



WILD & SCENIC[®] FILM FESTIVAL

where activism gets inspired

RESILIENT BY NATURE



2021 Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour School Program

Grades 5-8 At Home





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Dear Families,

Thank you for participating in the 2021 Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour School Program! The mission of our program is to inspire activism and we hope these lessons empower your students to take an essential role in transforming their local ecosystems and communities for the better.

As we know this past year has been a challenging one for all, but especially for educators, families, and students. The shift towards Distance Learning during the COVID-19 pandemic has been such a huge lift for so many schools.

Our Wild & Scenic Film Festival and River Education Teams applaud all the incredible and resilient efforts of these educators, families, and students. Just as teachers are designing new models of learning, our River Education Team has worked to adapt our Wild & Scenic Film Festival School Program to work towards a common vision of sparking a love of learning and nature for all students.

This program brings our mission into virtual classrooms, homes and wild spaces across multiple subject areas for 5th-8th graders, and is intended to help enrich the Wild and Scenic experience for teachers, students, and families.

Designed as a unit, we focus on a central theme in the films: inspiring youth to learn about the natural world and how they can apply their unique talents to make a difference!



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Included in this program is a Post-Screening Activity designed to spark creativity amongst your young environmentalist or artist. Science does a pretty good job of telling us what the world is, but sometimes, lacks the tone for how to think or feel about it - that's where the art comes in!

Through these films and activity, we hope your children will cultivate a love for exploring the outdoors, and feel inspired to protect those wild places and ecosystems they love most.

If you have any questions about the program, feel free to contact our team. We thank you again for your participation in and support of the 2021 Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour School Program. We hope this helps your students to become the next generation of conservation activists and climate change resiliency leaders!

Sincerely,

Ray Lubitz & Shannon Hedge (SYRCL's River Education Team)

Contact: theresa@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org





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There are seven short films in this screening and the whole screening lasts for 56 minutes.

As we're watching the films, let's ask ourselves:

- Getting Inspired: What is one topic, place or ecosystem you already loved and are inspired by from the films? For example, if you loved the film about bees, why do you find bees special?
- Digging Deep: What is one topic, ecosystem, animal, or environmentalist you want to learn more about from the films?
- Getting Going: What film or films left you the most inspired or excited? What is one thing you're feeling inspired to do to protect our environment, now that you've seen so many other young environmentalists doing the same?

Enjoy the Films!





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POST-SCREENING ACTIVITY: CREATE YOUR OWN WILD & SCENIC STORY!

"You don't need to wait until you're older to make a difference- you can make a difference now! Often times, the most impactful change can come when we channel our unique passions, talents and strengths to areas where we want to make a difference!"

For example, fourteen-year-old Ta'Kaiya Blaney from the Tla'amin First Nation in British Columbia has cared about the environment as long as she can remember. She's been singing since the age of four, and her songs about the environment have already gone viral*

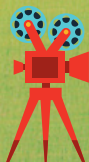
*Check out this video of Ta'Kaiya [here](#).

You now have the chance to create your own Wild & Scenic story in whatever way you want to channel your creativity!

A Few Ideas To Help Students Get Started



Create your own environmentally themed poem. Check out [this beautiful poem](#) written by Aradhita, a 12 year old girl from Uttar Pradesh, India



With a friend or family member, shoot your own environmentally themed short film. You can even submit your film to future Wild & Scenic Film Festival School Programs- we've included student films before, and thousands of young people have gotten the chance to see them!



Create an environmentally themed piece of art! This could be a drawing, painting, sculpture, photograph, or even a mosaic made of natural materials - whatever medium you find most interesting! Check out these [Student Art Pieces from our 2020 Fest!](#)



Create an environmentally themed song! Some of the most impactful social change has come from musicians and songwriters inspiring others with their music. Need some inspiration yourself? Check out this hauntingly [beautiful song from One Republic](#), written from the earth's perspective!

Don't let your amazing stories, works of art, and creativity go unheard or unshared - be sure to share it with your teacher, friends, family, or even with us here at the Wild & Scenic Film Festival!

If you do want to share your work with the festival, your family or teacher can reach out to us through our [website](#).

