



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

**Deadline for submissions: January 22, 2008*

The Human Rights Watch International Film Festival in partnership with Adobe Youth Voices seeks youth-produced media works on human rights issues for its YOUTH PRODUCING CHANGE program to screen in our New York, London, Boston and San Francisco film festivals.

YOUTH PRODUCING CHANGE will present the courageous work of youth media makers as they document human rights and social issues in their communities and translate their experiences into concrete social change. We are currently seeking film, video and animated works on human rights issues created by youth ages 19 and younger (Please see “Submission Instructions” below.)

Selected films will travel to:

- **Human Rights Watch International Film Festival, New York** : June 9-16 2008
- **Human Rights Watch International Film Festival, Boston**: Fall 2008 (dates tba)
- **Human Rights Watch International Film Festival, London** : March 2009 (dates tba)
- **Human Rights Watch International Film Festival, San Francisco**: Spring 2009 (dates tba)
- Selected films will be included in the [2009 Traveling Film Festival](#)
- **Films will be added to the** [Adobe Youth Voices](#) and [Human Rights Watch website](#)
- And in the teacher’s lending library for the **Human Rights Watch International Film Festival High School Program**

Submission requirements:

- **Age of youth media maker:** The work must have been created by youth ages 19 and under. In order for a film to be eligible, youth must have served in the majority of creative and production roles as directors, writers, camera-person, editors, animators, etc.

- **Short films 15 minutes or under preferred:** If you have a longer film, please still be in touch to tell us about it. We will consider youth produced works up to 30 minutes in length.
- **Format:** DVD (preferred) or VHS. We can accept entries using NTSC or PAL. Sorry, entries sent in on Mini DV will NOT be considered.
- **Copyright:** All music and other rights must be cleared for non-exclusive educational, online, broadcast and theatrical distribution. Please check out The Center for Social Media's [Copyright & Fair Use guidelines](#) for more information.

How do I submit my film?

Submitting your film to **YOUTH PRODUCING CHANGE** is easy! Please follow the following steps

1. Please email the information listed below to Jennifer Nedbalsky at nedbalj@hrw.org by **January 22, 2007**. To submit your film please include all of the following information in the text/body of your email*:

- Director (or production group/community organization) name
- Film Title
- Film synopsis (a short paragraph summary of the film.)
- Filmmaker bio (or a brief description of the producing organization.)
- Genre: Tell us if the film is a documentary, PSA, animation, experimental film, fiction or narrative.
- Country where the film was produced
- Year of production
- Film's running time and format (how long is the film & did you shoot the piece on video, or film?)
- Complete contact information (website, email address, mailing address and phone number.)

**NOTE: PLEASE do not send attachments as we can not open them*

2. The screening committee will contact you if they are interested in screening a VHS or DVD copy of your film/video/animation. After reading the information you submit, we will be in touch to let you know if we'd like for you to send us a copy of your film/video/animation.

All submissions will be reviewed by our intergenerational screening committee made up of 3 high-school aged youth and 3 adults. Youth screening committee members will be selected from schools participating in the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival High School Program and the Adobe Youth Voices program. In selecting films for **YOUTH PRODUCING CHANGE**, Human Rights Watch will concentrate equally on artistic merit and human rights content.

3. If we decide we would like to screen the film in YOUTH PRODUCING CHANGE, we will be in touch with you to invite the film to screen in our festival. Unfortunately, given the number of submissions we receive, the festival does not send out rejection letters. We will only contact those filmmakers whose films/videos are accepted to participate in the showcase.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **What kind of work are you looking for?** We are looking for film/video/animations that focus on human rights and social issues. Works can be documentary, experimental, PSA, music video, narrative or fiction.
- **What subjects do you consider to be “human rights” and “social issues?”** Please send us your original films on equality, civil rights, children’s rights, politics, women’s rights, international justice, HIV/AIDS, the environment, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender rights, health, the environment, war and conflict, freedom of expression, counterterrorism, gender, refugees, immigration, economic, social, and cultural rights. To learn more about human rights, please visit our website: <http://www.hrw.org/>
- **Are there any submission fees?** No, there are no submission fees for our festival.
- **Who should I contact if I have a question about my submission?** Please be in touch with Jennifer Nedbalsky, Manager of the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival by emailing nedbalj@hrw.org or calling 212 216-1247.

Timeline:

- **Submission Deadline:** All submission emails must be received by January 22, 2007.
- **Notification:** If your film is selected to be part of **YOUTH PRODUCING CHANGE** we will be in touch with you before April 2008. Please note, due to the number of submissions we receive we do not send rejection letters.

About Human Rights Watch International Film Festival:



Now in its 18th year, The Human Rights Watch International Film Festival is highly acclaimed for its distinguished history of presenting the compelling work of committed and courageous filmmakers, and showcasing the heroic stories of activists and survivors worldwide. The works we feature help to put a human face on threats to individual freedom and dignity, and celebrate the power of the human spirit to prevail.

The films represent a broad array of human rights themes as seen through the eyes of survivors and activists, depicting current-day and historical world events and inspiring activism. We seek to connect audiences to compelling, thought-provoking and deeply moving visual representations to foster debate and empower viewers with the knowledge that personal commitment can make a very real difference. In selecting films for the festival, Human Rights Watch concentrates equally on artistic merit and human rights content. For more information please visit: www.hrw.org/iff

About Adobe Youth Voices:



Demonstrating the power of technology to engage middle- and high-school-age youth, Adobe Youth Voices (AYV) provides breakthrough learning experiences using video, multimedia, digital art, web, animation, and audio tools that enable youth to explore and comment on their world.

The AYV network now includes 75 sites in 4 countries. From India to London, New York to San Francisco, educators in classrooms and youth program leaders in after-school programs are empowering youth to create with purpose, producing a variety of media on topics important to them.

To learn more about Adobe Youth Voices and how to get involved, visit:
<http://www.adobe.com/aboutadobe/philanthropy/youthvoices/>