avi format. Films may not be submitted as authored DVDs.

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. All uploaded films become the property of the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern film Festival.

17. All Films need to include a cover poster with which to advertise the Film (see Appendix 1 in TQNW Film handbook). Posters may be submitted in tiff, psd, jpeg or png format.

18. The cost, if any, 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

The THIMUN Qatar Northwestern Film Festival 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 Northwestern Film Festival offers educational opportunities and prize money for films of excellence.

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 National Picture

Directed by a student attending a school located in the State of Qatar. 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 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.

Best Junior Picture

Best film by a Director under the age of 15 at the time of film submission. All elements in the movie bring a powerful emotional impact which convincingly conveys the message of the film.

PRIZES (SENIOR CATEGORY)

Films nominated for a prize may be awarded flight and accommodations during the three day Film Festival in Doha. In addition, participants will take part in an extensive three day training workshop lead by 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 (with the exception of People's Choice and Best Poster) will receive a trophy and prize money of 2,000 QR (400 Euro).

PRIZES (JUNIOR CATEGORY)

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 and hotel accommodation during the three day Film Festival. Trophies will be granted to the winning films.