

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can apply?

The competition is open to residents of the UK, UAE, Qatar, Egypt and Malaysia, who must be aged 18-24 by December 2011. We are looking for the next generation of young creative leaders keen to develop intercultural dialogue across the world.

How do I apply?

The competition will run from May – August 2011.

You can apply using the website www.arabiaoffscreen.com. Go to the 'Apply now' page and complete all the sections of the form. Remember you will also need to upload:

- An artwork (for example a painting, drawing or collage)
- A film (for example a video diary, documentary or animation)
- A photograph or series of photographs

All submitted entries become the 'intellectual property' of Offscreen.

How will the competition be judged?

1. **Initial Shortlist:** A shortlist of 50 applicants will be made by Offscreen from the total submitted applications (for each country)

2. **Interview Shortlist:** Judges will choose 10-20 candidates of these 50 and invite them for interview

3. **Interviews:** Interviews will then take place in August 2011. Interviewees will be asked to present their entry within a 5-10 minute presentation followed by questions. Successful candidates will be informed by the end of August.

I don't have a passport; can I still apply?

You will need a passport valid for at least 6 months from 1st September 2011. If you do not have a passport by the shortlisting stage in August 2011, your expedition place will be given to someone else.

How much does it cost?

The expedition is fully funded, so you do not need to pay anything. You will however be responsible for your own travel to interview (held in the UK, UAE,

Qatar, Egypt and Malaysia) if you are selected, and for your travel to and from the airport before and after the expedition. During the expedition all travel, activities, accommodation as well as food and drink will be provided. You may want to bring some pocket money to pay for souvenirs and presents for friends and family, etc.

How much English do I need to speak?

You will need to be a fluent English speaker.

What kind of artwork will I be able to do on the expedition?

We will support your talent as a creative individual. So whether you are a painter, animator, or photographer you will have the help you need to develop and create!

What would I need to bring with me?

You do not need any specialist equipment for the expedition, but you will probably need some wet weather clothing (even though the expedition is in Saudi!) and appropriate clothing for the country. If you are successful, you will be sent a full list of what to bring with you.

Who else will be on the expedition?

The expedition team will be formed of ten young people – two from each of the following countries: UK, UAE, Qatar, Egypt and Malaysia. You will be joined by an expedition leader, artist, filmmaker and support team from Offscreen Expeditions. On the expedition you will be working with a lot of different people from artists to politicians and journalists to community leaders as well as people your own age.

When is the expedition and how long is it?

The expedition is two weeks long and runs from 1st – 17th December 2011.

Who will lead the expedition?

The expedition will be lead by a team from Offscreen Expeditions. They have experience of working with young people on expeditions around the world as well of working in schools. The team leader is a qualified first aider.

My parents are worried about me travelling alone.

It's natural for parents to worry about their son or daughter going on an expedition for the first time.

For starters, you won't be travelling alone, but as part of a well organised group. Before you travel, there will be an opportunity for your parents to talk to someone from Offscreen and our partners for a briefing meeting to find out about all the different aspects of the expedition. You will also be able to contact your family regularly and they can follow your journey on the expedition website.

There will be female chaperones as part of the Offscreen team throughout the duration of the trip.

I am Muslim. Will I have the opportunity to visit Makkah?

Yes, there will be a day spent in Makkah exploring the theme of pilgrimage.

I am non-Muslim. Will I be able to visit Makkah?

Makkah is not open to non-Muslims, but there will be activities outside of Makkah relating to pilgrimage for the non-Muslims of the group to participate.

What is the accommodation like?

The accommodation throughout the trip is single sex. For your reassurance and safety, there will be a male and female member of staff on duty at all times. There will also be an opportunity to go camping in the desert where again, sleeping arrangements will be segregated.

What happens after the expedition?

The Offscreen experience doesn't stop at the end of expedition. We want to want to develop a network of young creative leaders who keep in touch about their current and future plans. During the expedition, you will be supported to develop pledges for what you will do with your experience when you return home. We want you to help other young talented people to make a positive impact in your community.

I am having trouble submitting my application

If you are having trouble submitting your online application please email info@offscreened.com to make alternative arrangements.