



Planet911 Youth Film Challenge (YFC) Spring 2021

EarthX, a Texas non-profit corporation doing business as EarthxFilm, in partnership with Creative Visions and the Planet911 Coalition, hereby collectively known as Planet911 YFC Team, launches its' Spring 2021 Planet911 Youth Film Challenge.

The goal of this competition is to provide the tools and platform for the next generation of environmental activists to draw upon their passions and use their creativity to turn awareness into action and thus make a positive impact on our world. We believe your generation will motivate and inspire others of all generations through the power of film. EarthX, EarthxFilm, Creative Visions and Planet911 offer this challenge for youth ages 13-22 to tell their stories, share their ideas and allow creativity to shine through films that explore these specified environmental themes. The theme for this challenge is Planet Stewardship.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Challenge opens for submissions January 11, 2021

Early Bird Deadline - February 15, 2021

Deadline for Entry - March 16, 2021

Peoples' Choice Awards voting starts Approximately 1 week after submissions close and will remain open for a period of time TBA

Films must be :50 seconds or less in length and address the designated challenge topic listed below. Films longer than :50 seconds will not be accepted; however, films that are too long to qualify - over :50 seconds - are welcome to submit to the student shorts category of EarthxFilm.

To enter the Planet911 Youth Film Challenge go to:
<https://filmfreeway.com/Planet911YouthFilmChallenge>

For details or to enter the EarthxFilm Festival go to <https://filmfreeway.com/EarthxFilmFestival>.

If your film is too long and is under 3 minutes, you may email earthling@earthx.org and request a fee waiver code to enter the student shorts competition for the 2021 EarthxFilm Festival.



TOPIC
Planet911 Youth Film Topics

Spring 2021

Planet Stewardship

Tell us what we should be doing to take better care of the earth related to the Climate Crisis by creating a :50 second film to answer one of the following questions -

1. How can we protect our natural resources and the rights of the world's citizens to live equitably?
 2. How do we build a more environmentally just world? Identify what needs fixing and show us how you or someone you know is making or can make a positive impact. Then reveal how others can follow your lead.
- An example is Paper for Water - <https://www.paperforwater.org>
Started by Isabelle and Katherine Kei Adams when they were 7 and 9 years old. Today at 14 and 16 they have created over 200 water projects in over 20 countries.
 - Feel free to highlight an organization leading by example to protect our planet. The organization you focus on could win an Impact Grant.

Planet911 Youth Film Challenge
Spring 2021
Prizes and Awards

Total Prizes Valued at up to \$8000

Grand Prize

\$1000 Cash Prize to use toward furthering your education.

Category Winner Age 13-16: TBD

\$500 Cash to use toward furthering your education.

Category Winner Age 17-22:TBD

\$500 Cash to use toward furthering your education.

Impact Award

\$1000 Cash to use toward furthering your education given to the filmmaker whose film is determined to have the most impact through storytelling.



Impact Grant

Up to \$1500 - At the discretion of the Planet911 team, one or more additional awards will be given to organizations or a school to foster work in progress. Award must be used to support work underway on a project highlighted through a submitted film. The Award will be given to a school or organization working to foster positive Planet Stewardship, improving conditions caused as a result of the Climate Crisis. The cash amount will be determined based on expected impact of the project and other factors.

Honorable Mention

The Planet911 team may decide that one or more films deserve to be recognized with an honorable mention. In that case, a cash award will be determined and valued at no less than \$50 and no more than \$250 to accompany this award.

People's Choice Award (formerly Social Media Award)

\$500 to the film with most social votes - youth are encouraged to get creative and promote voting for their film through social media by linking to your film on the Planet911 Gallery, tag EarthX and Planet911 and asking your followers to vote. (Films must have a minimum of 100 votes to be eligible).

Group Cash Awards

Most Motivated School Award

\$1000 to use towards environmental education, or towards an environmental justice or environmental improvement project for the school with the most entries (5 entry minimum).

Most Motivated Organization Award

\$1000 to use towards environmental education, or towards an environmental justice or environmental improvement project by the youth organization with the most entries (5 entry minimum).

Early Bird Prize

\$250 Value. If 5 or more films have been submitted by the early deadline of February 15, all films submitted by midnight (CST) on February 15, 2021 will go into a drawing for a prize TBD. The prize will be selected by the Planet911 team. At minimum the prize will include film related equipment with a cash value of up to \$250 or cash equivalent.

