

***For Immediate Release***

Thursday, November 29, 2018

**2019 FIN Kids Film Competition Call for Entries is open!**

(Halifax, NS) - The 2019 **FIN Kids Film Competition 'Call for Entries'** is officially open for Atlantic Canadian youth ages 18 and under! This youth film competition, presented by FIN Kids and DHX Media, is an opportunity encouraging young people to create their very own short films, 5 minutes or less, to share with an audience on the big screen.

Easy and free to enter, past competitors have gone on to pursue careers in the film industry and to even show their work at FIN Atlantic International Film Festival and beyond. Submissions close on Friday, March 8, 2019.

**For more information about the FIN Kids Film Competition, visit: [finkids.ca](http://finkids.ca).**

In November 2018, the **FIN Kids Festival Tour**, designed to expose Atlantic Canadian youth to films beyond the standard Hollywood fare, as well as filmmaking and storytelling, in the hopes that they will be inspired to make their own movie for the FIN Kids Film Competition, drew over 5,000 students. French attendance was up by 30% in Nova Scotia, for a total of over 1,500 students attending the French day at the Dartmouth stop alone.

Presented by FIN Atlantic International Film Festival in partnership with Cineplex Entertainment, this year's highly successful FIN Kids Festival Tour brought youth-friendly festival movies and film workshops to Yarmouth, Dartmouth, Sydney, Charlottetown and Saint John.

Offering the most diverse program yet, the tour provided a varied program of films from the Atlantic Provinces, Canada, and internationally. The 2018 line-up included 49 screenings of feature films, documentaries, and short film programs with 62 unique films from nine different countries (all selected with the aid and input of our Teacher's Advisory Committee). Topics covered ranged from multiculturalism to technology to environmentalism to inclusivity, checking off a variety of curriculum outcomes and objectives for teachers. The Festival Tour also introduces students to the wonderful world of filmmaking through hands-on media workshops. The tour brings in local industry professionals so that the students can see strong examples of a local career in film, storytelling, and the arts, showcasing that such employment in their communities is possible. This year's presenters included, filmmaker and actor Taylor Olson, producer and editor Frank Savoie, and Ubisoft creative director AJ Morales.

"Once again, the response across the region to the FIN Kids Festival Tour has been incredible," says Wayne Carter, Executive Director at FIN Kids. "Enabling youth to experience storytelling from so many different voices and communities is a privilege we take very seriously. Much of what we present is unavailable for young people to see elsewhere and if we happen to inspire some future filmmakers in the process, that is the greatest reward."

The FIN Kids Tour would not be possible without the generous support of our Partners - Bell Media, CTV, Telefilm Canada, CBC, Cineplex, Current Studios, William F. White with a special thank you to the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

## **About FIN Kids**

FIN Kids began as ViewFinders, a week-long film festival for young people and their families in 2002. Since then, the FIN Kids Festival Tour has grown into an Atlantic Canada-wide youth initiative that brings the FIN experience to school groups and communities across the region, while the annual FIN Kids Film Competition provides a platform for young filmmakers - a proven launching pad for the next generation of Atlantic Canadian talent. FIN Kids is an integral part of the FIN family of events and activities, which includes the cornerstone event, the Atlantic International Film Festival taking place every September. The FIN Kids mission is the same as all the FIN programs: to present curated movies and shorts exploring vast emotional journeys that engage, entertain and invigorate Atlantic Canadians.

## **Follow FIN Kids on:**

[finkids.ca](http://finkids.ca)

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