



For Immediate Release:

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Film Festival Recognizes the Best Wildlife and Nature Media for 2017

JACKSON, Wyo. — The Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival has announced the 2017 finalists for its 15th biennial film competition, an event that is considered to be the “Oscars of nature filmmaking.”

Winners will be revealed at the Grand Teton Awards Gala in Jackson, Wyo. on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017. The awards are just one part of the six-day industry conference hosted at the Jackson Lake Lodge in Grand Teton National Park from September 24-29. Those attending include innovative filmmakers, organizations, scientists, journalists and visionaries from across the globe; all engaged in conservation, nature, wildlife and media.

“My biggest takeaway this year, is how many deeply personal stories are being told,” said Lisa Samford, Executive Director of Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival. “It speaks to the true power of the genre and importance of telling these stories.”

This year’s submissions in the prestigious competition include nearly 1,000 category entries - a record number - competing for 25 awards. Finalists were selected by more than 150 international judges who viewed 3,500 hours of media. A distinguished panel of international judges immediately preceding the Festival will select the 2017 award winners. Audioscape finalists and special jury nominations will be announced soon.

See below for a full list of finalists:

CONTENT CATEGORIES

Animal Behavior

Sponsored by World Wildlife Fund

Planet Earth II: Islands

BBC Studios Natural History Unit production, co-produced with BBC America, ZDF, Tencent and France Télévisions

Planet Earth II: Mountains

BBC Studios Natural History Unit production, co-produced with BBC America, ZDF, Tencent and France Télévisions

Rise of the Warrior Apes

KEO Films for Discovery Networks International

The Hunt: The Hardest Challenge

A Silverback Films production, made in partnership with The Open University, for BBC, co-produced with BBC Worldwide, BBC America, CCTV9 and NDR Naturfilm

Ecosystem

Antarctica in the Footsteps of the Emperor

Paprika Films and Wildtouch

Paris: A Wild Story

Boréales, Winds, Terra Mater Factual Studios

Sea of Hope: America's Underwater Treasures

True Blue Films for National Geographic Channels

Conservation

Sponsored by HHMI | Tangled Bank Studios

Jaguars: Brazil's Super Cats

BBC Studios Natural History Unit, Nat Geo Wild

The Hunt: Living with Predators

A Silverback Films production, made in partnership with The Open University, for BBC, co-produced with BBC Worldwide, BBC America, CCTV9 and NDR Naturfilm

Tribe Versus Pride

Terra Mater Factual Studios and Wildlife Films

Yasuni Man

Pollywog Productions

People & Nature

Sponsored by The Nature Conservancy

Ghost of the Mountains

Brian Leith Productions with Disneynature Productions and Chuan Films

NOVA: Great Human Odyssey

NOVA, Clearwater Documentary Inc., CBC, Lawrence Klein Productions LLC for WGBH-Boston

Into the Amazon

An Ark Media and John Maggio Productions Film for American Experience, WGBH-Boston

Ranger and Leopard

Wildlife Pictures Institute for Jam-e Jam TV Network

Changing Planet

Sponsored by Sponsored by North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences

BEARTREK

Wildlife Media

Before the Flood

National Geographic, RatPac Documentary Films, Insurgent Docs, Diamond Docs

Death by a Thousand Cuts

Participant and Documentales Univision present a Tarasios Production in association with Human Pictures

Mosquito

Yap Films for Discovery Channel

Science in Nature

Sponsored by Marco Polo Films

David Attenborough's Light on Earth

Terra Mater Factual Studios, Ammonite Film Productions, Curiosity Stream, BBC, UKTV, ABC Australia

Rise of the Warrior Apes

KEO Films for Discovery Networks International

Sonic Sea

Discovery Channel presents a film by the Natural Resources Defense Council and Imaginary Forces in association with the International Fund for Animal Welfare and Diamond Docs

Spy in the Wild: Love

John Downer Productions for BBC, PBS and THIRTEEN Productions LLC

Impact

Sponsored by International Fund for Animal Welfare

Chasing Coral

A Netflix Documentary, Exposure Labs

Huntwatch

Produced by IFAW for Discovery

The Ivory Game

A Netflix Documentary, Terra Mater Film Studios and Vulcan Productions in association with Malaika Pictures in association with Appian Way

PROGRAM CATEGORIES:

Educational/Institutional

Sponsored by Terra Mater Factual Studios

Pavel: I Protect Tigers

WWF-UK

Sixteen Legs

Bookend Enterprises Pty. Ltd.

