



Capturing the Future: A Smartphone Mini-Documentary Competition

A partnership between the American University School of Communication and the American Association for the Advancement of Science

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 10 January 2020 11:59 pm PT

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

AAAS is sponsoring a Smartphone Video Competition in partnership with the American University School of Communication. This competition was created to inspire students to consider new ways of creating scientific media and engaging with non-specialist audiences.

Eligibility

The competition is open to individuals aged 18 years or older at the time of the entry submission deadline who, at the time of entry, are enrolled full- or part-time in community college, liberal arts college and/or university. While individuals from any country are eligible to enter the competition, entrants must be able to travel to the United States to receive the prize, and the prize is non-transferable. This contest is void where prohibited.

Submission

An eligible submission will include the following:

1. A completed on-line entry form
2. a film two minutes or less created on a mobile phone covering one or more of the following subjects:
 - our organization's mission of advancing "science, engineering, and innovation throughout the world for the benefit of all people";
 - our [disciplinary sections](#), which include natural and social sciences, as well as medicine and engineering; or
 - our [Annual Meeting theme](#)

Submissions created as part of other grants, as part of research projects, as class assignments or other activities are eligible, but all films must be the original, unpublished work of the individual making the submission. An individual may submit only one entry for the contest.

Each prize will be awarded to the individual submitting the film, not to a group or organization, though the activity or product can be a collaborative effort with others.

Entries must be submitted on the competition website. In the event that an entrant needs additional assistance, please send a message to meetings@aaas.org with the subject line "Smartphone Documentary Competition." Late submissions will not be accepted.

The film may be posted online at AAAS' discretion.

The AAAS reserves the right to exclude any entry deemed inappropriate for the competition due to content or subject matter, at its sole discretion.

Judging

Entries will be judged on the submitted films. Entries will be evaluated and winners chosen by a panel of two AAAS representatives and two representatives from the American University School of Communication.

Films will be evaluated for:

1. Scientific integrity;
2. Originality;
3. Cohesion of narrative; and
4. The way in which the film furthers the AAAS mission to “advance science, engineering, and innovation throughout the world for the benefit of all people.”

The decisions of the judges are final.

Prizes

Up to 5 finalists and one overall winner will be chosen and announced publicly on the competition website and via direct email notification to winners. Each finalist entrant will receive a free registration to the 2020 AAAS Annual Meeting and an opportunity to conduct a livestreamed interview of a Topical Lecturer at the Annual Meeting. The overall winner will receive free registration, the opportunity to interview a Topical Lecturer at the Annual Meeting, and two nights at one of the conference hotels during the Annual Meeting period; with the hotel to be chosen by AAAS. The winning films may be published online by the AAAS and/or the American University School of Communication at their sole discretion. Prizes are subject to change and availability and awarded at AAAS' sole discretion.

How to Enter

Submit your entry form and film via the competition submission portal. Films must be privately uploaded online; the system will only accept a URL for where the film is located on-line. In the event that an individual needs additional assistance with their submission, please email meetings@aaas.org with the subject line “Smartphone Documentary contest.”

General Prize Conditions

Employees of AAAS and American University School of Communications, its affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising or promotional agencies, suppliers, vendors and/or service providers, and their immediate family members or persons living in the same household are not eligible. The potential Winner will be required to execute an Affidavit of Eligibility, Release of Liability and Prize Acceptance Form (collectively, the “Prize Claim Documents”). If the Winner fails or refuses to sign and return the Prize Claim Documents within three (3) days of prize notification, the Winner may be disqualified. Prizes are not transferable and not assignable. Sponsor reserves the right to substitute prize(s) of comparable or greater value in the event a prize or any portion thereof becomes unavailable for any reason. The Winner shall be solely responsible for all taxes and fees or costs associated with the prize, including but not limited to any federal or state or other income tax.

Rights

Entrants retain ownership of materials submitted to the Competition. However, by submitting a proposal to the Competition, students hereby grant to AAAS and its affiliates, subsidiaries, licensees and assigns, an irrevocable, perpetual and royalty-free right to use, reproduce, edit, display, transmit, prepare derivative works of, modify, publish and otherwise make use of the submitted film as-submitted in any and all media, whether now known or hereinafter created, throughout the world and for any purpose, and to provide film to the American University School of Communication for its use, including public display of the film. Where practicable, the film will be attributed to the creator(s).

In addition, by submitting any film or other content to the Competition, participants hereby represent and warrant that the submitted materials do not and shall not infringe on any copyright or other right of any third party, and that participant has the right to grant any and all rights and licenses granted to AAAS herein, including but not limited to all necessary rights under copyright, free and clear of any claims or encumbrances.

Release

Acceptance of a prize constitutes the Winner's permission for AAAS and the American University School of Communications to use prize winner's name and likeness for advertising and/or promotional purposes worldwide and in all forms of media in perpetuity without further compensation or authorization. Participants agree that AAAS, the American University School of Communications, their affiliates, and their officers, employees, agents and representatives (collectively, the "Sponsoring Entities"), shall not be responsible for any losses, damages or injuries of any kind resulting from participation in the Competition or from Participants' acceptance, receipt, possession and/or use or misuse of any prize. Participants also agree that the Sponsoring Entities have not made and shall not in any manner be liable for any warranty, guarantee, or representation, whether express or implied, with respect to any prize, including without limitation, the prize's quality or fitness for a particular purpose. AAAS reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any individual who is found to be tampering with the entry process or the operation of the Competition, to be acting in violation of these Official Rules, or who otherwise takes actions that do or are intended to disrupt or undermine the legitimate operation of the Competition. AAAS also reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any entry containing any obscene, offensive or otherwise inappropriate comments or other matter. Further, AAAS assumes no liability, and shall not be liable, for typographical or other errors in the offer or administration of the Competition including, without limitation, errors in the printing or display of the offer and official rules, selection, notification and announcement of winners.

Governing Law

All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Official Rules shall be governed and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of New York without regard to the choice of law provisions thereof.

Names of Winners

For the name of winners, refer to the Smartphone competition website or send, within six months from the end of the Entry Period, a written request and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: AAAS Annual Meeting Film Competition, 1200 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005. Washington and Vermont residents may omit return postage.

More information about the competition is available at: <https://meetings.aaas.org/program/mini-doc/>

Questions should be directed to meetings@aaas.org.