



## **SXSW Conferences and Festivals**

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### **ASPIRING HIGH SCHOOL FILMMAKERS INVITED TO BE A PART OF SXSW FILM FESTIVAL** *Call for entries for sixth annual Texas High School Film Competition*

Austin, TX – October 7, 2009 - The South by Southwest (SXSW) Film Conference and Festival announces the call for entries for the sixth annual Texas High School Film Competition. This popular and unique competition is exclusively for students enrolled in Texas high schools. The SXSW Film Festival will take place March 12 - 20, 2010 in Austin, Texas.

“We are proud that SXSW continues to offer a fresh and diverse program that is constantly re-charged with the spark of new talent,” said Janet Pierson, producer of SXSW Film Conference and Festival. “We see the Texas High School Film Competition as the perfect opportunity to encourage and celebrate the next generation of visionary filmmakers, right here in Texas.”

Over the last six years, the SXSW Texas High School Film Competition has had hundreds of filmmakers submit their work. SXSW looks forward to another successful year of showcasing young Texas talent with the continued collaborative effort with its partners, the Austin School of Film and Media Arts Center.

The competition is open to all Texas high school students enrolled in 9th through 12th grades for the full 2009-10 academic year. Films must be five minutes or shorter, and completed between January 1 - December 18, 2009. Submissions will be judged by a panel of independent filmmakers and industry figures; with prizes, including SXSW Film registrations, awarded for first, second, and third place. All films chosen as finalists will be shown in a special program as part of the regular 2010 Film Festival schedule.

Additionally, in conjunction with our high school film competition and the Austin School of Film at Motion Media Arts Center, the SXSW 2010 Film Conference will feature special, limited programming specifically for high school students. These programs, which will be separate from our regular SXSW panels and workshops, will be open to all students who enter the our competition. A special program of Austin Film School-produced films (not eligible for competition) will be screened during the SXSW 2010 Film Festival with filmmakers in attendance to talk about their films and the Austin School of Film and Media Arts Center.

The submission deadline for the 2010 SXSW Texas High School film competition is December 18, 2009. There is special, discounted submission fee of \$10.

For more information, visit [http://sxsw.com/film/screenings/submissions/texas\\_high\\_school](http://sxsw.com/film/screenings/submissions/texas_high_school)

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### **South By Southwest Film Conference & Festival**

SXSW is a uniquely creative environment featuring the dynamic convergence of talent, smart audiences and industry heavyweights. A hotbed of discovery and interactivity, the event offers lucrative networking opportunities and immersion into the art and business of the rapidly evolving world of independent film.

Over the first five days, the Film Conference buzzes as world-class speakers, creative minds, and notable mentors tackle the latest filmmaking trends amidst the unmatched social atmosphere of the SXSW experience. Simultaneously, the internationally acclaimed, nine-day Festival celebrates raw innovation and emerging talent, with a truly diverse program ranging from provocative documentaries to subversive Hollywood comedies.

### **2010 Festival Sponsors**

SXSW Film Conference and Festival is sponsored by Miller Lite and The Austin Chronicle.

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