

## Antarctic Student Film Competition Mentor guidelines

We would love for you to participate in our '[Days of Ice: Antarctica through fresh eyes tauria video competition](#)' as a mentor! This competition is a chance for students (years 1-13) to showcase Antarctica through a new perspective - in just 3 minutes. Winners are awarded travel to Christchurch to attend their screening at the Awards ceremony, have their videos played for the next year at the International Antarctic Centre (IAC) and become IAC ambassadors.

Mentors will play a major role in making this competition accessible to all students across Aotearoa. As a mentor, you would essentially act as a tutor for the student while they are working on their submission. We have two types of mentorship options available to students - technical, Antarctic or both.

If you are a **technical mentor**, you will have experience in video production and will advise the student on the technical side of their submission. Keep in mind the student may be new to filming and video editing, so they will likely have questions on how to get started including which software to use, how to go about their filming and how to upload their video. They might also ask how to go about their planning, and how to access resources (such as photos and videos).

Some helpful tips:

- You are there to advise the students and make suggestions, not do the work for them
- Students must upload their video using this [submission form](#)
- The video must be submitted as an .mov or .mp4 file and be no longer than 3 minutes
- The content and key messaging matters more than the camera quality and special effects (so planning is key!)
- We recommend students use iMovie or Windows Movie Maker to edit their videos as they are free and catered towards beginners
- You can offer your own videos and images for the students to use, or advise them where to access videos and pictures of Antarctica (ie. [Unsplash](#))

If you are an **Antarctic mentor**, you will be involved in research surrounding Antarctica or will have travelled there. The student will rely on you for information about Antarctica, or they will be basing their entire video around you and your experiences. By agreeing to this mentorship, you are acknowledging and agreeing to potentially becoming the subject of the video.

Some helpful tips:

- The idea of the competition is to see Antarctica in a way never seen (or not widely explored) before, encourage students to think outside of the box
- Students can be as creative with this as they please
- You can share your stories and experiences with students, but it is up to the student to decide what their main video content will be
  - In other words, you may be the subject - but they are the directors
- You are able to provide the student your own resources (such images or videos) if they ask and you are happy to share

This mentorship option is a great way for Antarcitians to be able to share stories that have not yet been told. We are suggesting to students some ways to approach this:

- Through an animal's eyes
- An unexpected person/story
- A cultural perspective
- An unusual place
- It used to be covered in trees and green
- An unexpected journey
- Ordinary people doing extraordinary things
- Privilege of our access here in Aotearoa New Zealand

We are strongly suggesting that students make use of the mentorship opportunity.

All contact will initially be through email. You will be provided with the student's email, but we will introduce you to each other in an introductory email. The student will then be encouraged to send their enquiries your way.

**For technical mentors**, most of the communication should be via email, but if you both are amenable a Skype or Zoom question might help to nut out some answers to specific questions. All up it should only be a few (2-5) hours of your time. Technical mentors will likely be assigned to more than one student, so this time should be your total mentoring time across all students.

**For Antarctic mentors**, following the introductory email, we will ask the students to flick you a few simple email questions so they can think about their story angle, and then organise a Skype or Zoom session to interview you. They might also ask if you are willing to share a few photos or videos to help with their video story. They may email you some follow-up questions or potentially do a second short video interview. If you are both in the same location and both are amenable, interviews could be in person (but with a parent or guardian present). All up, mentoring should only be 2-4 hours of you time.

As said above, you can also apply to offer both technical and Antarctica mentorship.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in, let us know by filling out [this form](#). We thank you in advance for your interest!