



**Godley ISD Film Festival
Participant Guide for 2025-2026**

2025-2026 Godley ISD Film Festival

ENTRY DEADLINE: 3/4/26 at 4:00 p.m.

AWARDS CEREMONY: 4/7/26 @ 6 P.M.

[SUBMISSION LINK](#)

Participants

Students currently enrolled in Godley ISD in grades Pre-K to 12 are eligible to compete in the film festival. The entire production team must be enrolled full-time in Godley ISD during the 2025-2026 school year and fall within the same age division.

Only students producing the film (non-performers) must be listed on the official entry form.

- There is no minimum or maximum number of contestants.
- Performers are not considered contestants if that is their only role in the project.
- Adult involvement in the project is limited to sponsors and onscreen talent.
- Any adult participation in producing the film shall be in an advisory capacity only.
- There is no amateur rule for this contest.

DIVISIONS

Students will enter in one of the following divisions.

- Pre-K to 2nd Grade
- 3rd-5th Grade
- 6th-8th Grade
- 9th-12th Grade

Film Categories and Time Limits

Students may enter one film per category.

- Narrative (5 min or less)
- Documentary (5 min or less)
- Animation (Computer/Digital and Traditional Animation) (30 seconds-3 minutes)
- Public Service Announcement (1 min or less)

Eligible Material

Submitted films must be original works and are required to have clearances for music or other copyrighted material featured in the project. Students should be encouraged to find non-copyright sources for music, such as music released with a Creative Commons license. Linked here is a list of some [Royalty Free Audio, Images & Video](#) websites for your use. This is not an all-inclusive list, and all links should be independently verified for Creative Commons licenses. A log of any music used shall be kept on file. See the example of the [music log](#).

Only those films produced for the current school year (2025-2026) will be considered for submission into the contest. Films from previous contest years are not eligible for competition. However, films that began production during the Spring or Summer months prior to the new school year (2025-2026), are eligible for the 2026 Film contest ***ONLY IF all the students producing (non-performers) the film are still currently enrolled with Godley ISD. (e.g. A 10th grade student may start production of a contest film in summer of 2025 and enter their film as an 11th grader for the 2026 festival).***

Entry Procedures

- **FILM SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS MARCH 4, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.**
- The date, times, and venue for the Awards are scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at Godley High School.
- All films should be submitted via the [SUBMISSION FORM LINKED HERE](#).

Evaluation

Films submitted to the Film Festival shall be previewed, critiqued and ranked by our adjudicators. Both content and technical production are the basis of the scoring.

[PK-5th Grade SCORING RUBRIC](#)

[6-12th Grade SCORING RUBRIC](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is there an entry fee?

No.

Can my advisor/sponsor/teacher/parent help me write, edit or shoot the film?

They may assist you on set; in fact, that is strongly advised. They may give artistic and technical advice throughout the process only. They shall not write, edit or shoot the film.

What does it mean that there is no “amateur rule?”

On-screen talent in the film contest can have professional film, TV or commercial credits.

Can our students work with my friends that go to another school?

Only as on-screen or voice talent.

Can I use my little brother/sister from different grade levels as on-screen talent (performer)? What about adults?

Yes. They can only participate as on-screen talent. They may not be listed as official participants in the contest entry. Official participants for each film must fall within the same grade division to compete together.

Will I need location permissions? Waivers? etc?

Check with each location.

May we use pre-generated materials software? No. However, the creation of virtual sets and animated elements from animation software that are CREATED BY THE STUDENTS are permissible.

Does Mockumentary fall under narrative or documentary?

Narrative. Since a mockumentary is fiction, it will fall into that category.

May I use stock footage?

Your film may contain LICENSED or public domain stock footage as needed for a documentary. **Stock footage in narrative and animation entries should not be more than 10% of the total running time.**

What will I need to prove I have permission to use the music and stock footage?

Receipts will need to be produced if requested. A [music log](#) should be maintained and kept on file at the school. The participant is responsible for acquiring any and all clearances for any copyrighted music or images you use.

RESOURCES

[Music Log](#)

[Royalty Free Audio, Images & Video](#)

[PK-5TH Grade Scoring Rubric](#)

[6-12th Grade Scoring Rubric](#)

[Film Release](#)

[Film Submission Link](#)

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Notice of Non-Discrimination: Godley ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Title IX Coordinator or the Section 504 Coordinator Dr. Melissa Block at mblock@godleyisd.net or (817) 592-4300.

WHO TO CONTACT WITH FILM QUESTIONS

Nikki Nix, Godley ISD Chief Readiness Officer: nnix@godleyisd.net, 817-592-4140