

Academic Freedom Promotional Video Contest 2012

Sponsored by the Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON)
and by the American Civil Liberties Union Nebraska Foundation

Rules of Entry

This is a call for entries of videos promoting academic freedom rights.

1. Videos should be at least **30 seconds to no longer than 2 minutes** in length and must address and promote the importance of academic freedom to students and/or teachers. This includes intellectual freedom in educational and research contexts, including freedoms of belief and expression and access to ideas and information, as well as freedoms in various disciplines and activities such as school newspapers, theatre productions, and speech/debate
2. This competition is open to all **9th through 12th grade** students enrolled in a Nebraska high school. Entrants may be individuals or groups, including student clubs and organizations. Students must have maintained significant control over the content and aesthetics of the video (producing, directing, writing, shooting, editing, etc.).
3. Entrants may submit more than one entry, but only ONE (1) prize will be awarded per individual or club. Entrants must complete one entry form for each entry submitted. There is no fee to enter.
4. Entrants must submit **1 DVD** for each entry. No tapes or other formats will be accepted. Online submissions cannot be accepted; however, winners may be asked to upload a digital (QuickTime) file when instructed. DVDs must be properly labeled with the student's/group's name, title of the work, and length.
5. Entries must be reasonably high quality copies. Copies should be checked for readability and quality before submission. Copies that cannot be played properly will not be judged.
6. DVDs submitted will not be returned. **DO NOT** send originals, masters, or anything considered one-of-a-kind. AFCON and ACLU Nebraska Foundation cannot assume liability for damage or loss.
7. Entries submitted must not be posted or used elsewhere. Winning entries become the property of AFCON and ACLU Nebraska Foundation and may not be posted or used elsewhere without permission from AFCON and ACLU Nebraska Foundation.
8. Entrants may not use any material that is proprietary to a third party or otherwise protected by intellectual property laws. Any entrant whose work includes likenesses of third parties or contains elements not owned by the entrant (such as, but not limited to, music, trademarks or logos) must be able to provide written consent/permission from the owner or an authorized representative of the owner. Without these releases, entrants must, for example, refrain from commercial elements, including copyrighted music and showing product logos on t-shirts and in backgrounds. Entrants will be fully liable under the law for any copyright or other intellectual property violations.
9. All identifiable **participants** in the video (actors, interviewees, background crowd, announcers, etc.) must give permission (**release**) for the use of their images or voices in the video. Their names and signatures must be provided on the forms provided and attached to the application. For those participants under age 19, parental/guardian permission must also be given on those forms.
10. If the entrant is under age 19, parental/guardian, club adviser, or other adult sponsor **permission** must be given on the application form.
11. Entries must be **postmarked by March 23, 2012** to be eligible. Entries should be mailed to:

**Academic Freedom Video Contest
c/o Laurie Lee, AFCON President
720 N. 81st Street
Lincoln, NE 68505**
12. Eight (8) winning entries will receive the following cash prizes:
(1) First Place: \$300
(1) Second Place: \$250
(1) Third Place: \$200
(5) Honorable Mention: \$ 50
13. Not all prizes will be awarded if the number of acceptable submissions is less than the number of awards offered.

14. Entries will be judged on originality/creativity, effectiveness of the message, and production. Entrants should be sure to check all statements for accuracy. Audio levels should be balanced, interviews on-mike, and all graphics visible within screen. A panel of qualified judges chosen by AFCON and/or ACLU Nebraska Foundation will judge the entries. The decision of the judges is final.
15. Winners will be notified by April 20, 2012.
16. AFCON and ACLU Nebraska Foundation reserve the right to use the winning entries at their discretion, including posting the winning entries on the AFCON and/or ACLU Nebraska websites as well as other Internet sites. Winning entries may also be shown at AFCON or ACLU Nebraska events.
17. AFCON and ACLU Nebraska Foundation reserve the right to amend the above rules at any time.
18. Questions may be directed to Laurie Lee, AFCON President, at llee1@unl.edu or 402-486-3628.