



## **-Yes For MN- Movie Contest Guidelines**

Produced in cooperation with Square Lake Productions

So you're a filmmaker, (or an aspiring filmmaker with little or no film making skills) who wants to come to the rescue of our state's clean water, land and legacy in a time of funding cuts and increased demand on our resources? Well, you've found yourself the right contest. We're excited to have your interest, and will provide a cash incentive, numerous public-screening opportunities at both film events and on public TV, and other prizes of significant cash value IF you produce a 3-minute or less film that gets people to Vote Yes For MN!

The film you submit, in and of itself, should offer a compelling reason why the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment should be passed on November 4th. You may submit more than one film. There is no submission charge. Films of all production levels and skills will be considered, and in fact, if you are a young filmmaker, your message may be stronger because of the pure emotion you convey. You can employ satire, humor, drama, personal testimony, and any other storytelling convention in use. Don't forget that the key to winning the top awards is to illicit an emotional response in the viewer, and have your film act as a call to action. The themes, setting, storyline and everything else are all up to you, but here are some ideas:

- Show how our precious water resources need to be protected for future generations.
- Describe the "Minnesota" that you inherited, and contrast it with the "Minnesota" we will pass on to future generations without dedicated funding amendments.
- Draw upon a childhood memory that involves Minnesota, and is based upon Minnesota's clean water, land and/or cultural legacy.
- Minnesota is a state with a proven commitment to the arts. Make a film that illustrates this commitment, and inspire voters to protect this legacy.
- Create a film that is a contemplative study of the natural environment that we need to protect.
- Tell a story about an outdoor experience you had that encapsulates the Minnesota we need to protect.
- Make a film that depicts your appreciation for the Minnesota outdoors.
- Create a historical documentary that illuminates an issue or story with a strong connection to the water, land, arts, or legacy of our state.

### **Basic Contest Guidelines (Be sure to read the Official Contest Rules as well):**

- All submissions must be 3 minutes or less in length.
- All submissions must in some way answer the question “What do you love about Minnesota?” directly, or through the testimony you present.
- All films must be preceded by and concluded with the Yes For MN logo (available for download at [www.yesformn.org](http://www.yesformn.org) website.)
- Film submission packets must have a postmark deadline of September 1<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for awards.
- All entrants must complete the contest registration and sign a waiver to participate.
- Submissions must be in a QuickTime or WMV file format.
- Send two DVDs: 1) Data CD-R with QuickTime (preferred) or Windows Media Video files 2) burn your project to a DVD (authored, able to be played in all DVD players)
- All CDRs and DVDs must be clearly labeled with name & contact info and be accompanied by registration forms.
- Films will not be returned to entrants.
- Contest open to Minnesota residents only (participants in film may be from other states). If you are a Minnesota resident and live in Miami, you can still participate.
- Mail submissions to:  
*Yes for Minnesota*  
*2334 University Ave W*  
*Suite 150*  
*St. Paul, MN 55114*
- Questions? Call 651-204-0775 or email [squarelakeproductions@gmail.com](mailto:squarelakeproductions@gmail.com)

### **Prizes:**

- All submissions are eligible for placement on [www.yesformn.org](http://www.yesformn.org)
- First Prize: \$1,000, public TV screenings, Yes For MN promotional events at The Walker Art Center and other statewide events TBA.
- Second Prize: Many of the same screening opportunities as 1<sup>st</sup> place in addition to a one year membership to IFP Minnesota and MCA.
- Winning films will also show at many other film related events prior to, or following, the November 4<sup>th</sup> election date.

### **Judging Process:**

- **These jurors are not confirmed** A committee of jurors made up of Shawn Lawrence Otto (Screenwriter “House of Sand and Fog”), Jim Brandenburg (National Geographic photographer), Sheila Smith (Minnesota Citizens for the Arts), Ali Selim (director Sweet Land), Rick Shiomi (Theater Mu), Ann Bancroft (Arctic & Antarctic explorer), Ken Martin (Vote Yes MN), Paul Creager (Square Lake Film and Music Festival) will judge all submissions.
- The winners will be decided on or before September 19th, 2008.