Note: Each filmmaker is eligible for only one individual cash prize. Filmmakers may enter more than one film. Multiple films by a single filmmaker may be selected to be a part of the 25+ finalist films and screened at an awards ceremony either virtually or in a theatre TBA. If one film or one filmmaker wins two cash prizes, the filmmaker will receive the prize at the highest cash value. (As an example, if the same filmmaker wins the People's Choice Award (valued at \$500) and the Grand Prize (valued at \$1000) the filmmaker would receive the highest cash prize



(valued at \$1000). The purpose for this is to allow more youth to be eligible to receive prizes and be recognized for their accomplishments.

Planet911/EarthxYouth Fellowship - Delayed until Summer 2021

Filmmakers who entered the Fall 2020 Planet911 Youth Film and Filmmakers who enter the Planet911 Spring 2021 Youth Film Challenge may be offered the opportunity to participate in the first **Planet911/EarthxYouth Fellowship Program**. Filmmakers receiving invitations will be selected by the Planet911 team with input from participating judges. A short essay will be required for consideration. Applications may open concurrent to this film challenge.

In partnership with **Creative Visions** and under the Planet911 brand, youth winners will be invited to an educational seminar series. This series will be virtual. Anticipated dates TBD between mid May and the end of August. Students will be invited to create a TED-Ed style presentation or a short film about a given environmental topic and share it for the first time at Half Earth Day - October 22, 2021 and/or Earth Day April 22, 2022, either in person or in a virtual setting TBD. Or students may choose to participate as a moderator, guest or town hall participant on Planet911 Youth Reports.

Experts and educators will work with students and share information and give assignments to include storytelling, scripting, speech writing, interview skills, film tips, speaking tips and more. Speakers will be chosen from among EarthX and Creative Visions staff, EarthxFilm Advisory council, community partners, filmmakers and friends of EarthX. Youth will choose an environmental topic related to the initial assignment and work toward their TED-Ed style presentation. Students will be able to engage in dialogue with experts and each student will have one mentor assigned for the duration of the program or will be given a variety of mentors depending on area of focus and availability of mentors.

All finalists between the ages of 14 and 22 in either the Fall 2020 Planet911 Youth Film Challenge or the Spring 2021 Youth Film Challenge will have the opportunity to apply for this inaugural **Planet911/EarthxYouth Fellowship**. Additional applicants may come from Planet911 Youth Reports participants, Rock Your World participants and other youth partner programs. Up to 10 Fellows will be chosen. Selection will be made from the top 25 + film finalists and any additional youth specifically recommended by the Planet911 team. In Spring 2021, after being selected as a film finalist, filmmakers who meet the age requirements will receive a congratulatory email inviting them to apply for the fellowship including requirements and commitments if accepted. Applications will be sent out at that time and will include an essay question.

ABOUT THE COMPETITION



The competition is open to documentary, narrative, animated films and other genres. The objectives of this challenge is to:

Encourage the next generation to be environmentally conscious

Challenge young adults to think outside of the box to raise awareness

Promote discussion involving environmental crises

Inspire young leaders to express themselves and explore their creativity using film and social media

Drive young adults to take action, get involved in their communities, vote if eligible and make an impact for a positive future for our planet

OFFICIAL RULES AND SUBMISSION DETAILS

1. Conditions of Entry

EarthX, a Texas non-profit corporation doing business as **EarthxFilm**, in partnership with **EarthX, Creative Visions**, and the Planet911 Coalition, hereby collectively known as **Planet911 YFC Team**, launches its Spring 2021 Planet911 Youth Film Challenge.

By submitting an Entry into this Challenge, each Entrant warrants and represents that the Entrant owns all rights to the Entry he/she is entering in this Challenge, including, without limitation, the video or digital recording, and the performance contained in each Submission, with the exception of any assets provided by the **Planet911 YFC Team** for use by Entrants in connection with this competition. Each Entrant further warrants and represents that the Entrant has obtained permission from each person who appears in the Entry to grant the rights to **EarthxFilm** and the **Planet911 Coalition** described in these Official Rules and, upon request, will submit copies of such permissions to the **Planet911 YFC** team or to **EarthxFilm**. By submitting an Entry, Entrant agrees to the Official Rules, and further agrees to indemnify and hold **the Planet911 YFC Team** and their respective affiliates, officers, directors, agents, co-branders, sponsors, or other partners, and any of their employees (collectively, **Planet911 YFC Team Indemnities**), harmless from any and all claims, damages, expenses, costs (including reasonable attorneys' fees) and liabilities (including settlements), brought or asserted by any third party against any of **Planet911 YFC Team Indemnities** due to or arising out of the Entrant's Entry materials in this Project, or the Entrant's conduct during and in connection with this Project, including but not limited to trademark, copyright, or other intellectual property rights, right of publicity, right of privacy or defamation. Entrant agrees to release, indemnify and hold harmless all parties related to the **Planet911 YFC Team** and named above or unnamed from all claims that any advertising, presentation, web content or any other material subsequently



produced, presented, and/or prepared by or on behalf of the **Planet911 YFC Team** infringes on the rights of Entrant's work as contained in any Entry.