The Last Pig

Piggy Films, LLC

Toad People

Wilderness Committee

Limited Series - Long

Sponsored by ORF Universum

Ocean Warriors

A co-production between Animal Planet, Sundance Productions, Brick City TV and Vulcan Productions

Planet Earth II

BBC Studios Natural History Unit production, co-produced with BBC America, ZDF, Tencent and France Télévisions

Savage Kingdom

Icon Films, Natural History Film Unit Botswana for Nat Geo Wild

The Hunt

A Silverback Films production, made in partnership with The Open University, for BBC, co-produced with BBC Worldwide, BBC America, CCTV9 and NDR Naturfilm

Limited Series - Short

Sponsored by ARRI

Animated Life

Sweet Fern Productions in association with Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Biointeractive, and The New York Times Op-Docs

Deep Look

KQED, PBS Digital Studios

Lens of Time

Spine Films, California Academy of Sciences, bioGraphic

Shelf Life

American Museum of Natural History

Engaging Youth

Meet the Real Wolf

Grizzly Creek Films, Rocky Mountain Wolf Project

My Haggan Dream

Sisbro Studios, Open Boat Films

Water from the Mountain (Agua de El Yunque)

Freshwaters Illustrated

Wild Kratts: Spirit Bear

Kratt Brothers Company Ltd., 9 Story Media Group Inc.

Host/Presenter-Led

David Attenborough's Great Barrier Reef: Builders

Atlantic Productions, BBC, Smithsonian Channel, ABC Australia, eOne

David Attenborough's Light on Earth

Terra Mater Factual Studios, Ammonite Film Productions, Curiosity Stream, BBC,
UKTV, ABC Australia

Tales by Light: Sacred Nature
Untitled Film Works

Wild Ireland, Edge of the World
A Crossing the Line Film in association with ORF, PBS, BBC, France TV, NDR and Media

Short

Big World in a Small Garden
Ammonite Films for CuriosityStream

Pangolin
Coral & Oak Studios

Shark - A 4-D Experience®
BBC Earth, BBC Natural History Unit and SimEx-Iwerks Entertainment

Why the Lion Calls
Panthera, Nick Hall Productions, Lion Guardians

Micro-Movie

Explore your Backyard Wilderness
Archipelago Films, Arise Media

I am Ranger
Black Bean Productions, United for Wildlife, OI Pejeta Conservancy

The Chorus of Colorado
Grizzly Creek Films, Rocky Mountain Wolf Project

Theatrical

From the Ashes

Radical Media, Bloomberg Philanthropies for National Geographic

The Ivory Game

A Netflix Documentary, Terra Mater Film Studios and Vulcan Productions in association with Malaika Pictures in association with Appian Way

Wild Africa

BBC Earth Productions, Reliance Entertainment, IM Global, Evergreen Studios

Student & Emerging Filmmaker

Sponsored by Disneynature

Between Two Lichens

Andy Johnson, Talia Yuki Moore, Chris A. Johns and Kate Furby

The Healing Lizard

Fernanda Prudencio, University of the West of England

Wild Expectations

Equilibrio films LLC, Nedo Producciones Ltda.

Interactive

David Attenborough's Great Barrier Reef: An Interactive Journey

Atlantic Productions

Deforestation in the Amazon

Council on Foreign Relations, Shapeshifter, Inc.

