Student Oral History Film Contest
Rules and Guidelines

ELIGIBILITY

● The Center for Cultural Preservation’s STUDENT ORAL HISTORY FILM CONTEST is a juried competition, open to any middle or high school student (including home schooled students) in Henderson County, NC. Works will be considered for competition only if they are of a total running time of **15 minutes or less**. The Center for Cultural Preservation reserves the right to determine the eligibility of any project in its sole discretion.

● All qualified entries must be independently produced by the student with only limited involvement of parents or other adults. Students can team up to develop a film but they must share the same prize should they win.

SUBMISSIONS

● Films can be submitted to STUDENT ORAL HISTORY FILM CONTEST either directly by mail (flash drive, DVD or CD) OR transferred digitally via our website upload button at www.saveculture.org. Please upload the entry form signed and scanned as well.

● To submit your film as a DVD or other format screener through the mail: Please ship your screener in a bubble-pack envelope. **We do not return entries**, so please make a copy of anything you send if you wish to have a copy of submissions. Send your submission to our PO Box address:

**Center for Cultural Preservation**
P.O. Box 1066
Flat Rock, NC 28731-1066

● A completed entry form must be submitted with each project. Multiple submissions by the same student is accepted, but a separate completed form must accompany each film. **Unsigned entry forms will be rejected. Students who are under 18 must have a parent or guardian signing in addition to the student.**

● The entry must also include the following: film description (50 words or less) and director’s bio.

● All submitted materials become the property of the STUDENT ORAL HISTORY FILM CONTEST and its presenting organization, the Center for Cultural Preservation. These materials cannot be returned. By submitting this material and signing the release form, you acknowledge Center for Cultural Preservation’s right to copy any material for the festival’s non-commercial use only.

● The applicant may increase the quality of the film by adding music, images and more, but the additional materials must either be created by the submitter or permission be granted by the musician, artist, etc. Please submit copies of the permission agreements made with any outside artists involved in your project for verification.
DEADLINES

- The deadline (received NOT postmark) for all entries either online or via mail is **Wednesday, August 31, 2016** or until we receive the first 100 submissions, whichever comes first. Should we receive 100 submissions before the deadline, we will post this information on our website. Applicants will be notified of their status in October once final decisions are made.

JUDGING

- Entries are pre-screened by the Contest Selection Committee. This panel, headed by the Center for Cultural Preservation’s Director, which selects ten films which are then judged by a Contest Finalist Committee to determine the finalists. Both jury panels are made up of artists, critics, writers, filmmakers, and educators. The Center reserves the right to determine the winner(s) or to select no winner based on the following criteria:

  1) Does the film accurately portray the life of elders in this community with respect to growing food, harnessing water, the self-sufficiency that was required under unpredictable circumstances, the resilience they developed and how that served them, their family and their community?

  2) Does the film shed light on North Carolina and local history in a tangible way? (If the elder is not from North Carolina, does the film offer an important perspective on the life of older generations and how they related to their community?)

  3) Does the film help us better understand how people functioned as a community, solved their problems that helps us re-look at our own community today?

  4) Does the film personalize a part of history that makes the viewer want to know more?

  5) Is the film well edited?

  6) Is the film use music, light, background or other media in a way that makes the story stronger?

The Center for Cultural Preservation and its judging committees are the sole determiners of eligibility and winning status.

AWARDS

- All awards are presented during the Center for Cultural Preservation’s Culture Vulture Film Festival scheduled in late October. Prizes include: **Best Film**: $100 and exhibition at the Culture Vulture Film Festival and an award certificate, **Best Oral History**: gift certificate to local retailer worth $50 or more and an award certificate, **Most Creative Film**: gift certificate to local retailer worth $50 or more and an award certificate.

PUBLICITY

- By signing the entry form, the filmmaker gives the Center for Cultural Preservation permission to use the film and any stills from the film as promotional materials, including but not limited to film stills, descriptions, and director’s biography in all forms of media for the express purpose of festival promotion and publicity.

THE CENTER

- The mission of the Center for Cultural Preservation’s **STUDENT ORAL HISTORY FILM CONTEST** is to celebrate mountain culture through preserving the rich heritage of Western North Carolina through oral history and documentary film and connecting that cultural legacy with our young people. This contest carries out this mission through involving young people in taking oral histories with elders and preserving their life history on video.
CONTACT US

- Phone: (828) 692-8062
- Center for Cultural Preservation, P.O. Box 1066, Flat Rock, NC 28731
- www.saveculture.org

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL DVD ENTRIES AND ENTRY MATERIALS TO US ONLINE at www.saveculture.org or:

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Center for Cultural Preservation
P.O. Box 1066
Flat Rock, NC 28731-1066

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31, 2016.