



www.envisionkindness.org/programs

A transformational community-building arts program

Submission
Deadline:
December 9th, 2016

The 2nd Annual Envision Kindness STUDENT FILM CONTEST

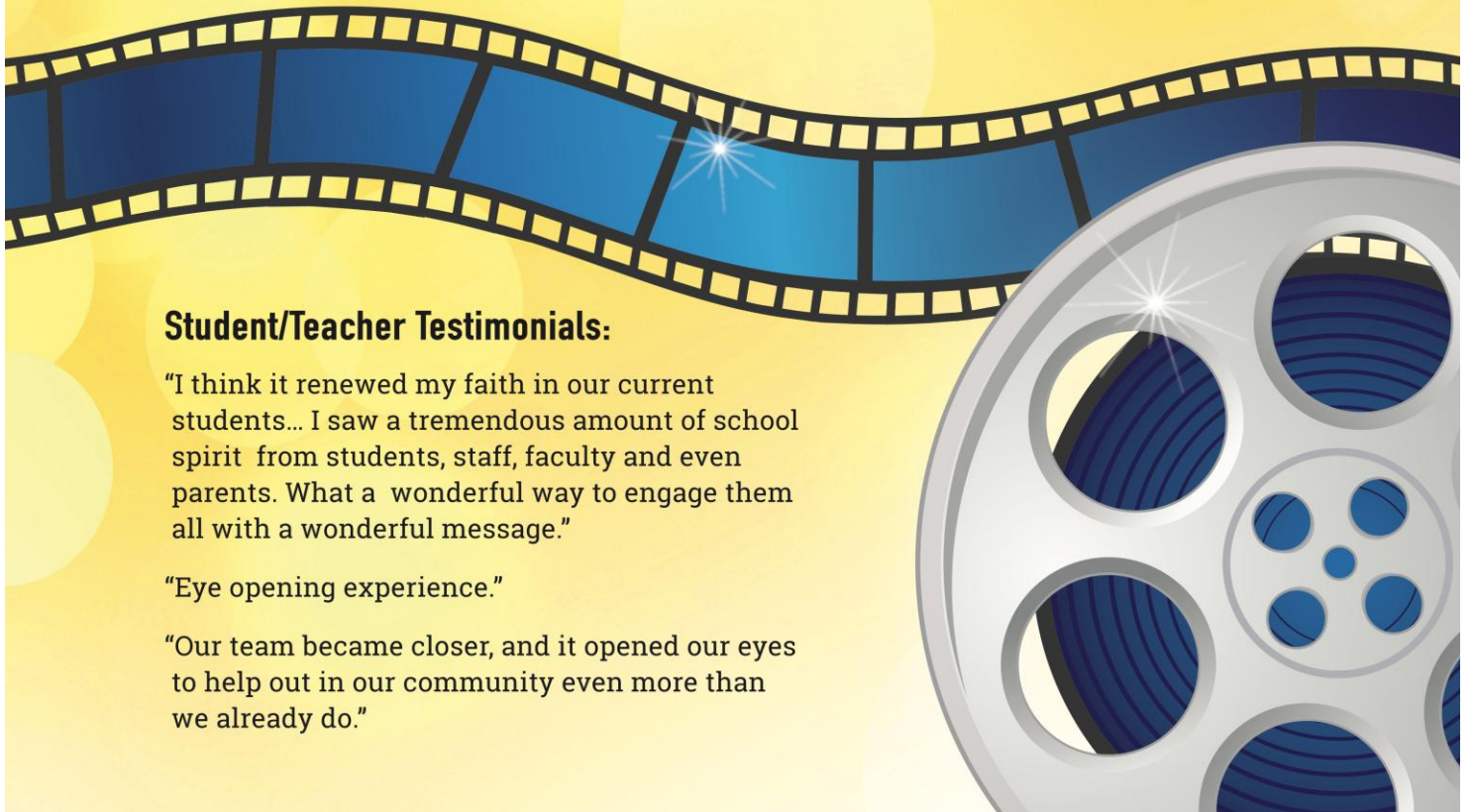
Create. Inspire. Win Cash. Picture a better world.
For students and youth group members across Connecticut.

Student/Teacher Testimonials:

"I think it renewed my faith in our current students... I saw a tremendous amount of school spirit from students, staff, faculty and even parents. What a wonderful way to engage them all with a wonderful message."

"Eye opening experience."

"Our team became closer, and it opened our eyes to help out in our community even more than we already do."



Program Overview

- This is a statewide kindness film contest for middle, high school and college students living or attending school in CT
- The powerful program is an expansion of a 2015 pilot program held in New London County, CT, that had transformational results (testimonials below)
- Students are challenged to engage and inspire community members by making original, lighthearted, G-rated short films with kindness as a central theme
 - This is a unique social-emotional learning program that will help strengthen your school's (or organization's) culture and **promote positive school/social climate**—see testimonials for evidence!
 - Make the world a better place—social change in a fun, community building competition!
 - Easily adapted and fit into existing curricula or programming; projects can be completed outside of school or your organization's regular activities
- Submission Deadline: **December 9, 2016**
- Win cash prizes for your school, student organization, or group and help to support youth programming and arts education
- We encourage you to plan for this project and include it in your curriculum for this Fall!
 - Students may also complete projects on their own time so long as a teacher/advisor provides guidance and submits films on behalf of students and school/org
- For additional information and to be notified when submissions open please email us at info@envisionkindness.org



Envision Kindness

Envision Kindness Inc is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in East Lyme, CT with a simple mission: to promote and inspire acts of kindness, compassion and empathy, with a focus on youth. We do so because young people can be powerful catalysts for change.

