**Hispanic Film Series Writing Contest 2019**

**Diversity lessons**

**Description**

The Hispanic Studies Film Series, with the support of the Department of Hispanic Studies and the College of Liberal Arts, is pleased to announce the Diversity Lessons Learned from Hispanic Films Writing Contest. The winning entries will be awarded financial prizes at the Spring 2019 Parents/Family Weekend Ceremony, and they will be published on the departmental website [https://hisp.tamu.edu](https://hisp.tamu.edu). Judged by a panel of Hispanic Studies faculty, one prize will be awarded for writing in Spanish, and one prize will be awarded for writing in English.

**Prizes**

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<th>Essay Topic</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
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<td>Diversity in Hispanic Films</td>
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This is an excellent opportunity for undergraduate students to showcase their creativity and talent, to communicate their experiences and their reactions to films included in the 2018-2019 Hispanic Film Series. This contest is open to all current Texas A & M University undergraduate students who attend films shown by the Department of Hispanic Studies in its Hispanic Film Series. Students from all majors are welcome to participate.

**Submission Guidelines**

Submissions should reflect the student’s reaction to diversity as seen in any one or all of the films from the Hispanic Film Series. Beyond that, the guidelines for this contest are largely open-ended to encourage truly inspired submissions. To that end, students are granted creative license to compose stories, essays, etc. that will engage, and appeal to, a broad audience. Both fiction and non-fiction pieces will be considered. Regardless of the type of
writing, submissions should be in clear, intelligent prose with no major spelling or grammatical errors.

What not to write: “I thought X-film was amazing because ...” While we love to hear that you had an amazing experience with the film, it should not be the primary objective of your writing submission. If you wish to convey what you consider the best qualities of film you choose, follow the writing guideline of “explain or analyze, don’t re-tell.” In other words, don’t tell your reader that you think it is an amazing film, analyze or explain what was amazing in its vivid descriptions, portrayals and insights into the diversity of people and places.

What to write: (Please note that these are only examples, and not an exhaustive list of topics) A first-person, descriptive account of growing awareness of a diversity issue attributable to the film; a fictional story based on people and places in the film; an analysis of a public diversity issue in the U.S. that reflects a similar issue in raised in the film. Be creative. Think of unique ways to share your experience with friends and colleagues in a meaningful manner.

Submission Format

Length: 500 – 1,000 words

Format: Times New Roman; 12-point; double-spaced

Limited to one entry per person in each language, all entries should be submitted to r-curry@tamu.edu as an attachment in either Microsoft Word format (.doc/.docx) or a pdf. In your e-mail submission, please include the following:

• “HISP Writing Contest” in the subject header
• First and last name
• Your e-mail address
• The title of your submission
• A short description of your submission
• SPAN or HISP courses you are taking or have taken [if applicable]

Submission Deadline: April 5th, 2019 (5:00 p.m.)

Disclosure

The Department of Hispanic Studies will have full rights to use and circulate all writing submissions, with attribution to the authors.

*Prizes will be awarded as a cash bursary to the student’s TAMU account.