



**The Jewish Community Center
of Greater Columbus**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SECOND ANNUAL AES SHORT FILM COMPETITION NOW OPEN

The Columbus Jewish Film Festival in partnership with the Jewish Community Center of Greater Columbus, is proud to announce the second annual AES Short Film Competition, established in the memory of Andrew Ethan Stern.

Emerging filmmakers of all backgrounds are invited to submit a short film in any genre relating to Judaism, Jewish culture or history, the Jewish experience or other Jewish themes. This year, the competition is open nationwide to ages 18 – 40 with an entry fee of \$10 per film. Each applicant may submit up to two films. With a total prize package of up to \$2,500, the Grand Prize of \$1,500 will be awarded during the 2019 Columbus Jewish Film Festival. Select winning films will be shown as part of the 2019 Columbus Jewish Film Festival to be held November 3 – 17, 2019.

Films may be of any genre or format such as documentary, narrative, or animation with a length of at least four minutes and no more than twelve minutes including credits. If a film contains foreign language, English subtitles must be included. Films must be submitted through the film festival website by July 31, 2019 for consideration.

"We are excited to expand the Film Festival, creating an opportunity to recognize and showcase emerging and established filmmakers from all over the country," said Film Festival Coordinator Emily Schuss, "We hope to continue to highlight what short films can achieve pushing the boundaries of expectations and highlighting the Jewish experience in a new way."

The AES Film Award and total prize package is made possible with generous funding by The Andrew Ethan Stern Family Fund of the Columbus Jewish Foundation to recognize and inspire emerging filmmakers from all over the country as they explore the Jewish experience, culture and identity through film's many genres. The fund was established in memory of Andrew Ethan Stern, an adored son and cherished friend, who was kind, selfless and generous. With determination and thoughtfulness, he was outstanding in all of his endeavors, from school and sports to business. Andrew was a true team player, always watching out for his friends and loved ones. His life and legacy of benevolence and dedication to those around him will be remembered by the lives he touched and those who knew him.

Full applications and further information are available through cjfilmfest.org. Please send questions and inquiries to AES Short Film Competition Director Dawn Balopole at shortfilms@columbusjcc.org.

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The JCC of Greater Columbus, located at 1125 College Ave., Columbus, is a human service organization offering a varied program that is largely Jewish in nature. It is committed to enhancing the quality of family life and promoting the physical, intellectual and spiritual wellness of the individual. It provides health-related activities and cultural and educational programs that reflect the Jewish heritage.

Although primarily a membership JCC, the JCC of Greater Columbus also delivers services to the community at large, including populations at risk. Through its wide array of programs, the JCC pursues its mission of strengthening the individual, family and community. For general information, contact the front desk of the JCC at (614) 231-2731. The JCC is a beneficiary of The Columbus Jewish Federation, and a United Way Agency, affiliated with The JCC Association.