

NOLAN'S FLAIR

If you're passionate about filmmaking and love weaving stories with a cinematic touch, this is the category for you! Inspired by Christopher Nolan's iconic style, Nolan's Flair challenges you to step into the director's chair and create your very own short film. From mind-bending storytelling to powerful visuals, this category is all about pushing your creativity and vision.

TEAM REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum: 3 delegates
- Maximum: 5 delegates
- Teams must work together on all tasks.

How the Category Works:

Task 1: Filmmaking

Over the course of four days, delegates will get the chance to plan, shoot and edit a short film. This is where you bring your story to life, whether it's a thriller, comedy or drama – the screen is yours to fill with imagination!

Task 2: Trailer Creation

Delegates will produce a **30-60 second trailer** to accompany their film. The trailer should act as a cinematic preview, designed to capture attention and build anticipation for the full story.

ROUND 1 – The Nolan Challenge

Each team may choose a genre of their choice may those be:

- o Comedy
- o Drama
- o Romance
- o Thriller/Horror
- o Dark Comedy etc.

Disclaimer! There will be a twist in the plot so we suggest you read up on your Nolan references!

Instructions:

Delegates must create a short cinematic film ON CAMPUS.

- **Filming Days:** Day 1 and Day 2.
- **Editing Days:** Day 3 and Day 4.
- **Deadline:** Submit before the set deadline on Day 4.
- **Duration:** Minimum: 3 minutes
Maximum 7 minutes
- **Format:** mp4 or mov.
- Submissions must be made through Google Drive link shared.

ROUND 2 – FILM PREVIEW

Alongside making the short film, each team must also create a 30–60 second trailer. The trailer should capture the film's mood, showcase its best moments and leave the audience curious for more.

Details:

- Film short scenes that bring out the story's mood, main characters and overall theme, giving the audience a glimpse of what to expect.
- Decide on a clear style: suspenseful, dramatic, emotional. etc
- Begin with a strong hook, build momentum and end with a cliffhanger or powerful shot.

ROUND 3 - TRAILER FOR SEQUEL

For this round, delegates are required to make a trailer a minimum of **30 seconds** and a maximum of **1 minute and 30 seconds** for a **sequel** to their film. They may take the extra footage for this when shooting the film or reuse old clips, this trailer should showcase editing skills and storytelling related to their original film.

Judging Criteria:

- **Engagement:** The ability of the trailer to immediately capture and sustain audience interest.
- **Storytelling:** How effectively the trailer conveys the film's essence while maintaining intrigue and avoiding major spoilers as well as cohesiveness in narrative.
- **Pacing & Flow:** The rhythm, sequencing, and overall coherence of the editing.
- **Sound & Music:** The effectiveness of audio elements in establishing tone and atmosphere.
- **Cinematic Appeal:** The overall polish, creativity and professional quality of the final trailer.
- **editing skills**

Guidelines:

- Trailer length must be **30–60 seconds ONLY**.
- Submit on time in the required format, otherwise it will not be accepted.
- **Both the short film and the trailer** will be judged and final scores will reflect the quality of both submissions.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Behind-the-Scenes (BTS) footage is **mandatory** to show teamwork and process.

Teams must include at least one **"Nolan element"**, such as:

- Non-linear storytelling (flashbacks, time jumps).
- A twist or surprise ending.
- Symbolism or hidden visual meaning.
- Strong use of sound/music/silence for emotion.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. **Cinematography:** framing, lighting and camera work.
2. **Originality & Creativity:** unique approach, fresh execution.
3. **Storytelling:** clarity of plot, engagement.
4. **Editing & Sound:** rhythm, transitions, soundtrack, effects.
5. **Expression of Theme:** how well the film fits the assigned theme.

RESTRICTIONS:

- USE OF AI IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED
- Use of inappropriate content such as abusive language, offensive jokes, or racial slurs.
- Use of stock footage or previously made videos.
- Submitting without BTS footage (will lead to disqualification).
- Props that damage school property or involve fire, liquids, sharp objects or unsafe items.
- Off-campus filming is not allowed. All filming must be done on campus; failure to follow this will **result in elimination**.
- Participants must obtain explicit consent from all individuals before recording them.
- Teams must provide proof of their recording with respective time slots of each filmed clip which must be provided in the form of a document when the final film is submitted.

Note: Prohibited items will **NOT** be allowed in any category. The use of restricted school locations (such as the terrace) is strictly forbidden. Participants may only film in spaces that are accessible to all delegates.

GUIDELINES:

- All editing must be done by the team itself.
- Editing of trailer must be done in the category
- Late submissions will not be accepted.
- Ensure the files are properly named and submitted in the required format.
- **Story matters more than equipment** – judges will value creativity and teamwork above all.
- **Allowed Equipment:**
- Camera (DSLR, mirrorless or phone camera).
- Tripods/mini tripods.
- Editing software
- Props/costumes (as long as safe and non-damaging to school property)