

Houston Teens Care about Clean Air Video Contest

The Contest

Houston area high school students! The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) challenges you to create a short video (1 to 2 minutes) that shows us what you want to say about dirty air, climate change, health and the environment in Houston.

- Why should Houston teens care about clean air? How does air pollution affect you, your health, your family and your future? Why do *you* care about clean air?
- Show us what young people like you can do every day to make Houston's air cleaner.
- Show us *where* and show us *why* Houston's air quality isn't what it should be.

Be creative! All genres of videos are encouraged: animation, music videos, interviews, documentaries, stop motion, etc.

We want to hear YOUR stories! Create a powerful video. Make us laugh. Make us cry. Teach. Inspire.

[**<< See Page 3 & 4 for links to sample videos and a list of topic ideas>>**](#)

The Prizes

- First Place: \$2,500 Visa gift card
- Second Place: \$1,500 Visa gift card
- Third Place: \$500 Visa gift card
- YouTube People's Choice Award

How to Participate

Only students from approved schools may participate in the contest. Interested students should contact their school's contest coordinator for more information.

Students may submit videos as individuals or teams of up to 4 students.

Teachers and administrators who are interested in signing their school up to participate should contact Shannon Thomas at sthomas@edf.org

Deadline for video submissions is March 31, 2020.

Judging Criteria

- Creativity/Originality
 - Most important!
- Relevance and Scientific accuracy
 - Provides relevant, factual information about air pollution/climate change AND impacts on health from credible sources
 - Information is relevant to Houston and surrounding areas
- Storytelling ability/Impact
 - Does the video evoke emotion? Is it engaging from beginning to end?
- Video quality
 - Sound, video, lighting, editing

Important Notes

- Videos should address an important issue related to the impacts of air pollution and climate change on health, quality of life or sustainability in Houston. We don't expect every video to address every aspect of these complex challenges – in fact we would rather that you dive deep and tell us just one story related to these issues.
- Videos in English, Spanish, Vietnamese or other languages are encouraged. English subtitles or an accompanying script are required.
- **Do your research!** All videos need to include factual information, and accuracy matters. Check out some of the resources provided below as a starting point for learning more about the sources and effects of air pollution in Houston.
- *IF CHOSEN AS A FINALIST you must submit a signed/completed release form for each person appearing in your video. Release form is available [HERE](#) or can be obtained from your campus video coordinator.*
- Please tag your video with **#TeensCareAboutCleanAir** to help us identify your video for this contest.
- Information on the YouTube Viewers' Choice contest will be provided after the March 31st submission deadline.

Submission Instructions

- Students must complete the online video contest submission form and provide a link to their video. Campus coordinator will provide link to submission form.
- Students must also submit all signed permission slips or release forms required by the school to the campus contest coordinator.
- All submissions must be uploaded and entry forms must be completed campus contest coordinator **by March 31, 2020, 11:59 PM CST.**

Rules and Guidelines

1. All entries should begin with a 15 second full-screen “title screen” that includes the following information:
 - Student/Team name
 - Name of high school
 - Title of video
2. Videos may not exceed two minutes in length (not including title screen).
3. Participants must be currently enrolled in one of the following participating high schools: RYSS, Galena Park High School, Pasadena Memorial High School, Kashmere High School, Empowerment College Prep School, Furr High School, Milby High School.
4. All participants must complete the required video contest entry form and any permission slips required by their high school.
5. Videos may be created by individuals or groups of up to 4 students. Only one submission per person or team.
6. Videos must be original and unpublished works that have never been previously submitted in another contest or film festival.
7. IF CHOSEN AS A FINALIST you must submit a signed/completed release form for each person appearing in your video. Release form is available [HERE](#) or can be obtained from campus video coordinator.
8. Videos may be submitted in languages other than English. English subtitles or an accompanying script are required for all non-English videos.
9. Assistance from professional photographers, videographers or editors is not allowed.
10. Participant, for himself or herself, his or her personal representatives, heirs, executives, next of kin, insurers, successors and assigns, hereby waives, releases, discharges and agrees to hold harmless the Environmental Defense Fund, Inc. (“EDF”) and its respective officers, directors, trustees, employees, agents, affiliates, representatives, insurers and third-party providers for any and all claims for damages or losses, against EDF.
11. All information presented in the video must be cited, giving credit to the original source. Plagiarism of any kind will result in disqualification. If chosen as a finalist, you must submit a list of your sources, properly cited.
12. Participants must obtain appropriate copyright authorization for all photos, graphics, clips and music used. Written permission must be obtained and provided upon request for all copyrighted materials.

13. Content must not contain illegal activity, must not be offensive or be otherwise inappropriate as determined by EDF in its sole determination.
14. The only compensation for submitting a video is the opportunity to be awarded a prize if the entry wins. EDF will pay filmmakers no additional compensation nor be liable to the filmmaker under any circumstances.
15. No obligation or liability is assumed by EDF in connection with the contest.
16. All tangible works of authorship created or developed by participants that are submitted pursuant to the contest, including all video submissions (collectively, the “Work Product”), shall belong to and be the sole and exclusive property of EDF, free of any claim by any participant or any other person. Participant hereby assigns to EDF all such Work Product and grants EDF all rights to use, in the ordinary course of its business, any other results of the Work Product. Participant consents to EDF’s publication and use of participant video/digital media submission pursuant to the contest. Winners and their parents or guardians agree to the use of the winners’ names and likenesses to promote the “Houston Teens Care About Clean Air” contest and future video contests.
17. By accepting the prizes, winners agree to hold EDF and all EDF employees harmless against any and all claims and liability arising out of use of such prizes. Winner assumes all liability for any injury or damage caused from participation in the contest or use/redemption of any prize.
18. The judges’ decision is final. Decisions will be made based on a provided Judging Rubric. Upon submission of video, entrants agree to be bound by the official contest rules and decisions of the judges.
19. Entries may be submitted beginning on March 1, 2020. The deadline for submissions is 11:59pm March 31, 2020. Winners will be announced at an Awards Ceremony event, date TBA.