2. Eligibility Requirements:

Anyone within the age requirements may enter. The following are not eligible for juried cash prizes: employees, contractors, directors and officers of **EarthX**, **EarthxFilm**, or **Creative Visions**, their affiliated companies, distributors, web design, advertising, fulfillment, judging and Project agencies involved in the administration, development, fulfillment and execution of this Film challenge. This includes the immediate family members of each (spouse, parent/guardian, child, sibling, grandparent, and spouse or "step" of each) and those living in their same households (those persons whether related or not who live in the same residence for at least three months during the twelve-month period preceding the start date of the **Planet911 Youth Film Challenge**). Outside of the United States, residency requirements may vary. Void where prohibited.

3. To Enter

Films must be submitted via FilmFreeway at <https://filmfreeway.com/Planet911YouthFilmChallenge>.

4. Official Filmmaking Period

* **Open Call for Films: Monday, January 11, 2021 at 12:01 PM CST**

* **Final Deadline for Submissions: March 16, 2021 at 11:59 AM CDT**

* **Deadline to be eligible for Early Bird prizes: Monday, February 15, 2021 at 11:59 PM CST**

5. Filmmaker Agreement

Entrants will be required to agree to the Official Rules. If under the legal age of majority in your state of residence, your parent or legal guardian must agree on your behalf.

By submitting, the Entrant agrees to these Official Rules, which sets forth the rights of Entrant and **EarthX**, **EarthxFilm**, **Creative Visions** and the entire **Planet911 YFC Team** with respect to the use of Entries by the **Planet911 YFC Team**. Entries that do not include all required information and adhere to the foregoing and following requirements will be considered void and will not be considered for prizes in this Project or for inclusion on the **EarthX** website, social media or YouTube page, or the **Planet911** website or social media channels.

6. Production Costs

All costs associated with the production of the Entry are solely the responsibility of the Entrant.

7. Basic Requirements of the Spring 2021 Planet911 Youth Film Challenge



Films may be of any genre but need to be based on the provided topic.

All content submitted must be original or fall under Fair Use guidelines. This includes but is not limited to video footage, photo stills, animation, music, dialogue, and other creative means.

If using stock footage it must be free to use or purchased and submitted without watermarks.

Entries must adhere to the rules and guidelines of this competition including:

- Follow prescribed topics
- Be of reasonable video and audio quality
- Be :50 seconds or less
- Films must be uploaded per instructions on FilmFreeway.
- Uploaded films should meet the following requirements:
 - MP4 or .MOV formats accepted
 - 16.9 (horizontal) framing preferred
 - 1080p or minimum 720p quality
- Single submitter - 1 person must be the official entrant to represent any project made by a group, which avoids duplicates of the same film.
- Must be produced and submitted by youth ages 13-22 years old
- FilmFreeway Entry form must be filled out completely
- All films must have a Title listed on the Application and preferably in a graphic at the beginning of the submitted video. Title should be at least three words, be original or descriptive to distinguish your film from other submissions. **The title should not include the words "EarthX" or "Planet911".**

8. Designated Filmmaker

If any group of individuals elects to collaborate on an Entry, they are required to designate one (1) person as the agent or Project Producer/Submitter of the group to enter their film. They must agree to these Official Rules and to the designated Project Producer, and the Project Producer must agree to accept the prize on behalf of the group. The **Planet911 YFC Team** is not liable for any disputes between collaborators arising out of or related to any film entry.

In the individual age categories, for those participating in a group, the student whose name appears as the primary contact on the Entry Form will be considered "The Producer" and will be known as the "Submitter" and the primary point of contact for the film project.

9. Selection of Winners

Grand Prize and Category winners will be selected by a panel of judges – drawn from filmmakers, educators and experts in the respective film topic. In the event of a tie the Planet911 YFC Team, in consultation with the judges will come to a final decision. Additional



prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Planet911 YFC Team. The Planet911 YFC Team also has the discretion to not award any specific prize. The decisions of the judges will be final. Cash prizes and equipment are among the awards to be presented to the winners.

In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken at the discretion of the **Planet911 YFC Team**. Entrants agree that the **Planet911 YFC Team** has the sole right to decide all matters and disputes that may arise and all decisions of the **Planet911 YFC Team** are at its sole discretion and final.

