



## **2023 - 2024 LIA Competition Guidelines**

All current LIA students are welcome to submit 1 entry across as many categories as they would like.

The deadline for all submissions will be  
**Wednesday, January 31st, 2024.**

**Competition submissions and conference registration will open on the LIA Website Starting January 2, 2024.**

**If you have any questions we encourage you to contact your Regional Program Manager.**

For now, please encourage your students to review these guidelines and begin preparing their competition entries for the categories below!

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE FULLY COMPLETE AND ONLY SUBMITTED ONCE PER CATEGORY ON THE WEBSITE.**

# SHORT FILM COMPETITION

## REQUIREMENTS

- Submit an original short film or video that portrays the “Stronger Together” theme.
- Short films and videos have a maximum time limit of 3 (three) minutes including titles and credits.
- Short films and videos exceeding the 3 (three) minute time limit will not be considered.
- You may receive guidance from adults but the film must be written and directed by an LIA student(s).
- Adults are welcome to participate as actors.

## WHAT TO FILM

Drama, Suspense, Action, Comedy, Spoof, Music Video – any category that you can think of!  
We recommend viewing the following samples of past winning entries:

- [SAMPLE 1: Winning Short Film](#)
- [SAMPLE 2: Winning Short Film](#)
- [SAMPLE 3: Winning Short Film](#)
- [SAMPLE 4: Winning Short Film](#)
- [SAMPLE 5: Winning Short Film](#)

## HOW TO SUBMIT

**On the application form, only one person will be able to submit as the Main Creator. A co-creator or additional contributors can be added for recognition on the application form. If you are chosen as a winner, any prizes received will only be awarded to the Main Creator.**

- Upload your UNLISTED short film or video to your YouTube account.
- Share the link to your unlisted video when you submit your application.
- Have a friend or teacher double check that your link works! LIA is not responsible for submissions that cannot be viewed.
- If you're not sure how to upload an Unlisted YouTube Video, ask a friend or check out [How to Upload an Unlisted Youtube Video](#) or [¿Cómo Subir un Video No Listado a YouTube?](#) for additional help.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

- Inclusion of the “Stronger Together” theme.
- Quality of the production, including editing and audio.
- Originality and storytelling.
- Overall impression of the short film video.
- Overall adherence to the competition requirements.

# PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITION

All submissions will be considered for the competition.

Please note that not all submissions will be chosen to perform on stage

## REQUIREMENTS

- Participants must be currently enrolled in an LIA class unless permission is granted.
- Any songs included in the performance must not contain expletives or any sexual content.
- Performances have a maximum length of 3 minutes. Submissions longer than 3 minutes will not be considered.
- All performance Outfits need to adhere to the LIA Performance Dress Code. **Examples: No Transparent Clothing, No skirts above the knee, No short shorts and no ripped clothing, no low cut tops, no bare midriff, no crop tops, no sleeveless tops, or no spaghetti straps.**

**Teachers, please help your students by reviewing their music selection and the performance dress code requirements before submitting!**

THE TOP 3 entries will be invited to perform on stage at conference.

Others may be invited to perform depending on the time availability. If you have any questions please contact your Regional Program Manager.

## WHAT TO PERFORM

Submissions must be sent in video format. **Once submissions have been approved to be performed at conference, no changes to the performance may be made without direct approval from LIA Leadership.**

- **Dance performance: Outfits must adhere to the LIA performance dress code as outlined above.** The video submitted must show the outfits that will be worn on stage. No changes are allowed. Submissions with outfits that do not adhere to the performance dress code guidelines will not be considered.
- Musical performances may be in English, Spanish, or other language and may be of a student or students performing using their voices and/or instruments.
- Instrumental performances are welcomed (piano, violin, flute, guitar, trumpet, etc).
- Other types of performances, such as "Slam Poems", or monologues, are also welcomed.

## HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO AND MUSIC

**On the application form, only one person will be able to submit as the Main Creator.** A co-creator or additional contributors can be added for recognition on the application form. **If you are chosen as a winner, any prizes received will only be awarded to the Main Creator.**

**\*\*\*Teachers: If the entire LIA class is competing, we HIGHLY RECOMMEND that the LIA teacher submits the performance as the Main Creator.**

- Upload an UNLISTED video to your YouTube account.
- Share the link to your unlisted video when you submit your application.
- If you have any music that will play during your performance, you will need to upload it as an .mp4 file when you submit your application.