Oculus Cat Flight

BBC Earth Productions

360 Storytelling

360 Climbing Giants

Black Dot Films VR, National Geographic Partners

Carnivorous Glow Worms

Black Dot Films VR, National Geographic Partners

David Attenborough's Great Barrier Reef Dive VR

Alchemy VR, Atlantic Productions

Fossil Hunting in the Gobi

American Museum of Natural History

Valen's Reef

Here Be Dragons and Finch for Conservation International

CRAFT CATEGORIES

Audioscape

Sponsored by Dolby

Visualization

Sponsored by Fujinon Lenses

Brothers of the Wind

Terra Mater Film Studios

Oscar Duran and Otmar Penker, Cinematography

Planet Earth II: Cities

BBC Studios Natural History Unit production, co-produced with BBC America, ZDF, Tencent and France Télévisions.

Wild Tales from the Village

BBC Studios Natural History Unit, France Télévisions and BBC worldwide

Jonathan Jones, Cinematography

Editing

The Hunt: Hide and Seek

A Silverback Films production, made in partnership with The Open University, for BBC, co-produced with BBC Worldwide, BBC America, CCTV9 and NDR Naturfilm

Nigel Buck, Editor

The Ivory Game

A Netflix Documentary, Terra Mater Film Studios and Vulcan Productions in association with Malaika Pictures in association with Appian Way

Verena Schoenauer, Editor

Wild Tales from the Village

BBC Studios Natural History Unit, France Télévisions and BBC worldwide

James Taggart, Editor

Original Music Score

Amazon Adventure

SK Films, Aventuras Produções E Edições Educativas Ltda., AAUK Picture Limited

Antonio Pinto, Composer

Planet Earth II: Grasslands

BBC Studios Natural History Unit production, co-produced with BBC America, ZDF, Tencent and France Télévisions

Jacob Shea and Jasha Klebe, Composers

Planet Earth II: Mountains

BBC Studios Natural History Unit production, co-produced with BBC America, ZDF, Tencent and France Télévisions

Main Title: Hans Zimmer

Original Music: Jacob Shea and Jasha Klebe (for Bleeding Fingers Music)

Highlands - Scotland's Wild Heart: Spring - Season of Extremes

Maramedia Ltd for BBC Scotland and ITV Studios Global Entertainment.

Simon Ashdown and Donald Shaw, Composers

Writing

Sponsored by NHK

Paris: A Wild Story

Boréales, Winds, Terra Mater Factual Studios

Frédéric Fougéa and Guillaume Poyet, Writers

Rats

Discovery presents RATS produced by Warrior Poets, Dakota Films Ltd., Submarine Entertainment
Morgan Spurlock and Jeremy Chilnick, Writers

Soul of the Elephant

Wildlife Films, Thirteen Productions LLC, Terra Mater Factual Studios
Dereck Joubert, Writer

The Ivory Game

A Netflix Documentary, Terra Mater Film Studios and Vulcan Productions in association with Malaika Pictures in association with Appian Way
Richard Ladkani and Kief Davidson, Writers

The Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival and gala takes place during a week of critical importance in the industry: the Festival, The Cat Summit and the Conservation Summit. The events of the JHWFF attract a world-class audience and participation from key influencers in the conservation community. Again this year, a series of community screenings in Jackson are planned. For more information, tickets, sponsorship, or conference attendance, please call 307-733-7016 or visit www.jhfestival.org.

About JHWFF: Recognized as the premier event of its genre, the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival is an unparalleled biennial industry gathering. Hosted biennially in Grand Teton National Park, over 750 international delegates participate in an exceptional slate of leading-edge equipment presentations, seminars and state-of-the-art screenings.

The Festival's international board members include: Animal Planet, BBC Studios Natural History Unit, Discovery Channel, Disneynature, FujiFilm Optical Devices/Fujinon Lenses, Gorongosa Foundation, HHMI/Tangled Bank Studios, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Nat Geo WILD, National Geographic Society, The Nature Conservancy, Nature, Thirteen/WNET, Off the Fence Productions, PBS, Sony Electronics, Terra Mater Factual Studios/Cinemater, The Science Channel, Swedish Television, UNIVERSUM/ORF, VER, Vulcan Productions, WGBH, and World Wildlife Fund.

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