

WILD WEST YOUTH FILM & PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Frequently Asked Questions



Eligibility

“I live outside of B&NES, Bristol and South Gloucestershire, can I still enter?”

- Only if you attend a school or community organisation that is based within these regions.

“What age do I need to be to enter the competition?”

- Between the ages of 13 and 18 at the time of competition close (midnight 31st August 2024)

“Who can enter?”

- Any young person 13 – 18. Experience level doesn’t matter – give it a go!

“Can I enter my film that was made outside the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and features a non UK species/environment?”

- No. We’d like all entries to have been filmed or photographed in the local area.

“Does it matter when a film was made?”

- Yes. In order to be eligible for the Wild West Youth Film and Photography Competition, filming must have taken place between 1st September 2023 and 31st August 2024.

“Am I able to use archive footage as part of my film?”

- No. In order to be eligible for the Wild West Youth Film and Photography Competition, filming must have started no earlier than 1st September 2023. Anything older than this date is considered archive footage and cannot be used or entered into the competition.

“Does it matter when a photograph was taken?”

- Yes, in order to be eligible for the Wild West Youth Film and Photography Competition, your images must have been taken and processed since 1st September 2023.



“If I’ve submitted my film or photography to another competition, can I also enter the Wild West Youth Film and Photography Competition?”

- Yes, we do not request exclusivity, however if the terms of another competition requires exclusivity or limits your rights to give Wildscreen ARK licence to display your entry, we cannot shortlist your entry.

“Do I need to obtain model release forms if my film or images include people under the age of 18?”

- No, because we ask that no humans are included in images or film submitted to the Wild West Youth Film and Photography Competition, negating the need for model release forms.

“What guidance is there for animal welfare?”

- No wildlife or habitats should be harmed or unduly disturbed in the process of filming or taking photographs.
- The entries must not:
 - portray subjects that have been captured using live bait
 - portray subjects that are captive, models, restrained, domesticated, or being exploited for profit, except if done so for the purposes of reporting on the exploitation of animal(s) by a third party, a welfare issue or the impacts of domesticated animals on wildlife.

Submission process

“Do I have to pay to enter?”

- No. Entry is free.

“What is the entry deadline?”

- 23:59 31st August 2024.



“What are the award categories?”

- There are four award categories, split by age group and entry type:
 - 13 – 15 Photograph
 - 13 – 15 Short film
 - 16 – 18 Photograph
 - 16 – 18 Short film



“How do I enter my film?”

- You should upload your film to your personal YouTube or Vimeo account and the relevant URL address must be submitted through the competition submission form found at <https://wildscreen.org/ark>. **You will be asked to provide your contact details, a short description to give context to your entry,**

“Can I submit my film in more than one competition award category?”

- You can submit a photo and a film, but can only submit to your own age category.

“How do I enter my photos?”

- You should upload your images through the competition submission form. You will be asked to provide your contact details, a short description to give context to your entry.

“How do I name my photos?”

- Please rename your files with the image or film title as follows: “01_ImageTitle.jpeg”. Please DO NOT put your name in the filename.

“What file types are acceptable?”

- In the interest of reducing data storage, please submit a high resolution jpeg of the photo taken.

“Can I use music for my short film?”

- We encourage the use of original audio and music to aid storytelling, however we cannot accept entries that feature music or audio that the entrant does not hold the rights to. A good rule of thumb is if Youtube or Vimeo would take it down, we will not accept it. See the competition resources for tips on finding rights-free music.

“What forms of digital adjustments are NOT acceptable?”

- Adding or removing objects (eg animals, animal parts, plants or people) is not permitted.

“What forms of digital adjustments are acceptable?”

- Digital adjustments including tone and contrast, burning, dodging, cropping, sharpening, noise reduction, minor cleaning work, HDR, stitched panoramas, focus stacking, using multiple exposures taken at the same location at the same time, are permitted – pretty much any kind of adjustment that a smartphone can do is fine, as long as it does not misrepresent nature.



Judging

“What is the judging process?”

- There will be two rounds of judging:
 - **Round One:** All submissions received by the entry deadline will be reviewed by members of the Wildscreen ARK Team using the judging criteria. The best short films and images in each category will be shortlisted for the category award and put forward for consideration by the Judging Panel.
 - **Round Two:** All nominated films and images will be reviewed by the Judging Panel which selects the winner of each award category.
 - **Round Three:** The highest score of all submissions shortlisted will be the overall winner of the Wild West Youth Film and Photography Competition.

“When will I find out if my submission has been shortlisted?”

- 1st October 2024.

“Can I get feedback on my submission(s)?”

- Due to the large number of submissions, we are not able to offer individual feedback.

“Who do I contact if I still have a question?”

- Please contact us at ark@wildscreen.org.uk - we're happy to help!

“What are the benefits of entering the competition?”

- There are many benefits to entering the Wild West Youth Film and Photography Competition, including:
 - The winner of each age category for photo and film will receive a big prize - See Terms.
 - The runner-up of each age category for photo and film will receive a runner-up prize.
 - The opportunity to have your work seen by industry and environmental professionals – shortlisted entries will be displayed publicly at Wildscreen Festival 2024.
 - The opportunity to have your work seen publicly - shortlisted films and images will be featured on Wildscreen ARK, a worldwide nature education hub for young people.

