



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**NEW (S)3 STUDENTSUPERSHORTS.COM FILM CONTEST FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
TO ANNOUNCE AWARDS AT SAVANNAH FILM FESTIVAL ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27 AT 9 A.M.**

SAVANNAH, Georgia (October 24, 2016) – The all-new (S)3 StudentSuperShorts.com film contest open to all Savannah-area middle and high school students announced today that winning submissions will be awarded on Thursday, October 27 at the Trustees Theater during the Savannah Film Festival.

The theme of this year's new film contest is American Poet Walt Whitman's epic "Song of the Open Road." Students are asked to read the poem and submit shorts under two minutes that best capture their interpretation of the poem. They submit their shorts by Monday, October 24 to (S)3 StudentSuperShorts.com, a new Savannah-based initiative working to teach and connect young people with Savannah's film industry.

"We want to grow effective, confident 21st century storytellers who become the next generation of leading filmmakers, documentary producers, journalists and digital citizens," StudentSuperShorts.com Creator and Founder K.G. Elliott said. "Children are grasping to communicate with words and images through evolving technologies and social media accounts – sometimes with troubling results. Our new platform will harness this energy and enthusiasm for technology and help teach the importance, self-discipline and reward of thinking through and planning creative ideas."

The top three shorts selected in the middle school and high school categories will be shown before the free educational screening of *The Eagle Huntress*. The top winner in each category will be awarded \$500 from Volvo Cars Savannah, the longtime official vehicle sponsor of the Savannah Film Festival and new partner of the (S)3 StudentSuperShorts.com initiative.

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(S)3 StudentSuperShorts.com promoted the contest through the local public school systems, as well as with independent and religious-based schools. The Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools System was instrumental in reaching students in film programs at Savannah Arts Academy, the STEM Academy at Bartlett and Windsor Forest High School. Each of these schools has students participating in the contest.

“We were overwhelmed by the support from the public schools system and are excited to connect schools and businesses with the creative storytelling community since we all share entrepreneurial, artistic and community goals,” Elliott said. “We’ve tapped into an untouched marketplace of creative energy and know that if we all work together we can make exciting things happen for our young people and the world writ large by starting something big here in Savannah.”

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Editors Note: Media are invited and encouraged to cover Thursday’s award ceremony at the Trustees Theater, which will begin promptly at 9 a.m.