

**New Milford Film Commission**  
**5.29.24**  
**High School Film Shorts Competition**

**Rules/Terms**

- Applicants must be current New Milford students (rising high school students through students graduating in 2024).
- Film must be filmed in New Milford.
- Film must be shot on a smart phone.
- Film must be 5 - 7 minutes in length plus 1 additional minute maximum for credits.
- Include film title at beginning and film credits at end, length and name of filmmaker(s).
- Applicants may use editing software, drones or other non-video-related equipment.
- Film must be original work of applicant. Applicants must insure no copyright infringements. If film is based on another person's life or a book or other underlying work, applicant must secure any necessary rights to make such adaptations and include proof of these rights with submission.
- Film must be G/PG rated.
- Film can be fiction or non-fiction.
- Applicants can submit up to two movies which enables them to collaborate with friends on one and submit their own movie.

**Entry process**

All film shorts must be submitted via a You Tube link emailed to the NMFC email address for the competition: [newmilfordstudentfilm@gmail.com](mailto:newmilfordstudentfilm@gmail.com)

Deadline for submission is 11/1/24

**Selection Process**

The Board Members of the New Milford Film Commission will review all entries and select the winners of the competition. NMFC has no obligation to disclose any of the following information: identities of screeners or judges, notes/feedback/information related to the submitted film and/or details regarding the submission review/selection process.

NMFC will have no liability or responsibility for any comments, notes or opinions expressed about a submission whether by NMFC or its volunteers. NMFC reserves the right to use selected stills/extracts from submissions to promote the Film Competition in print, radio, social media and TV and on the NMFC website.

**Judging criteria**

All submissions will be judged based on a combination of the following criteria:

- Originality/creativity: the uniqueness and originality of the premise or story.
- Cinematography: the quality and effectiveness of visual elements including use of angles, color (or lack of color), lighting (or lack of lighting).

- Sound quality/dialogue: how does the filmmaker use sound to effectively communicate the premise/story. If there is dialogue, is the dialogue effective at communicating the premise/story?
- Entertainment Value: does the film engage and keep the viewer's attention?

### **Awards Ceremony**

All films that satisfy the rules/terms will be showcased at a public screening at the Bank Street Theater in New Milford in January 2025. The exact time and date will be determined after the 11/1/24 submission deadline. Attendance at the screening will be free to the public.

Awards will be announced following the screening. The winner will be awarded a \$500 cash prize. The 1<sup>st</sup> runner up will be awarded a \$250 cash prize; a 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up will be awarded a \$100 cash prize.