



**October 20-23, 2006**

**Rules**

**The Goal: Write, shoot and edit a short film in a weekend**

With teamwork and complete focus you can make a cohesive and entertaining movie in an exceptionally short time frame.

**The following rules apply to each participating group/production team:**

1. Times: The National Film Challenge will occur between Friday, October 20, 2006 at 7 p.m. and Monday, October 23rd, 2006. (Local time)

2. The participating group must complete its film/video work in time to ship via FedEx or Express Mail, with the mailing date documented, on Monday, October 23rd. Shipping Documents or labels must be store generated. No home/office created shipping documents or labels will be accepted. Only works that meet the deadline will be eligible for awards. Films postmarked after October 23rd, are not eligible.

3 During the official competition period, all creativity will take place, including but not limited to:

**Writing the script**

**Rehearsing**

**Costume/Set Design**

**Shooting**

**Editing**

**Graphics & Visual Effects**

**Sound Design & Music**

4. The only work to begin prior to the official competition period is:

**Organizing Crew**

**Organizing Cast**

**Securing Equipment**

**Scouting/securing Locations**

5. All footage must be shot within the weekend time period of the project—Oct. 20, 2006 at 7 p.m. local time and ending Oct. 23rd, 2006 (local time). No stock footage or footage shot or created at another time may be used. Animation and special effects are permitted, but must be created during the weekend time period.

6. Each participating group must provide the National Film Challenge organizers with two e-mail addresses. On Friday, October 20, just prior to 7 p.m. local time, a Kickoff E-mail will be sent to the two addresses. The Kickoff E-mail will contain a randomly generated genre, as well as a list of required elements—a character, prop and a line of dialogue—that must appear in the film. To qualify as an official “National Film Challenge Film,” each group’s film must be in the genre it receives and must contain all required elements.

7. All cast and crew must be volunteers.

9. The finished film must be a minimum of four (4) minutes in duration, and a maximum of eight (8) minutes in duration.

10. Any type of video or film camera may be used, however, a maximum of only two cameras may be used.

11. The finished film/video must be submitted on VHS, DVD, or miniDV.

12. Tape preparation: Finished film should have a minimum of 5 seconds of bars and tone and 5 seconds of black, then the following slate—Team Name, City, Genre, Film Title--before the film begins.

13. If shot in a 16:9 ratio and/or anamorphic, your film must be letter-boxed.

14. Each team must secure talent releases and location releases, which must be mailed to the project organizers with the finished film/video. The film/video will not be eligible for awards until the National Film Challenge organizers receive the signed releases.

15. Content of the movie/film/video is at the discretion of the participating groups. The organizers reserve the right to disqualify any film that contains images of graphic sex. There is no prohibition on nudity or foul language, however, either could limit distribution outlets.

16. Music: Participating group **must** have the rights to any music used in its film. Groups are encouraged to work with local composer and/or musicians to write and record music for the films. It is permissible for a participating group to use pre-recorded music (e.g., royalty-free music, a friend's band's music) but the group must have a signed release.

17. Credits at the end of each film are limited to a maximum of 60 seconds. This is in addition to the 8 minute maximum time limit. (For example, you may have an 8 minute film plus 1 minute of credits for a total running time of 9:00:00.) Films longer than 9:00:00 are not eligible.

18. Films must include the following credit: "This film made as part of the National Film Challenge 2006."

19. To be certified as a "National Film Challenge Film," each participating group's film/video production must follow all rules herein. The National Film Challenge Organizers reserve the right to judge only certified "National Film Challenge Films."

20. All certified "National Film Challenge Films" are eligible for judging. A panel of independent judges will select ten Film Challenge Finalist from which one Grand Prize winner will be selected.

21. Team will submit the following documents with its completed film/video: Signed Participants Agreement, Statement Certifying Compliance, Team Roster, Wrap-Up Questionnaire, and Talent/Location/Music Releases.

22. The National Film Challenge Organizers reserve the right to amend these rules up until the beginning of the Challenge.

**Produced by:**

