

INTRODUCTION

STN invites students at member schools to contribute to a collaborative documentary project where several schools will concentrate on producing segments on a common topic that will be edited into a single piece.

STN encourages students to tackle issues that can in some way effect change. By working collaboratively, students will learn how to share responsibility for workflow and how to produce a piece that is required to fit in a larger project. These are important skills for real-world employment and success. This is a great opportunity to learn more about documentary filmmaking while making a positive impact in our communities.

In this project, students will submit a short video pitch on the topic and then work together to develop the stories and produce the pieces. All students selected to participate will guarantee specific deliverables on deadline.

TOPIC

The focus of this year's collaborative documentary is: ***The Power of Social Media--the Good, the Bad, the Ugly***

We will be looking for stories that show the positives and negatives of how people are using social media in their lives and communities. Some of the ways social media influences our lives can include:

- Use of Bots
- Breaking news stories
- Effects on journalism
- Distraction
- Effects on self image
- Influencers
- Politics
- Bullying
- Fake news
- Connecting people
- Strengthens free speech
- Changed business marketing
- Increased transparency
- Able to follow trends
- Real-time news updates
- Addictive effects
- Disaster relief support
- Criminal influences

PROCESS

Students at STN schools are invited to fill out the Producer Application with their pitch idea and send a link to their video pitch by the deadline. One Student Producer from each school will be the responsible party for the work and the deadlines but they must have a teacher adviser invested in the project. They may, at their discretion, involve other students in their class. They may also choose to work alone.

Pitches will be accepted as Pre-Production projects based on their video submissions:

Being on Topic

Being relevant to the STN audience of 12-18 year olds

Being appropriate for the STN audience of 12-18 year olds

Being acceptable for an international audience

Producers accepted for the documentary will be required to participate and complete the following:

1. A full script for a 2-3 minute piece reviewed by all documentary Producers and STN judges
2. A rough cut for review by all documentary producers and STN judges
3. Online meetings (e.g. Google Hangout) where the pieces will be discussed
4. Delivery of materials on deadline
5. Willingness to accept creative criticism and advice and to revise stories

Stories may be considered for other distribution including possible airing on other broadcast outlets and websites.

PRIZING

One Student Producer from each school accepted for the project will be given free registration to the STN Convention (\$100 value) in Washington DC. Travel, hotel and all other costs will be the responsibility of the Producer. Producers not attending the convention will receive a prize at the discretion of STN.

All Student Producers attending the convention will be part of a panel discussion onsite where the film will be premiered and they will discuss the process and take questions from the audience.

SCHEDULE

November 1 – Applications Due with 30 second video pitch URL link

November 15 – Production Teams announced

November 18 – First Google Hangout

December 1 – Scripts Due

December 20 – Rough Cuts Due

Weekly meetings until all pieces are complete.

February 1 – Finished pieces due for STN documentary