The Program

This contest is intended to engage Connecticut communities in promoting and inspiring kindness and compassion through a lighthearted, humorous approach that begins with students. The contest challenges the students to conceive and produce a short film on kindness. Through the format of a contest, students will participate in a social and emotional learning project that promotes the development of prosocial cultures in their schools and communities. **These prosocial cultures encourage positive social interactions and school climate while actively preventing negative interactions like bullying.** Studies have shown that when others see acts of kindness, they are more likely to engage in these acts themselves.

This program will conclude with a **celebratory event in New London, CT, in early 2017**. We'll have music/entertainment and much more! Details to follow, including a link to contest platform.

The challenge: For middle, high school and college students in CT working in small groups, to write, shoot, and produce short (3:00 or less) lighthearted films with a central theme of kindness. Students will compete against other groups in their age bracket for bragging-rights and cash prizes supporting schools and youth organizations! Need an example? We made one! Click or copy and paste the link into your browser: <http://bit.ly/1QnpbG3>.

[Register online](#) to receive program updates & official entry info

Submission deadline: Friday December 9, 2016 @ 9 pm EST

Prizes By Division	First Place	Runner Up	Hon. Mention
Middle School	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$100.00
High School	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$100.00
College	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$100.00

Additional prizes for Best Original Music & Best Cinematography will also be awarded. Please register on our [website](#) to receive updates.

The Rules for a full list of rules, please visit our [website](#)

Videos that do not follow these guidelines will be not be eligible.

1. Videos must be less than three minutes (3:00) in length.
2. All content (video, pictures, music, etc.) submitted must be entirely original and have all rights owned by the submitters (including music). Material violating copyright laws will not be accepted.
3. Content must be appropriate for all audiences, and be completely devoid of:
 - a. Foul language
 - b. Nudity/Sexual content
 - c. Violence/Aggression/Hostility
 - d. Anything demeaning or otherwise insulting
4. All submitters must submit their final videos by the December 9th deadline.
5. Awards will be to the academic departments or organizations of the winning groups. No awards will be made to individuals.

What's new this year?

- Longer videos
- More competition
- Bigger/better concluding event



More testimonials from last year's program:

"[The students] had fun with the project. It set the tone for kindness in our classroom."

"[The program] reinforced how people should treat others."

"Opportunities for students to create something where they think beyond their own life is always valuable."

"It was a moving experience to see an entire school body work as one team to promote kindness. There was a ripple effect through the community that continues to be felt."

Visit [us online](#) or contact info@envisionkindness.org to register for the program today and for more information!

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **Who is eligible to participate?**

Any middle, high school, or college-aged students living or attending school in Connecticut. Does not need to be done through a school (see below).

- **Can you explain the purpose of the program?**

Sure! There are two primary goals for this program.

1. To engage young people and their communities in the recognition and promotion of kindness in Connecticut; and
2. To support arts education by providing cash prizes to schools and community organizations.

By doing so, we help promote positive interpersonal interactions, school climates, and community relationships. Ultimately, the goal is to build on the great work already happening in schools and communities to make us all more connected and prevent various forms of violence, including bullying. We have set it up as a contest to be more fun!

- **Do films have to be made in school and can schools or organizations submit multiple videos?**

No! Youth groups, faith-based organizations, scouting groups, parks and rec departments and any other group are encouraged to participate! Films can be made in school, or on weekends, ...wherever, whenever! Films just need to adhere to the rules and be submitted through the proper channel by the posted deadlines to be eligible. Schools and organizations can submit up to 5 films (so up to 5 groups).

All groups must have an appropriate adult advisor (teacher, group leader, program administrator, etc.) over the age of 18 who will submit films accept the terms and conditions of participation (including obtaining appropriate releases for student participation, available on our website) on behalf of the their students and youth members/stakeholders AND their respective school or organization.

- **How will the contest work?**

The contest will have three stages:

1) Submit: Group (team) advisors will submit their students'/members' work through our dedicated online portal. **PLEASE register on our website so that additional information will be sent when the portal is up.**

FAQs continued

2) Public Voting: Students will promote their films in their schools and communities and encourage people to vote, share, comment, tweet, etc. For each of these actions films will earn points, and the highest scoring films in each division will become Contest Finalists. Students, in this way, also become activists for kindness.

3) Judging. High profile judges in film/tv/journalism with ties to Connecticut will judge the Finalists' films to choose the ultimate contest winners in each division. We will then announce the winners of the contest and present all awards at a concluding event held in early 2017.

- **Where do the prizes go?**

We are thrilled to be able to provide cash prizes to the winning groups! All prizes go to the schools or organizations to which those groups belong—not to individuals. We structure the prizes this way to help support local arts and social programs. A great way to raise money for fun activities for your organization.

- **Is the contest free to enter?** Yes! The contest is free to enter.

- **How do we sign up?**

If you would like to be kept up to date with program news, you can register on our [website](#). Otherwise, just submit your videos through the contest website (link and instructions to follow) by the posted deadline of December 9th!

- **What happens with the videos after the contest?**

Selected videos will be shared with the general public in multiple ways, including through the Internet, or shown in theaters, schools and other venues. All creators will be credited for their work. The goal is to expose as many other young and older community members to a wide range of diverse films from communities around the state. All rights still belong to the films' creators, and students may do whatever they like with their films!