Eligibility
The Dwight Short Film Festival is open to all adults and high school students who reside within a 25 mile radius of Dwight or who attend a high school within a 25 mile radius of Dwight. This includes:
- Ancona
- Ballou
- Blackstone
- Bonfield
- Braidwood
- Cabery
- Campus
- Carbon Hill
- Cayuga
- Channahon
- Chatsworth
- Coal City
- Cornell
- Cullom
- Custer Park
- Diamond
- Dwight
- Emington
- Essex
- Fairbury
- Flanagan
- Forrest
- Gardner
- Grand Ridge
- Graymont
- Herscher
- Irwin
- Kangle
- Kempton
- Kernan
- Kinsman
- Limestone
- Long Point
- Manville
- Marseilles
- Mazon
- Minooka
- Missal
- Morris
- Odell
- Pontiac
- Ransom
- Reading
- Reddick
- Ritchie
- Rugby
- Saunemin
- Seneca
- Stavanger
- Stelle
- Streator
- Verona
- Willow Ridge
- Wilmington
- Wing

At least one primary contributor (writer, director, cinematographer, or editor) must meet the age and residency requirements. Other members of your team may be younger or from outside the radius.

Film Requirements
The film may be of just about any genre (drama, comedy, documentary, science fiction, horror, etc.), but it should be an original, scripted work. We will not consider recordings of live performances or home videos. The film should also meet these criteria:
- The length of the film must be between 5 and 20 minutes.
- It should be an original work written by one or more members of the submitting team.
- The content should be of sufficient good taste that it would meet PG-13 standards and be suitable for public display. The judging panel maintains all rights to exclude a film from consideration that, in its judgement, does not meet this requirement or to cut out objectionable material.
- It must be produced in the year leading up to the festival, with filming ending August 1, 2019 or after.
- Be careful not to utilize any music, film, or words that would be subject to copyright protection.
- Yes, you may record your work on a phone, but please record all scenes in landscape orientation.

Awards
Films will be evaluated and ranked individually by a panel of judges. Given that films will be submitted in a variety of genres, each judge will rank films looking at the overall value of each film, taking into consideration characteristics pertinent to each film’s genre, rather than using a standardized score sheet. Individual judge rankings will be compiled to determine overall rankings.

The top 8 films (more if time allows), as ranked by the judging panel, will be played at the Dwight Harvest Days Short Film Festival at the Harvest Days Outdoor Theater in Downtown Dwight on Friday, September 18, 2020. The first place winner will receive a trophy, and the second through eighth place winners will receive medals.

Contact Information
If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact John Salzer at jsalzer@mac.com.

Entering the Festival
Your final product should be submitted in .mp4 format on a USB flash drive with a completed and signed application form.

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2020
This submission form should be sent with your video. It should be completed by a member of the production team who meets both the age and residency requirement as specified on the information page.

Your final product should be submitted in .mp4 format on a USB flash drive. Mail the flash drive, along with a completed and signed application form, to:

Dwight Harvest Days
Attn: Short Film Festival
PO Box 152
Dwight, IL 60420

Name:

Home Address:

City: State: ZIP:

Phone: ( )
e-Mail:

Age at the time of video submission:

High School (if applicable):

Title of Film:

How would you classify the film?

The names of everyone who contributed to the production (writer, producer, director, cameraman, actor, set designer, video editor, etc.) should be included in the credits in an easily readable format.

I agree that by submitting a video to Dwight Harvest Days and/or by appearing in such a video, I am voluntarily participating in contest and festival. I have the permission of everyone who contributed (on or off camera) to submit this video in its final format.

I understand that I, as video creator, maintain my rights to my creation. However, by participating in the festival, I grant certain rights to Dwight Harvest Days. I agree that my video submission and/or appearance may, in whole or in part, be displayed publicly during the festival or related events, and may be utilized in the marketing of Dwight Harvest Days and/or the film festival.

I consent to publication of information provided in the video’s credits. I also certify that the information provided in the credits portion of the video is correct and complete.

I understand that I will not be paid for my video submission, appearance, or participation in the efforts of Dwight Harvest Days and its Short Film Festival, or for the rights granted in this release.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE BEFORE SIGNING IT AND THAT I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS.

Signature: Date:

Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18): Date:

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2020