



Students United in Keeping the Promise HIV/AIDS Awareness Poetry, PSA Treatment & Dramatic Arts Piece Competition

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the deadline for submitting applications?

May 2, 2007. Applications postmarked after **May 2, 2007** will be disqualified from the competition. There is no need to “overnight” or “priority mail” your application as long as the package is postmarked on or before **May 2, 2006**. However, because the competition committee is not responsible for applications that are lost in the mail, registered or certified mailing is encouraged.

2. When/Where will the Competition winner be announced?

Six (6) finalists will be announced on May 9, 2007. **One (1) winner will be announced from each genre on May 18, 2007.** Winner will be announced during the performance assembly at Castlemont Communities of Small Schools, and the WOW! Productions, Inc., My Space page website, (www.myspace.com/wowproductionsinc). Winner must return a signed Letter of Prize Acceptance, Waiver of Liability, License Agreement and certain other documents required by Sponsors within ten (10) days of notification or they will forfeit their prize and an alternate winner will be chosen. These documents will be sent to the winner at the address listed on the application cover page.

3. May more than one person submit poem, PSA treatment Dramatic Arts Piece as a collaborative effort?

Yes. Writer-Director teams are welcome to apply as a group. However, each member of the ‘team’ must be listed on the application and on the support documents. Only ONE contact person and address should be listed for notification.

4. Will application materials or support documents be returned to applicants?

No. The competition will not return poems, PSA Treatments, Dramatic Arts peice, or any additional information submitted by applicants. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant, therefore, to keep copies of any and all submitted material if they would like to have a copy for their records. If our panel does not select your submission, we encourage you to try to produce it on your own.

8. How long should a treatment for a Public Service announcement (PSA) be?

For a 5 - 10 minute PSA, the treatment, for this competition should be between 2 - 5 pages.

9. Must the concept be my own original idea or can I get the 'idea' from another source?

The story, screenplay, or treatment **MUST** be original and the intellectual property of the applicant(s).

10. Can I submit a Storyboard along with my other application items?

Yes. Though it is not required to submit a storyboard with your application, any submitted material that can offer the selection committee more information regarding your 'vision' for the PSA treatment is welcome.

11. What exactly is a "treatment?"

A "treatment" is a written narration of the plot points of a screenplay. It describes the story from its beginning to end, much as someone would convey their script in a verbal conversation. Although it varies in length, for the purposes of the Competition, it is from two to five double-spaced pages.

The following is expected of a treatment:

1. 1. It is told in the present tense.
2. 2. All characters' names are written in BLOCK CAPS when they are first introduced.
3. 3. It rarely contains dialogue, unless germane to the story.
4. 4. It chronicles the first, second and third acts of the story (approximately one act per page), including the key turning points and the resolution, but does not label the acts.

Examples of film treatments can be found online, or at your local library or bookstore.

12. Why do I have to submit a "resume" or "bio?"

Resumes and bios are required for two reasons.

1. To help the Jury evaluate your ability to complete the project, and
2. To provide information about the winner for press purposes.

13. What if I don't have a "resume" or "bio?"

A resume or bio **MUST** be submitted with the application. Do your best to formulate some sort of resume or bio to go along with your application that indicates your work and educational experience, particularly any experience associated with studying film or actual filmmaking. If you are submitting an application as a "team" or a "group," **ALL** members of the team should submit separate resumes/bios. If you are submitting an application as a class, then your teacher/professor must submit her/his resume and bio.

14. What should I write in my "Statement of Purpose"?

Your personal statement should give the selection committee insight into why you entered the competition, and why it would be important to you to be able to be a part of making a short film on AIDS and Black communities in America.

16. Can applicants submit more than one poem, PSA treatment or Dramatic Arts Piece for consideration? Yes. But, you must submit a completely separate application packet for each idea.

18. Do I need to submit copies?

Yes, a completed application package must include one (1) original and five (5) copies of all requested documents.

19. How are the winner selected?

A judging committee made up of prominent members of the creative and artistic community along with noted TV personalities, authors and performers, and leaders and HIV/AIDS experts will then select one (1) winner in each genre.

20. What if I have questions that aren't answered here?

1. If you have any additional questions, please send an e-mail to hopeforouryouth@yahoo.com or call 510.991.6451.