## **Video Essay Scholarship Competition Guidelines**

- 1. **Theme:** The theme of the video essay should align with the spirit of Black Culture, celebrating Black culture, heritage, and contributions to society. Participants are encouraged to explore topics such as cultural identity, social justice, community empowerment, and personal experiences within the context of Black culture.
- 2. Format: Video essays should be submitted in digital format, preferably as MP4 files, with a maximum duration of **FIVE [5] minutes**. Participants have the creative freedom to choose their preferred style, whether it be documentary-style narration, spoken word, visual storytelling, or a combination thereof.
- 3. **Content:** The video essay should be original and thought-provoking, offering unique insights, perspectives, or reflections on the chosen theme. Participants are encouraged to draw from personal experiences, research, interviews, or artistic expression to convey their message effectively.
- 4. **Clarity and Creativity:** Entries should demonstrate clarity of thought, coherence in presentation, and creativity in execution. Participants should strive to engage and captivate the audience through compelling storytelling, visual aesthetics, and effective communication of ideas.
- 5. **Authenticity:** Participants are encouraged to be authentic, genuine, and true to their own voice and experiences. The video essay should reflect the individual's personal connection to the theme and their commitment to celebrating and uplifting Black culture.
- 6. **Technical Specifications:** Videos should be of high quality, with clear audio and visuals. Participants should ensure that their submissions adhere to any technical guidelines or specifications provided by the scholarship committee.
- 7. **Submission Process:** Participants must submit their video essays through the designated submission portal or email address provided by the scholarship committee. The deadline for submissions is [insert deadline]. Late entries will not be accepted.
- Judging Criteria: Entries will be evaluated based on criteria such as originality, creativity, clarity of expression, relevance to the theme, emotional impact, and overall presentation.
  Videos will be shared to our social media where community vote will make up 25% of vote and The BCF Committee will have 75% of final vote.
- 9. **Prize:** The winner of the video essay scholarship competition will be awarded Scholarship, along with recognition and exposure at the Black Culture Festival. The scholarship prize aims to support the recipient's academic pursuits, creative endeavors, or community initiatives related to Black culture.
- 10. Additional Information: Participants should review all guidelines, terms, and conditions provided by the scholarship committee before submitting their entries. Any questions or inquiries regarding the competition should be directed to the designated contact person or email address.

## We encourage all aspiring scholars, artists, and storytellers to seize this opportunity to share their voices and contribute to the celebration of Black culture at the festival. Good luck to all participants!