- **Have a friend or teacher double check that your link works! LIA is not responsible for submissions that cannot be viewed.**
- If you're not sure how to upload an Unlisted YouTube Video, ask a friend or check out [How to Upload an Unlisted Youtube Video](#) or [¿Cómo Subir un Video No Listado a YouTube?](#) for additional help.

## **JUDGING CRITERIA**

- Stage presence, excitement, and enthusiasm.
- Delivery and quality of the performance.
- Cultural and emotional connection.
- Style and appearance.
- Overall adherence to the competition requirements.

# SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

## SCHOLARSHIP TIMELINE

- A public announcement of scholarship winners will be made at the LIA Youth Leadership Conferences.
- Students will be contacted over the summer to follow up with the required information to receive their scholarship. Be sure to include accurate contact information in your scholarship application, including a personal email address and phone number (do not use your school email address).
- **LIA will not distribute scholarship funds until the winning student has submitted the follow-up information. Scholarship funds will be distributed to students' college financial aid office accounts at the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester.**
- Scholarship recipients who have not enrolled in a post-secondary program for the Fall of 2024 may forfeit the scholarship funds.

## REQUIREMENTS

- You must be a graduating high school senior currently enrolled in an LIA class.
- Submit a personal essay as a pdf file.
- Submit a letter of recommendation as a pdf file.
- Your cumulative GPA, included in the scholarship form submission.

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- A letter of recommendation from an adult with whom you have worked (ex: school administrator, employer, community representative, teacher, etc). Your letter of recommendation should not be written by a relative/family member.
- A personal essay that portrays the "Stronger Together" theme. Your essay must be a maximum of 2 pages, double spaced, using size 12 font with 1" (one inch) margins.
- Your cumulative GPA, included in the scholarship form submission.

## WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR PERSONAL ESSAY

- Share who you are, your family background, and your heritage. How have these influenced you? What personal challenges have you overcome in your life?
- Explain your educational and career goals. What is your motivation for pursuing them?
- Share the ways you have been involved in Latinos In Action to help your school and community. How has being in Latinos In Action impacted you?

## JUDGING CRITERIA

- Please review the [LIA Scholarship Rubric](#) and ensure that your scholarship application includes all required elements.

# WRITING COMPETITION

## REQUIREMENTS

- Submit an original piece of writing: poem, essay, short story, etc.
- Your original writing should incorporate and/or portray the “Stronger Together” theme.
- Plagiarism (using someone else’s work without attribution) will result in disqualification and will be reported to your LIA teacher.
- Your writing submission can be written in English, Spanish, or a combination of both languages.
- Your writing submission can have a maximum of 500 words and poems can have a maximum of 50 lines. Please double space your essay and set the margins of your essay to 1” (one inch). Poems can be single spaced.

## WHAT TO WRITE

We recommend viewing the following samples of past winning entries:

- [SAMPLE 1: Winning Writing Submission \(Poem\)](#)
- [SAMPLE 2: Winning Writing Submission \(Story\)](#)
- [SAMPLE 3: Winning Writing Submission \(Essay\)](#)

## HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR WORK

- Your essay or poem should be uploaded in PDF format.
- Please save your submission with your first and last name as the name of the document (ex: Your-Name-Writing-Competition.pdf)
- Please make sure your first and last name appear at the top left corner of your document.
- We highly recommend having a teacher proofread your writing before submitting.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

- Please review the [Writing Competition Rubric](#) as a guide for your writing submission.

# VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION

## REQUIREMENTS

- Submit a photo or digital file of your original art piece that portrays the “Stronger Together” theme.
- Acceptable formats for your submission: jpg, png, pdf
- Submit a short paragraph describing the inspiration for your piece and how it portrays the “Stronger Together” theme.

## WHAT TO CREATE

Painting, Sculpture, Photography, Drawing, Textile, Welding, Woodworking, etc. – any visual arts medium that you would like to use!

We recommend viewing the following samples of past winning entries:

- [SAMPLE 1: Winning Visual Arts \(Compilation of Winners\)](#)
- [SAMPLE 2: Winning Visual Arts](#)
- [SAMPLE 3: Winning Visual Arts](#)

## HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY

- Take a high-resolution photo of your art piece in a well-lit area.
- If your artwork is in a digital format, submit a digital image (jpg, png, or pdf file).

## JUDGING CRITERIA

- Inclusion of the “Stronger Together” theme.
- Depth of insight or response invoked by the art piece.
- Creativity and originality based on the “Stronger Together” theme.
- Quality of the artwork and skill required for its creation.
- Overall presentation.