

2017 Access Awareness Awards

RULES AND GUIDELINES

Presented by the Area Nine Cable Council (A9CC) & Cablevision

PURPOSE

To encourage students to produce programming for Ch. 78 while developing video production & storytelling skills by creating educational access programming relevant to their schools, communities and/or curriculum.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Students in **grades K-12** who attend school in any of the ten cities & towns that comprise the Area 9 Cablevision franchise: Greenwich, Stamford, New Canaan, Darien, Norwalk, Westport, Weston, Wilton, Easton or Redding.

DEADLINES AND CATEGORIES

Elementary Level (Grades K-5) & Middle School Level (Gr 6-8) Due Date: May 7, 2017

Entry Categories (for both ES & MS grade levels; refer to Secondary Level categories for some examples):

- **Animation / Stop Motion (ASM)** – a video giving life to inanimate objects, e.g., claymation (3 minutes or less)
- **Community/School Story (CSS)** – a program dealing with a community/school theme (3 minutes or less)
- **Creative Open Entry (COE)** – videos that do not fit other categories (3 minutes or less)
- **Documentary (DOC)** – a nonfiction story, length appropriate to topic*; adapt to grade level (4 minutes or less)
- **Narrative Open Entry (NOE)** – a short film / scripted story (3 minutes or less)
- **Public Service Announcements (PSA)** – should focus on school or educational topics, or non-profit organizations (60 seconds or less)

*longer is not necessarily better!

Secondary Level (Grades 9-12)

Due Date: May 7, 2017

Entry Categories:

- **Animation / Stop Motion (ASM)** – a video giving life to inanimate objects, e.g., claymation (3 minutes or less)
- **Community/School Story (CSS)** – a program dealing with a community/school theme, e.g., about: a club, activity or course; a community organization; a sport's season-in-review; school issues; etc. (3 minutes or less)
- **Creative Open Entry (COE)** – videos that do not fit other categories, e.g., music video, experimental, travelog, etc. (4 minutes or less)
- **Documentary (DOC)** – a nonfiction story (4 minutes or less)
- **Narrative Open Entry (NOE)** – a short film / scripted story (4 minutes or less)
- **News Program (NS)** – ONE news program that you consider the best (15 minutes or less) **[HS only]**
- **Public Service Announcements (PSA)** – should focus on school or educational topics, or non-profit organizations (60 seconds or less)

HOW WILL PROJECTS BE JUDGED?

Project Evaluation - To Be Completed By Judges

Below are the criteria judges will use to evaluate your submission. Use it as a guide when developing your project. Notice, the weighted criteria emphasize the importance of your message and how clearly you communicate it.

	Total Points	Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Video effectively educates, inspires, and/or entertains	5	0	1	2	3	4	5
Visual Production Values	5	0	1	2	3	4	5
Audio Production Values	5	0	1	2	3	4	5
Editing/Flow: Clarity of Story Was it edited in a way that makes the story work? Were titles & credits used appropriately?	5	0	1	2	3	4	5
Creative Impact Overall creative Impact and originality	5	0	1	2	3	4	5
Media Usage / Guideline Adherence Contains original student work; adheres to the copyright pledge; credits all sources, follows guidelines for time limits†, file format, etc.	5	0	1	2	3	4	5
TOTAL	30						

†Closing credits **DO NOT** count towards total time

HOW DO I SUBMIT MY VIDEO?

1. Before you submit your video, each project entered **must have been completed and cablecast** in its final form at least **once** on a *Cablevision of Connecticut* Public, Educational or Governmental (PEG) Access Channel between **May 9, 2016** and **May 7, 2017**.
2. The Access Awareness Awards [Registration Form](#) must be completed electronically by May 7th.
 - a. Access the form on the A9CC Ed Access website: <http://edaccess.a9cc.org/>
 - b. Click "Submit" at the end of the survey to finalize your entry. Print a copy for your own records.
3. The **Copyright Pledge** (on the registration form) must be completed for your project to be eligible. This certifies that all work in the project is student-produced, is in the Public Domain, has a valid Creative Common license, and/or has **approved** copyrighted content ([Copyright Guidelines](#)). Entries that contain **copyrighted material MUST have written permission** and such content identified; otherwise those videos will be **disqualified**.
 - a. If a project includes material that is copyrighted, the student **must** attach written permission (submitted when registering) from the original creator stating approval for use in this video.
 - b. Fair Use guidelines for "in-school educational projects" do not apply because the videos are being broadcast via a public channel and are entered into a contest where awards are given.
 - c. Students need to identify the source of any music or media (video or images) created by someone other than project contributors (within the **Copyright** section of the registration).
 - d. It is highly advised that students try to generate their **own** media for use within the videos. Priority will be given in the judging to videos that are 100% student-created.
4. **Time limits** exist for each category. The original video shown on Cablevision may be longer than the times listed, but the version you submit for competition **must** meet the time limits. If the video entered exceeds the time limit, judges will only watch the stated category time length (*i.e.*, the first 3 or 4 mins for most categories; or the first 15 mins for the HS News Show). Please note: closing credits **DO NOT** count towards total time.
5. Submit your video to your A9CC representative as a digital file in **.mp4 (h.264)** format.
 - a. Your A9CC representative will need to collect the video from you as a digital file. Each project must be **individually** submitted, and must adhere to the following filename structure:
 - i. **GradeLevel_Category_School_LastName.mp4** (of student)
 1. For example, if Molly Smith, from CSH school, was entering a PSA in the Elementary School (ES) category, her filename would be: **ES_PSA_CSH_Smith.mp4**
 - ii. Please avoid any spaces in the file name; use **ES, MS, or HS** for *Grade Level*; use only the Copy Category abbreviations in parenthesis from the [Entry Categories list](#); please use only the corresponding **3 letters** for your school from the [School Abbreviation list](#).
 - b. If you do not have an A9CC representative who can help you, please email Roman Cebulski, of New Canaan, at roman.cebulski@ncps-k12.org

HOW AND WHEN WILL AWARDS BE ALLOCATED?

- Trophies and certificates will be given to winning projects. John Repicky Awards will be awarded to the top project at each level (Elementary, Middle, and High School). The Repicky Awards come with an equipment package for the winning schools.
- Awards will be given **per project**.
- Judges reserve the right to re-allocate awards based on quantity and quality of submissions.
- The decision of the judges is final.
- Winners of the 14th Annual **Access Awareness Awards (AAA)** will be announced by the Educational Access Area Nine Cable Council by the end of May.

DUE DATE: **May 7, 2017**

The above **due date** is when the entries **must** be received by your school's A9CC representative. **Be sure your program has aired on CH 78 BEFORE this date.**

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

Please contact your [A9CC representative](#).