

The International Ocean Film Festival Student Film Competition Information Sheet

Deadline for submissions: February 12,2024
www.intloceanfilmfest.org

The IOFF Student Film Competition is designed to give young students an opportunity to tell their story about the ocean while discovering and enhancing their skills as filmmakers. Judged by an elite jury of professional filmmakers and ocean conservationists, the top three winners for each category of middle school and high school will receive a cash prize, and have their films screened virtually at the **2^{1st} Annual International Ocean Film Festival**.

Students will make a "big splash", and have their voices heard through filmmaking! Creativity and ingenuity is highly encouraged. Winning films will be chosen on the basis of creativity and the ability to tell a story that leaves the audience better informed and/or moved about the ocean.

Competition Rules

1) Subject Material

All subject matter must be related to the ocean, touching upon one or all of the following categories:

- Ocean environments
- Ocean science
- Ocean cultures
- Ocean sports
- Ocean wildlife
- Ocean conservation issues (i.e. climate change, pollution, overfishing, marine debris)
- National Marine Sanctuaries

2) Criteria

Films will be scored based on the seven criteria (listed below) and listed in more detail in the **2023 Student Film Competition Rubric**, which is divided into two main components, **Content** and **Technical Aspects**. The films with the highest scores will be screened at the festival, based on the total number of qualifying submissions.

Content

- Storytelling
- Artistic/Visual Appeal
- Originality
- Creativity

Technical Aspects

- Editing

- Audio/Sound Editing
- Film Focus & Lighting

3) Eligibility Requirements

- The film must show some relationship to the ocean
- Total running time of each film submission must be five minutes or less, including credits.
- All audio/film/graphic content must be original, copyright free or have written permission, and be properly documented
- All of the production must be done by a student or group of students (capture, edit, produce)
- The competition is open only to currently enrolled middle school and high school students around the world.
- Films must be made entirely by a student or a group of students.
- Films may be submitted online via the Dropbox link on the SFC Registration Page. Films may be submitted via mail or overnight delivery on a DVD (2 copies) or one flash drive and mailed to our offices listed below.
- Non-English films must have subtitles
- Project must be completed between January 2021 and January 2024
- If music is used, it must be from a public domain or royalty-free. Copyrighted music is strictly prohibited.
- If video, images or other content are used from another person, evidence of permission for use must be provided and acknowledged in the film credits. This is strictly enforced.
- Teachers who use the competition as a class project must prequalify the top three films to be submitted. The students must complete the actual online submission process.
- Adult participation (teachers, parents, etc.) should be limited to coaching or acting in the film.

4) Submission Deadlines and Dates

- The Student Film Competition is free to participate; there is no submission fee to submit a film.
- Final date for submission is midnight, **February 12, 2024**, with no exceptions
- Please complete one entry form per film submission. Only one entry form is needed for a film being submitted by a group of students. Once your film is received, along with the entry form, it officially enters the competition.
- Submission process
 - Online Submissions
 - Visit the SFC website page at www.intloceanfilmfest.org/student-film-competition and complete the online registration form
 - Submit a link to your film to the Dropbox link.



**1007 General Kennedy Avenue, Suite 205
San Francisco, CA 94129**

- **Notification Date:**
 - All submission contacts will be notified of their Acceptance or Rejection status for the SFC, via email on or before **March 11, 2024**.
- The IOFF reserves the right to disqualify any film that does not meet the above eligibility requirements.

2024 International Ocean Film Festival

The 20th Annual IOFF will take place on **April 13-14, 2024** at Cowell Theater in San Francisco, CA. The main film festival features independent ocean inspired films representing countries from around the world, post-screening Q&A sessions with industry experts and programs specifically designed to inspire youth around the world to learn more about the ocean.

The Student Film Competition has its own dedicated program featuring the top finalists of the competition

Please visit our website for updates, special announcements and any news;

<http://www.intloceanfilmfest.org/student-film-competition>

We look forward to seeing your film!