Nobel Peace Prize winner Jane Adams said, “True peace is not merely the absence of war, it is the presence of justice.” Though the qualities of justice are many—fairness, morality, equity, rights, privilege, truth, courage and power—justice implies action. Justice calls for a response to the inequities that are embedded in the fabric of our culture. History, social values and leadership construct justice. Failure to protest or courageously stand up for an ideal allows injustice to pervade sectors of our society.

During the 2013-2014 academic year, the Centennial Center for Leadership will explore a theme “Justice Matters: Intersections of Leadership.” We invite the community to investigate leadership as an inroad to justice. Join us as we unpack complex issues surrounding justice through critical inquiry, impactful dialogue, and artistic expression. This fall, the CCL will introduce a video competition, which will serve as a central forum for expression.

The video competition will have two categories:
1) REAL Talk – An oratory form of expression where creators are giving a dynamic talk.
2) REAL Short – A short film where creators are using visual images as a form of expression.

At the conclusion of the competition, the CCL will host a symposium on “Justice and Leadership” to examine issues and discuss solutions raised by the top videos in each category.

What is it?
REAL Talk is an open mic collective. In the same spirit of the popular TedTalk series, which galvanizes “ideas that are worth spreading,” the Justice theme will serve as a call for dynamic presentations that describe a justice topic and propose a viable solution. Speakers must use oratory expression to convey passion that inspires others to act.

REAL Short is an artistic collective of short films. As storytellers, filmmakers are equipped with the tools to captivate audiences and impart messages in artistic ways. This is an opportunity to explore “justice and leadership” through film and use this art form as a means to educate, inspire, provoke and lead.

Designed to collect multiple perspectives, the competition is an exercise in collaborative community learning. All video submissions should tackle a relevant issue, consider ethical implications, be authentic, provide solutions, and offer a clear correlation to leadership. Videos should be no longer than 5 minutes.

How does it work?
Each participant must submit an application along with a video file using FileTransfer. All videos must be in MP4 format. The CCL will screen videos and score them based on specific criteria (below). Top videos from each category will be entered into a second round where a selection committee will evaluate each video and narrow the field to finalists. Finalists’ videos will be posted online for the HWS community to
view and vote for the video that best articulates a REAL justice matter. All finalists will be invited to share their video at the CCL sponsored Justice & Leadership Symposium where a top video in each category will be unveiled. The top videos will be featured on the HWS website. Additionally, the creators will be invited to give an extended version of their talk at the 2014 Leadership Institute, January 18th-20th.

Who is eligible?
Any current HWS student, faculty, staff or alum can enter. Individuals or groups can enter however individuals may only participate in one video. All participants must also be prepared to provide an extended version of their talk if selected as the winner.

What should videos look like?
For REAL Talk videos, speakers should focus on evoking a meaningful response from an audience through oratory expression. Remember, this is modeled after the TedTalk series. Use of podiums is discouraged. Notecards are also discouraged. Speakers may use a few slides or visual displays but less is more. Finding your voice consists of simplicity, passion and courage. A few examples are:
http://www.ted.com/talks/malcolm_london_high_school_training_ground.html
http://www.ted.com/talks/bahia_shehab_a_thousand_times_no.html

For REAL short, videos should illustrate artistic expression but tackle the challenge of taking on an issue, offering a solution and displaying a connection to justice and leadership. There is no one way to create a short film. Be creative while remaining true to the theme and the criteria listed below. Short films can be impactful despite their brevity. A few examples are:
http://vimeo.com/60349898
http://www.mediathatmattersfest.org/watch/12/hiv_is_not_a_crime

The CCL’s seminar room is available by appointment for video filming.

What are the video criteria?
Videos should be no longer than 5 minutes. Quality picture and sound are a must. All video entries must include a completed application from each participant. Initial screeners will be looking for compelling topics, strong content, and a demonstration of knowledge on how leadership can serve justice.

Videos should propose a solution or an action that can be taken to alleviate some of the effects of the problem being examined. As perspectives are expected to vary, any entry with profane language, discriminating remarks or malicious intent to disparage another will be dismissed. Videos should be thoughtful and add value to a constructive discourse.

Participants are encouraged to follow the criteria outlined below:

1. Relevant: Videos should relate to the theme “Justice Matters: Intersections of Leadership.” Content should tackle meaningful topics. Successful videos will challenge long existing issues with a new, innovative lens or introduce a contemporary issue not often explored by the mainstream. Relevant topics will be defined as those having a significant impact on pursuits of
equality.

2. **Ethical:** Videos should illuminate individual and/or collective values. Successful videos will offer an ethical position and present evidence that supports their conclusions. Speakers should examine what is just and what isn’t from an ethical perspective. Ethics will be defined as a guiding system of principles, values and moral beliefs.

3. **Authentic:** Videos are a form of expression and presenters must demonstrate a commitment to honest stories and accurate information. Evidence is important but so too is intention. Therefore, thoughtful consideration of a potential solution’s impact must be conveyed. Most importantly, videos should express genuine passion and drive to address the chosen topic.

4. **Leaders:** Leaders propose solutions and act to resolve complex issues using responsible, sustainable and ethical practices. A mainstay of the CCL’s programming is the *Leading Self, Leading Others* and *Leadership in Action* process, which is characterized by an on-going practice of examining beliefs and values, embracing work within and across differences and aligning passion with thoughtful purpose. Videos should illustrate a clear connection to leadership.

**What is the timeline?**

- September 6th: Call for videos
- October 11th at 12noon: Video Submission Deadline
- October 22nd: Finalists Selection (Selection Committee)
- October 25th: Online Voting for Finalists (1 week voting)
- November 12th: Winner announced at symposium

**How do I enter?**

Go to the CCL website: [www.leadership.edu/academics](http://www.leadership.edu/academics) for details!

For questions or concerns contact Solomé Rose: srose@hws.edu or 315-781-4555.