

## Antarctic Student Film Competition Student Mentee guidelines

Thank you for your interest in our [‘Days of Ice: Antarctica through fresh eyes tauria video competition’](#)! We’re looking forward to your submission, and seeing Antarctica through your eyes.

This competition is a chance for you as 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. There are two mentorship options available to you. You can either apply to be assigned an Antarctic or a technical mentor - or both.

**Technical mentors** are there to advise you on the production side of things. Therefore, they can help you to plan, produce and edit your video. If you have questions about how to actually put together a video submission, then these are the mentors for you.

**Antarctic mentors** can offer you insight on Antarctica. Our Antarctic mentors are experts on Antarctica - many of them have even travelled there! You can ask your Antarctic mentor any questions that will help you put together a story on the frozen continent. You can even ask them for their stories and experiences there and if one sparks your imagination, which can be the focus of your video. Remember that they are only there to guide you, they will not decide the content of your video for you.

The Antarctica mentorship option is a great way for Antarcitians to be able to share stories that have not yet been told. Some suggestions for ways for you to approach this film competition:

- 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

Be as creative with the topic as you please. We are strongly suggesting that you as students make use of the mentorship opportunity.

Some helpful tips:

- Mentors are there to advise you and make suggestions, not do the work for you
- You must upload their video using this [submission form](#)
- Your 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
- Mentors may offer their own videos and images for you to use (do ask them!) or advise students where to access videos and pictures of Antarctica (ie. [Unsplash](#)). Some of our technical mentors have made resources freely available via [this link](#) (which can also be found on our website)

Contact will initially be through email. You will be provided with the mentor's email, and we will introduce you to each other in an introductory email. You are then encouraged to send your enquiries to your mentor.

**For technical mentors**, most of the communication should be via email, but if both you and your mentor 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 mentor time. Technical mentors will likely be assigned to more than one student, though, so do bear that in mind.

**For Antarctic mentors**, after your initial introduction to your mentor from us, please flick the mentor a few simple email questions so you can think about your story angle. We then suggest organising a Skype or Zoom session to interview your mentor. You can also ask if the mentor is willing to share a few photos or video clips to help with your video story. You may email some follow-up questions or potentially do a second short video interview if required. If you are local and a local mentor is amenable, it could be an in-person meeting (but with a parent or guardian present). All up, we expect it should only be 2-4 hours of mentor time.

If you haven't yet, specify which kind of mentor you would like to be assigned by filling out this [form](#) - we will put you in contact with your mentor within two business days.

Remember too that if you are Christchurch or Canterbury based you can also make use of the International Antarctic Centre for filming all or some of your video for free.

Get ready for the coolest competition out there. Lights, camera, action!