

CONTEST RULES

By submitting a video, cartoon/cartoon strip or essay to the United States Embassy to the Republic of Italy (“U.S. Embassy Rome”) for consideration in this contest, the contestant consents to abide by these rules.

VIDEOS

- The video must be an original work, recorded and edited by the contestant.
- The video must not exceed two minutes.
- The video must be in English or with English subtitles. If the video is in English, Italian subtitles may be included but are not mandatory.
- The video must be uploaded to YouTube in any acceptable format.
- At the time the video is uploaded, the contestant must send an email to: LAmericaDecide@ambasciatausa.it.
 - The email must include:
 - The contestant’s name, date of birth, home address, phone number and the name and location of the high school or university (if any) he or she is currently attending, and
 - The title of the video and the username associated with it.
 - The email may include an explanation of the video (for example, what inspired it; what message was the contestant trying to convey, etc.). This explanation should not exceed 100 words in length.
- Once the video is uploaded to YouTube, it is considered a final submission and may not be modified, edited or replaced.
- A contestant may not submit more than one video.

CARTOONS/CARTOON STRIPS

- The cartoon or cartoon strip must be an original work, created and executed by the contestant.
- If the cartoon has a caption or incorporates text in Italian, the contestant must submit an English translation.
- The cartoon or cartoon strip must be sent as an attachment to an email addressed to: LAmericaDecide@ambasciatausa.it.
 - The email must include:
 - The contestant’s name, date of birth, home address, phone number and the name and location of the high school or university (if any) he or she is currently attending.
 - The email may include an explanation of the cartoon or cartoon strip (for example, what inspired it; what message was the contestant trying to convey; the backstory of any imagined character, etc.). This explanation should not exceed 100 words in length.
- Once a cartoon or cartoon strip is submitted, it is considered a final submission and may not be modified, edited or replaced.

- A contestant may not submit more than one cartoon or cartoon strip.

ESSAYS

- The essay must be an original work, written by the contestant.
- The essay must be in English.
- The essay must be between 500 and 1,000 words in length.
- The essay must be sent as an attachment to an email addressed to: LAmericaDecide@ambasciatausa.it.
 - The email must include:
 - The contestant's name, date of birth, home address, phone number and the name and location of the high school or university (if any) he or she is currently attending.
- A contestant may not submit more than one essay.

GENERAL RULES OF SUBMISSION

1. Entries will be judged based on their:
 - a. Creativity and originality,
 - b. Quality and
 - c. Effectiveness at promoting the chosen topic.
2. Entries CANNOT:
 - a. Contain any sexually explicit remarks/images or derogatory comments regarding a person's or groups' ethnicity, race, national origin, religion, gender or sexual preference;
 - b. Incorporate any copyrighted materials where the contestant neither owns the copyright nor has received permission from the copyright owner to use the materials, or
 - c. Promote specific products or services.
3. By submitting a video, cartoon/cartoon strip or essay, the contestant represents that:
 - a. The contestant created the work and all elements of the submission are original, are not copied from any other work, and do not infringe upon the rights of any third party;
 - b. The contestant owns all rights, titles and interests to the work, in whole and in part; and
 - c. To the extent the submission incorporates elements created by a third party, the contestant has received permission to use those materials from its owner and that U.S. Embassy Rome has the right to see the permission;
4. By submitting a video, cartoon/cartoon strip or essay, the contestant acknowledges that:
 - a. U.S. Embassy Rome has the right to reproduce, publish and otherwise make use of the video, cartoon/cartoon strip or essay without the contestant's prior consent;
 - b. U.S. Embassy Rome has no obligation to publish all entries;
 - c. U.S. Embassy Rome is not responsible for any unauthorized third-party use of any submission;

- d. U.S. Embassy Rome has the right to request proof that the submission is an original work created by the contestant;
- e. U.S. Embassy Rome reserves the right to disqualify any submission for any reason, in its sole discretion and is under no obligation to disclose why the submission was disqualified; and
- f. U.S. Embassy Rome reserves the right to not award any prize if, in its sole discretion, it determines an insufficient number of eligible and qualified entries were received in any or all categories.