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Entries for 1st Annual Rockumentary Film Festival accepted through April 1

BILLINGS, Feb. 27, 2014 – Entries for the First Annual Rockumentary Film Festival may be shared through April 1 at the Outdoor Recreation Office at Rocky Mountain College. The festival of short films will highlight documentary and fictional film genres. Prize-winning entries will screen Wednesday, April 9, in Taylor Auditorium in Losekamp Hall.

Documentary efforts provide students with opportunities to “share a snapshot of an experience, organization, or people that embody what makes Rocky Mountain College a great institution,” said Tim Lohrenz, director of outdoor recreation and intramurals. He hopes for entries that portray strengths of all sorts of RMC communities and their experiences.

The fictional genre category allows students to develop a creative story told through the medium of film and requires the use of members of the RMC family as cast and crew. “We have creative and fun students. The film festival provides a venue to show off their creativity through writing, story development, acting, directing, set and prop building, and cinematography,” said Lohrenz.

Many RMC students have amateur videography experience, whether from work in film production in high school or from using their smartphones to upload .gifs to Tumblr or short videos to Vine or YouTube. The Rockumentary Film Festival, Lohrenz said, “challenges students to take their film experience a step further by developing a story and creatively engaging with their peers during the production of the film.”

RMC students, said Lohrenz, delight their peers with meaningful products when they take on new extracurricular options like the Rockumentary Film Festival. “The making of a film is an experience in itself,” he said. “While we have outlined fairly strict parameters for submissions, students have quite a bit of creative freedom. We hope that students who don't normally participate in Rocktivities or outdoor recreation and intramurals will create work for the festival.”

Lohrenz can direct students to resources in informal video production. Further information is available from Lohrenz at 406.657.1151 or lohrenzt@rocky.edu.

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