

Faith Shorts 2010

Overview

The Tony Blair Faith Foundation, in conjunction with Pukkanasha Films, will this year launch a global competition: “Faith Shorts” to give young people around the world the chance to explore what faith means to them.

There will be three categories to ensure that this competition is as open and accessible to all

- Up to 18 Flip camera competition.
- 18 – 25 year olds Flip camera competition.
- 18-25 category for filmmakers.

Faith Shorts will celebrate the power of stories and ideas. Entrants will be asked to submit a short written pitch answering the brief: “Let me show you how my faith inspires me” Telling us about a time when your faith has inspired you. For the first and second category, the best 50 entrants will receive a flip camera video recorder-making the competition accessible to all, regardless of access to technology/levels of affluence. Using this camera they will produce a short (3 minute) film based on their pitch. Emphasis will be placed on creative and inspirational stories and submissions will be accepted by groups or individuals, school classes or faith communities and in English, French, Spanish, Urdu, Hindi and Arabic.

The third category is for budding film makers between 18 – 25 who already have access to film making equipment. They will be able to upload a completed faith short film onto the website for short listing. The quality here will be more professional and judged to a different standard.

All the entries will be judged by a panel of global personalities from the world of film and television as well as faith leaders. The winners of each category will attend a film festival at British Academy of Film and Television Arts, BAFTA a world-class venue where their films will be screened along with a montage of selected highlights from the runners up. We hope that these films will be a powerful tool to share stories among young people from around the world.

The Tony Blair Faith Foundation is working with Deepak Verma from Pukkanasha films on this project.

Why a film festival

Film cinema and movies are some of the most discussed topics by young people. The medium of film provides a platform to their talent, creativity and worldview.

Young people today are growing up in an increasingly globalised world and through technology and modern media are brought closer to those from other faiths and cultures than ever before. Too often these young people hear a distorted view of other faith traditions. The Tony Blair Faith Foundation is working to give them the tools



to understand and respect these differences and break down prejudices. This film competition will allow young people to express their faith in their own words and hear directly from others their own age from around the world.

An online entry mechanism and Flipcams ensure that the competition is open to as many people as possible.

How we will advertise the competition?

The Tony Blair Faith Foundation will call for entries through an international media call, and will also target young people who have an active interest in faith by making use of its network of schools in 12 countries and volunteer network in 70 countries.

Interfaith projects will be encouraged with tips offered online about how young people might collaborate to produce their films. Simple online resources will be produced to offer guidance for those who have never shot a film before such as toolkits, FAQs and guidelines for using a Flip camera.

How will the judging work?

The global judging panel will be able to view the films online and select the winners from anywhere in the world. The competition will culminate in a film festival at BAFTA, Its appeal is global and it will provide a magnificent backdrop for an event at which the winners are announced.

What is the prize?

The winners will be invited to attend the event where they will have the opportunity to introduce their film in person. The event will therefore give the winner the opportunity to present their work and to give further insight into their motivations for taking part.


“Faith Shorts” from a selection of public figures and celebrities along with an edited montage of highlights from the shortlist will complete the screenings which together will make up the film festival.

Religious leaders and representatives from the film and television world will join with young people to make up the audience for the event along. The screenings will be followed by a reception to which, of course, the global judges would be cordially invited if they are available.

Rough timetable

The following provides a draft schedule for event production:

March 8 th	Announce and publicise the competition and selection of judging panel
March 15 th	Open submissions
March 29 th	Deadline for entries Remaining judging panel announced



12 April	Shortlist announced
12 th – 14 th April	Shortlist contacted and Flipcams set out
14th April – 15th May	Faith Shorts uploaded to website by shortlist Films available to view online
15 th May – 31 st May	Process of translating and adding sub-titles
31 st May - 14 June	Final judging with full judging panel
21 June	Winners announced and contacted
22 nd July	Faith Shorts 2010 film festival at BAFTA

