

Hope & Justice Category

Judging Form

Dear Judge,


We encourage you to seek personal support if you become troubled by the content of this category. If you experience an emotional crisis, there are people available to help you at **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**.

The entries you are judging are submission in the Hope and Justice category. Entries in this category deal with a variety of topics including mental health, social justice and other complex topics that need to be addressed with compassion and knowledge. For this category we asked youth to communicate about what they are feeling, increase knowledge about an issue or take a stand against injustice, or share their perspective in a way that gives others a glimpse into their lives. While some youth submit entries share ideas for solutions to the issues of concern, others used this as an opportunity to process their feelings in a therapeutic way. We welcome all types of submissions. In our submission criteria, we remind youth that whatever message they choose, their submissions need to be thoughtful and respectful. We asked youth to be honest about their feelings, but to be sure their entries convey that they are coming from a place of cultural humility and has the intent to further understanding and constructive dialogue about social justice and change. So, as a judge please score each of these entries based on how well they conveyed their messages and followed these guidelines. At any point if you are experiencing technical difficulties with the website, or have questions regarding the category, please email Shanti@DirectingChange.org or call (619) 786-5622.

We encourage you to seek personal support if you become troubled by the content of this category. If you experience an emotional crisis, there are people available to help you at 1-800-273-TALK (8255). In advance, we appreciate your time.

**Safe Messaging Scoring Measures
(Total Points Possible 60)**

Overall, how well does the submission communicate a message about the required topic areas?

 Award up to 15 points
(____points)


Finding Hope: What helps you get through tough times? Are you practicing self-care through reading, dancing, listening to music, writing, watching your favorite films?

Justice: What do you think can be done so that there can be real change? Share your thoughts on actions that people can take to make a difference.

Submissions can:

- Provide an example of what helps young people get through tough times or practice self care.
- Share what they do, see or experience in their life or community right now that gives them hope during this challenging time.
- Share a personal story/life experience that connects to what’s happening on a larger scale in communities, schools, or nationwide.
- Encourage someone to change their perspective or become an ally.
- Increase knowledge and taking a stand against injustice.
- Explain a term from the [ADL list](#) provided and include at least one action that young people can take.
- Explain the difference between prejudice, bias, stereotypes, microaggressions, and discrimination and knowing what makes each of those unique is an important foundation for having constructive conversations.
- Encourage others to critically think about what they see and hear in the media.

How well did the messages in the submission INSPIRE or EDUCATE you?

 Award up to 20 points
(____points)


While this scoring measure is highly subjective and based on each individual’s feelings after viewing the submission, the goal of this scoring measure is to judge how well the youth succeeded in inspiring the audience in a way that leaves a lasting and meaningful impact. While we’ve asked youth to share their own personal stories about what they are experiencing during this time, we also asked them to inspire others to get involved and affect change.

Considering the format of the project and quality of the submission, please rate the overall effort and thought that you feel the youth put into creating their project.

(Note: Please also consider the age of the participant, as ages range from middle school age to 25 years old)

**Remember: With everything going on in the world right now, this category asks youth to share what they are experiencing, how they are coping, and to explore what drives them to stay hopeful for the future, through creation of their project. This category is an opportunity for youth living through history to use their feelings and voices to encourage purposeful action and to start conversations that matter. This category also accepts submissions from a wide age range (from 12 years old to 25 years old), so the quality and content of some projects may reflect this and should be considered when scoring.*

Please also note that most submissions are being created by youth at home, without the technology or support they may have in a traditional classroom setting.

 Award up to 25 points
(____points)

Total Key Messaging Score
(Points Possible 60 – see previous)

Technical and Creative Scoring Measures	Points Possible	Score
The submission’s overall creativity: How well does the submission show unique or creative interpretation of the topic addressed? (This is less about content, but about the creativity used to communicate the content.)	Up to 15	
The submission is technically well-produced: - If a film or TikTok – consider the focus, exposure, audio clarity, use of graphics and/or special effects, pacing and flow. - If a painting, digital art, sketch, comic, animation, or other 2-D art – consider the skill in use of line, color, form, texture, perspective, visual rhythm, etc. - If a radio PSA – consider the pace, clarity of messaging, use of music or sound effects, overall flow of script, etc. - If original music – consider the clarity, rhythm, musical and/or mechanical skill, phrasing, etc. - If a blog, poem, spoken word, essay or other narrative – consider the structure, grammar, word choice, flow, rhyme scheme, expressiveness, etc.	Up to 15	
The submission provides a clear message that is thoughtful and respectful	Up to 5	
The submission creates an appropriate atmosphere and tone (through choices of colors, music, wording or graphics) consistent with its message:	Up to 5	
Total Technical and Creative Score (Points Possible 40)		
Total Safe Messaging Score (Points Possible 60)		
Total Overall Score (Out of 100)		

Disqualifying Content:

Submissions that include this type of content, or deemed to contain inappropriate content, will be disqualified.

1. The film **SHOULD NOT** include portrayals of violence, suicide deaths or attempts (such as a person jumping off a building or bridge, or holding a gun to their head). Portraying suicide attempts and means, even in dramatization, can increase chances of an attempt by someone who might be thinking about suicide and exposed to the film. Important distinction:

Be creative and cautious: If you are considering showing items someone might use for a suicide attempt in your film, we encourage you to think about the purpose and benefit of including this in your film.

There are other ways to demonstrate that someone is thinking about suicide without showing a

weapon. Can you convey the sentiment you are seeking without showing this? In general, it is best to avoid showing images of ways people might attempt suicide, especially weapons.

Important distinction: You can show a person thinking about suicide (e.g. looking at pills or standing at the side of a ledge), but you cannot show them actually taking a step off a ledge even if you don't show the person actually falling. In general, it is best to avoid showing images of ways people might attempt suicide, especially weapons. Also consider that showing images of items/ways people might harm themselves might also be disturbing to those who have lost someone to suicide. Remember, we are focused on prevention and the most important part is educating others about how to help. If you have any questions about this, please [contact us!](#)

- 2. The film should be sensitive to racial, ethnic, religious, sexual orientation and gender differences, with all individuals realistically and respectfully depicted.**