

CROSS CUTS - VIDEO

CATEGORIES, RULES, INFO

OPEN CATEGORY: must be 2 to 5 minutes long (including titles)

DOCUMENTARY (Non-fiction)/MOCKUMENTARY CATEGORY: must be 2 to 5 minutes long (including titles)

ANIMATION: must be 2 to 5 minutes long (including titles)

(You can enter as many videos as you'd like!)

Submit your video as a high quality MP4 on a USB key, or preferably as a share link to a online file (OneDrive, Google Drive)

The genre, story, theme, tone and characters are all open to your creativity.

Films should be suitable for family audiences. Inappropriate actions, gestures or language are not permitted and can be grounds for disqualification. This includes: sexist content, gratuitous violence, and content that promotes the use of alcohol or drugs. Videos produced must not discriminate against or demean a person or group.

Judges have the right to determine what is deemed to be inappropriate. Their say is final.

The safety of all participants in the video must be maintained. No person or group of people is to be put in danger at any time during the production of the film.

Brantford Collegiate Institute has the right to post submitted videos online, and/or use them for promotional purposes. USB keys will be couriered back to the student's home school.

BASIC JUDGING CRITERIA:

None of the judges are affiliated with any of the local secondary schools. Most are filmmaking and television professionals with years of experience in the industry. Others may be educators with extensive knowledge of the medium. They will be using the following criteria to evaluate the merits of each of the entries.

CREATIVITY:

- An original concept
- A unique and/or personal approach to a topic
- A clever take on an existing genre

STORY:

- A well developed story line
- A narrative that flows naturally and logically
- The ability to evoke emotion
- Evidence of planning

ACTING:

- Performances effectively convey emotion, and contribute to storytelling

PRODUCTION:

- Creative camera angles and shot composition enhance the quality of the film, add meaning, and advance the storyline

- The use of quality sound enhances the quality of the film, adds meaning, and creates emotion

- The use of lighting enhances the quality of the film, adds meaning, and creates emotion

- The choice of locations enhances the quality of the film

- The art direction, props, costumes are effective

POST PRODUCTION:

- Use of quality editing, titles and graphics, effects, audio levels

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SUBMISSION AND PERMISSION FORM

This form must be submitted with each video entry!

The submission deadline is May 11th at 3:30 pm

The CROSS CUTS showcase is May 28th in the BCI Auditorium

(check the Cross Cuts website and social media for updates and details)

*You can deliver a USB key to Brantford Collegiate Institute, 120 Brant Ave, N3T 3H3
(attention: K. Geerlings/Cross Cuts Film Festival)*

*...OR email a **ONEDRIVE** or **GOOGLE DRIVE** link to the video to **kyle.geerlings@granderie.ca***

Film Title: _____ Category: _____

Filmmaker's Name: _____ Age (as of May 11th, 2026): _____

Email: _____ School: _____

Teacher Contact Name: _____

Teacher Contact Email: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian if not 18: _____

Mailing Address: Street, City _____ Postal Code _____

Filmmakers must have been high school students in the GEDSB or the BHNCD SB during the 2025-2026 school year.

Videos will be shown online, and winners will be placed on the Cross Cuts website: crosscutsfilmfest.wixsite.com/film-fest

Please contact kyle.geerlings@granderie.ca if you have any questions. Follow us on Instagram and/or Facebook for updates.