

Sisters of Mercy Social Justice Video Contest Rules

**Please review these rules before entering the contest.
Your entry submission constitutes agreement to these rules.**

Contest Description

Responding to Pope Francis' invitation to give and receive God's mercy, the Sisters of Mercy have been sharing the many ways Mercy sisters, associates, companions, coworkers, ministries and students live and understand justice. Through this video contest sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas' Justice Team, Mercy students are invited to show through video how they and others understand justice in light of the five [Critical Concerns](#).

Video submissions should address one of the following and relate to one or more of Mercy's Critical Concerns:

- educate about an injustice
- show how an individual or group experiences an injustice
- show how an individual or group confronts an injustice

As you consider the topic of your video, we encourage you to reflect on events of the past two years, including:

- What racial inequities have been made clearer to society at large since the killing of George Floyd? In the suffering of the pandemic?
- How are we practicing nonviolence as we practice social distancing?
- How are more intense natural disasters, a consequence of climate change, affecting the lives of vulnerable people?
- What does it mean to be an immigrant or a refugee in a time of escalating violence, border walls and denied asylum?
- How has your understanding of one or more of the Critical Concerns deepened in light of the pandemic? How have you been able to respond?

While we encourage you to explore these timely topics, all videos that address a topic affiliated with the Critical Concerns are eligible for consideration.

Who Can Enter

This contest is open to students, high school or college age, who attend Mercy high schools, colleges/universities or who are involved in a Mercy affiliated ministry.

Entrants who are under the age of 18 must obtain the consent of your parent or legal guardian before entering this contest.

Videos can be submitted as part of a class assignment, project for a club or school organization, graduation project or independently.

Keep Up to Date

Anyone considering participating in this contest is invited to complete [this interest form](#) in order to receive contest information, updates and reminders.

Prior to Entry - **NEW FOR 2022**

High Schools must designate a faculty or staff member to be the contest contact person. This individual accepts responsibility for reviewing the contest rules with student participants. The school contact must complete this [acknowledgement form](#) and reply to a confirmation email. Schools may have more than one contact person. College students must complete this [acknowledgement form](#) and reply to a confirmation email.

How to Enter

Once the video is ready for submission, [this registration form](#) must be submitted for each entry. After the registration form is completed the student will receive instructions for uploading the video.

Contest Deadline

All final entries must be received by the end of the day on April 1, 2022.

Format Requirements

Length: under 5 minutes

Language: English or Spanish

Videos must include:

- a. A Title Screen. (Try to use something other than "Social Justice Video.")
- b. A Credit Screen

Credits must include the name of those involved in the creation of the video. It must also include citations for any images, audio, or text used in the video that is not original. The time used for the title and the credits does not count against the 5-minute video length limit. For example, if the title screen is 5-second-long and the credits are 15 seconds long, the total video length can be 5 minutes and 20 seconds.

Rules

By submitting an entry, the entrant thereby grants to the Sisters of Mercy an irrevocable, perpetual and royalty-free right to use, reproduce, edit, display, transmit, prepare derivative works of, modify, publish and otherwise make use of the submitted work.

Each entrant agrees not to submit any entry that infringes upon any third-party proprietary rights, intellectual property rights, personal or moral rights or any other rights, including copyright or trademark, or otherwise violates applicable U.S. law.

UPDATED FOR 2022

Images (photographs or video) used must meet ONE of the following criteria ONLY, and the submission must be accompanied by documentation:

1. Original photographs or video, by the student or other photographer/videographer who has provided written permission. Must attest to originality by signing the agreement and therefore assuming responsibility
2. Available in the public domain* and must include reference to where it was found in public domain
3. Available for use through a copyright free license (such as Creative Commons) - must share reference to license
4. A license was purchased to use the music for this purpose by the student or school. License documentation must be presented.

UPDATED FOR 2022

Music used in a video must meet ONE of the following criteria ONLY, and the submission must be accompanied by documentation:

1. An original composition and performance - must attest to originality by signing the agreement and therefore assuming responsibility
2. Available in the public domain* and must include reference to where it was found in public domain
3. Available for use through a copyright free license (such as Creative Commons) - must share reference to license
4. A license was purchased to use the music for this purpose by the student or school. License documentation must be presented.

* Definition of public domain: "A work of authorship is in the "public domain" if it is no longer under copyright protection or if it failed to meet the requirements for copyright protection. Works in the public domain may be used freely without the permission of the former copyright owner."
(<https://www.copyright.gov/help/faq/faq-definitions.html>)

Winner Selection

A panel of judges chosen by the Sisters of Mercy will select the winning video(s) based on [these criteria](#). The grand prize winner will receive one cash prize of \$500.

Additional Information

For an overview of all contest information, go to

<https://www.sistersofmercy.org/social-justice-video-contest/>.

Contact: Mike Poulin, Justice Resource Manager, mpoulin@sistersofmercy.org.