Entries will be judged by a process in which qualified panels of judges will evaluate the eligible entries based on the following judging criteria:

- **Adherence to Topic**
- **Artistic Merit (e.g., Story, Creativity, Entertainment Value)**
- **Technical Merit**
- **Impact**

Prize recipients who win cash prizes will be asked to provide a W-9 and will be responsible for any taxes associated with the prizes. If an entrant who wins a cash prize does not provide a W-9, they will still be recognized as a winner but will not receive their prize money. The **Planet911 YFC Team** reserves the right not to award all prizes in all categories; and Planet911, EarthX and any partner of the **Planet911 YFC Team** reserves the right not to screen, stream, televise or share a winning video.

10. General Conditions

By participating, the Entrant agrees to these Official Rules. These Official Rules will be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of Texas without regard to its conflict of laws rules.

11. Limitations of Liability and Release

No liability or responsibility is assumed by the **Planet911 YFC Team** resulting from any user's participation in or attempt to participate in the Spring 2021 YFC Planet911 Challenge or ability or inability to upload or download any information in connection with participating in the Challenge. No responsibility or liability is assumed by any of the aforementioned entities for technical problems or technical malfunction arising in connection with any of the following occurrences which may affect the operation of the Entry or submitted film. This includes hardware or software errors; faulty computer, telephone, cable, satellite, network, electronic, wireless or Internet connectivity or other online communication problems; errors or limitations of any Internet service providers, servers, hosts or providers; garbled, jumbled or faulty data transmissions; failure of any e-mail transmissions to be sent or received; lost, late, delayed or



intercepted e-mail transmissions; inaccessibility of the web site in whole or in part for any reason; traffic congestion on the Internet or the website; unauthorized human or non-human intervention of the operation of the **Spring 2021 Planet911 Youth Film Challenge**, including without limitation, unauthorized tampering, hacking, theft, virus, bugs, worms; or destruction of any aspect of the submitted film, or loss, miscount, misdirection, inaccessibility or unavailability of an email account used in connection with the film submitted. The aforementioned entities are furthermore not responsible for any typographical errors in the announcement of prizes or these Official Rules, or any inaccurate or incorrect data contained on the website or social media sites maintained by the **Planet911 YFC Team or any related entities**. Use of any of the related websites and/or social media sites is at the user's own risk. The **Planet911 YFC Team** is not responsible for any personal injury or property damage or losses of any kind which may be sustained to user's or any other person's computer equipment resulting from participation in the **Spring 2021 Planet911 Youth Film Challenge**, use of the Websites or the download of any information from any of the associated Websites. By participating in the **Spring 2021 Planet911 Youth Film Challenge**, Entrant agrees to release, indemnify and hold the **Planet911 YFC Team** harmless from any and all claims, damages or liabilities arising from or relating to such Entrant's participation in the **Spring 2021 Planet911 Youth Film Challenge**.

12. Winners

Winners will be contacted directly and their films may be posted online at www.EarthX.org, and/or www.planet911.org, and across **EarthX's**, **EarthxFilm's** and **Planet911's** social media platforms. Films may or may not be streamed on EarthxTV and may or may not be shared with other EarthX or Planet911 partners.

13. Additional Requirements.

- **To be complete, all applications must include the following:** Film Title, Submitter's Name, Submitter's Email, Submitters Age, Grade, School Name if applicable, City, State and Zip code. If under the age of 18, application must include Parent or Guardians' Name, Email and Signature of permission for entry. **All of these elements must be valid, or any prizes may be forfeited.**
- All submissions must include a downloadable link that is accessible to the planet911 YFC Team for it to be successfully entered. All Films must be submitted through the FilmFreeway platform to be accepted and may not be posted on the internet until after June 1, 2021 except by **EarthX**, **EarthxFilm** or **Planet911** or their representatives.

14. Confirmation of Entry

Each entrant will not receive a confirmation of Entry but will receive an email once the application form has been completed and the film submitted if the **Planet911 YFC Team** cannot



successfully download your film to our platform or if the submission does not meet acceptable criteria for this challenge. If your film has poor audio or video quality, does not load properly, is longer than :50 seconds, or fails to meet any other criteria set in these rules, your film will not be accepted. Planet911 and/or EarthX will attempt to reach you with an email. If you have submitted well before the deadline, you will have the opportunity to revise your film and resubmit. If the deadline has passed, we will not accept your film.

Please be sure the email you provide on the application is correct and look for emails from our team for at least one week after your submission. If you are concerned about or have a question about your submission, please send an email to earthling@Earthx.org. Put “Planet911 Spring 2021 YFC” in the subject.

15. Questions

Questions about the video challenge may be addressed to earthling@Earthx.org. For any related correspondence please put “Planet911 YFC Question” in the subject line.

16. Project Organizer

EarthX is a nonprofit corporation, DBA, **EarthxFilm**, 4311 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 325, Dallas, TX 75219